

FaithTalk



A publication of Crossville Seventh-day Adventist Church

October BIRTHDAYS

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October 2018

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Turtle Lesson

While weed whacking a trail through the woods, I came upon a little box turtle. The vegetation was dense, and as the weed eater swung through and the ground cover fell away, I discovered the turtle. The poor little guy had come within an inch of complete extermination.

As I stopped the machine and scooped him up, he pulled into his shell and closed the door. Since he seemed to have survived his near-death experience unscathed, I carried him a few feet down the hill to a safe place and set him down.

As I returned to my work, I started thinking about what Mr. Turtle might be thinking. "What a lousy day, wet and dreary and cold. Nothing but problems today. Climbed up this hill, only to get scared into my shell and carried back down; now I have to re-climb the hill again..."

From my broader perspective, I was thinking how incredibly fortunate the little guy was. So nearly turtle hash, yet he was spared to live and explore and experience whatever turtley happiness turtles enjoy.

And then I thought of myself as that turtle. It's so easy to focus on the situation right in front of us—to see the struggle, the problem, frustration, or trial. But from God's point of view, He sees what might have been and how He spared us from even greater harm and destruction.



Yes, we suffer trials and pain and hardships, and sometimes we'd like to pull into our shells and close the door—maybe forever. But only God knows how truly blessed we are, how much worse it could have been had He not intervened in our behalf. And the very things we see as besetments and difficulties may be the very means God has employed to work out our greater good.

So, "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." 1 Thessalonians 5:18 & Romans 8:28.

- Janel Hostetler



Prayer Meeting - every Wednesday at 6 p.m.





Monthly Birthday Announcements

In an effort to be sure the youth and children, as well as adult members of our church family are included in the Newsletter birthday listings, we are requesting that you supply the Church Clerks (Peggy Trout or Marilyn Maples) with the name and complete birth date of your children who are members, but not baptized. We will add these to our eAdventist records as well and it will help to make them up-to-date and accurate.

We have some recorded already, but not all, so we would appreciate your helping us with this. It is important to see YOUR birthday remembered and we want to acknowledge EACH ONE!



Newsletter Suggestions Welcome!

This is your church newsletter. Let us know what you would like to see included. Your ideas and suggestions are welcome.

What a great way to make connections with shut-in members by visiting and sharing a copy of *FaithTalk* with them. Or commit to mailing a copy to someone you miss seeing at church.

Also, if you have items to include in future *FaithTalk* issues, please e-mail them to: mamaples424@gmail.com.

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God Spares Her Once Again

July 30 is a day Shirley Bingham will not soon forget. While driving home from a doctor's appointment in Cookeville, Shirley was involved in an accident that could have taken her life. She is a bit "fuzzy" about how the car accident happened, but believes she briefly passed out. She does remember rolling over and over in her car, and when it stopped she found herself hanging upside down. Fortunately, her seatbelt was fastened.

A nurse coming home from work saw her car and stopped, staying with Shirley until help came. The nurse asked Shirley numerous questions, all of which Shirley was able to answer.

Shirley did have broken glass in her arm. The kind nurse looked in the trunk, finding a couple towels to blot the blood flow and holding Shirley's hand to give her reassurance.

When help finally arrived, Shirley was told to hold her hands over her ears, as it would be noisy while they cut her out of the car. Shirley says that in spite of all that happened, her eyeglasses remained intact on her face! An ambulance ultimately arrived, and Shirley was deposited inside. She wound up at the University of Tennessee hospital where she was given an MRI. On August 8 she was transported to Uplands Wellness Center, where she received physical therapy for five days.

Approximately a year ago, Shirley had been involved in another nearly fatal car accident in which the vehicle was a total loss. Shirley is in awe of God's protection. She would be the first to tell you that it is a miracle of God that she survived these accidents. The pictures of Shirley's vehicle tell most of the story! Her church family is also thankful that Shirley's life was again spared, and we wish her a speedy recovery.

~ Faith Lyons



Sunshine Band

In the late 70's, when our church was on Bilbrey Street, the Sunshine Band began with three singers and one baritone ukulele. They sang at WyndRidge Health & Rehabilitation Center, which at that time was called Life Care Center of Crossville. Today there are guitars, a harmonica, mandolin, banjo, and sometimes a keyboard. Even some of the younger generation add their skills.

Through the years, many different singers have gone over to sing with the residents. One doesn't need to feel "locked into" this activity. Often, there are those who have attended, sung, enjoyed it, and not returned. That's OK! There is always a core group who can be counted on. (From decade to decade, there have been various "core groups.")



One consistently involved person is Melanie, who coordinates meals so that participants have nourishment between our church service and the singing. She has always been in charge of putting the food together and seeing that the FLC kitchen is clean for the next use. Howard goes over to the nursing home early to move tables and see that those who are able and want to join us make it to the large dining room. A big thank-you goes to the WyndRidge staff who help gather residents into one place.



It is most heartwarming to see the residents participate by recalling and singing songs from their past, some reading the words and singing, and others just appreciating the sounds. We have song booklets for use by residents and singers. So, if you are inclined to try out the Sunshine Band, feel free to join us! On the second Sabbath of each month, from 2:00–3:00 p.m., we meet at WyndRidge on Wayne Avenue.

~ Helen Dooley
(Last names omitted intentionally)

Thoughts From His Word

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."

"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

Philippians 2:5 & Romans 8:6

How is it with you these days? Are your affections set on things of time or things of eternity? Do you spend a lot of mental energy considering what others think of you? Are you consumed with the busy-ness of daily living so that spiritual thoughts must usually take a back seat? It's only natural.

Repentance is the turning from my natural way of thinking and responding, to another—or Another's way. We naturally tend to be preoccupied with the things of the flesh—prioritizing that which appeals to our senses. Yet, this way is hard and leads to death. Jesus wants to change our minds to be like His. The spiritually-minded person has yielded his choice to Christ and is being regulated by the Holy Spirit. He now lives to bless others and glorify God. His way may seem hard, but there's peace and joy in the journey; and the end is everlasting life! Study God's Word and talk to Him in prayer. Through these channels, we may receive His thoughts and experience abundant life forever.

~ Sharlene Olivier

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Visit us online at our
Web site:
www.CrossvilleSDA.org

*We'd love to have you come and
worship with us this Sabbath!*

9:15 a.m. Study & Praise

11:00 a.m. Worship



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