



Ukiah Junior Academy

April 19, 2021

Grapevine

Prayer Kids

Monday - Madelyn H. (3), Samuel K. (3)

Tuesday - Brianna N. (3), Jessie P.(3)

Wednesday - Natale R. (3), Rosalia T. (3)

Thursday - Emmanuel T. (3), Ayla V. (3)

Friday - Robert B. (4), Gissel G. (4)

What are Prayer Kids?

At the start of each day as a part of our morning prayer, we as a staff will pray for the two students listed for each day. We also ask our parents to join us in praying for these students each day. Let's utilize the power of corporate prayer for our students and watch the Lord work in wonderful ways!

Dates to Remember

May 22 - Education Day Church Service

May 31 - Memorial Day (No School)

June 10 - 8th Grade Graduation

June 11 - Last Day of School

Chess Club

No Chess Club this week. Teacher training Thursday afternoon.

Principal's Corner

"My Box"

It sits on a high shelf in our closet. It's just an old cardboard box. Most days I forget it's even there. I've had it for the last 38 years, hauling it from the Napa Valley to California's Central Coast, then to Las Vegas, to Chico, CA, Salem OR and finally here to Ukiah.

I was a 20 year old college student working over my Christmas vacation when the box arrived. When I saw the return address my heart leapt. Inside the box was a tin filled with cookies and fudge. (I've kept the tin as well) The package was from Debbie, a girl I'd met in class a few months before. The spark was now an ember! It would grow into a flame and we married two and a half years later.

Over the course of that wonderful two and a half year courtship I filled the box with mementos of our growing romance. I'm not sure what possessed me to do this, I was mostly an unsentimental college bum, but the box began to fill.

It filled with the little encouraging notes she would write me and pin to the dorm bulletin board, folded with only my name visible (obviously long before texting). I loved those little notes and I would toss them into the box.

It filled with a ski resort map that I tossed in after our first day skiing together. We ran out of gas on the way home and in the night found some diesel from an old farmer in the valley. That night was our first kiss.

It filled with letters she wrote me while I worked at summer camp and she worked at home.

It filled with clippings from the Campus Chronicle of cheesy poems I wrote and were published on Valentines Day along with so many other cheesy poems.

I don't know why I kept the box, I just did. It's probably the oldest thing I've ever kept around. Every once in a while I get the box down and remind myself of what's in there. What's in there are memories of a blossoming love that I never want to forget. Yes, she's still here, but I need to remind myself lest I forget how it all started and how it bloomed.

I imagine, should I be separated from her for any length of time, I would take that box down from the high shelf in my closet. I would keep it accessible and open it often. I would read and reread all the old little notes and letters. I would find myself thinking of her often, sending her messages, talking to her, finding some way to keep in contact, if it were possible.

I find that my Bible is a lot like my old cardboard box. It tells the story of a growing love between our God and his people. Like my box it can look very ordinary, but it's the love expressed inside that counts. It's a treasure to those who wish to remember the love expressed there. Someday, I believe, God and His people will be reunited; together again forever. In the meantime we have our own little cardboard box to remind ourselves of His love and our romance together.

God bless,

Rick Nelson
530-588-4730
rick.nelson@myuja.org