

Birds' Raincoats

By Janice Straubel

One of my favorite jobs was as an environmental educator for kindergarten to 6th graders. I was stationed at a beautiful county park in Pennsylvania and students were bussed there for a 2-hour lesson. First-graders had a lesson called "Birds' Raincoats" which involved goose feathers, Vaseline and a spray bottle of water. Students would sit facing me on picnic benches, and I would gently put a bit of Vaseline on the back of one of their hands. (Remember, this was years before the present pandemic!) Then they would hold out both hands, palms faced down, while I walked along spraying their hands with water. The students made observations of the differences between the water spray on a regular hand versus the hand with Vaseline.

Students noticed how the water bubbled and sat on top of the oil—the oil provided a "coat" of protection. Next each child was given a disinfected goose wing feather. Observations were made using a magnifying lens to notice the structure of the feather. Students were instructed to "zip up" the individual barbs of the feather closing any gaps. Then another rain storm came along—me with the spray bottle. Again, students made observations. What happened when the water hit the feather? Again, bubbles were noticed possibly indicating some sort of oil.

This simple lesson led into a discussion of birds, oil glands and feathers. Birds have an uropygial gland, or preen gland near the base of their tail. Preening birds dip their beaks into the oily, waxy substance and then spread this oil to each feather to waterproof and protect their feathers. Their feathers thus act as their "raincoats." We noticed the many geese at the park and discussed what they do in a

Continued on page 2...

Snow Days



Our in-person worship service was canceled two Sundays in a row in February due to snow and ice. It was live streamed one Sunday and prerecorded before the second Sunday storm so the congregation could attend virtually.

“Birds’ Raincoats,” continued...

rainstorm. The birds are not afraid of rain, they are covered in protection.

Psalm 91 says, *He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his pinion (feathers) and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.*

Matthew 6:26 also uses the example of birds:
Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?



Cory Asbury has a song called “Sparrows,” that reinforces this idea that since God provides so well for the birds, we can certainly trust Him to provide for us.

***The sparrow’s not worried about tomorrow
 Or the troubles to come
 The lily’s not thinking about the seasons
 The drought or the flood
 The tree that’s planted by the water
 Isn’t phased by the fire
 So why should I be?***

***Cause you take good care of me
 You take good care of me
 You know what I need before I even ask a thing
 And you hold me in your hands
 With a kindness that never ends
 I’m carried in your love, no matter what the future brings
 Yeah, you take good care of me.***

When I feel afraid, I picture myself under God’s strong and protective feathers.

He takes good care of me, and I can trust Him.



Blessings to all who celebrate a birthday this month. May you feel the love, joy and presence of the Lord as we all celebrate your special day with prayers and warmest wishes.

Joan Hagestad	March 2
Marquita Kimmel	March 5
Hannah Straubel	March 5
Michael Seiboth	March 7
Thor Bernheisel	March 9
Larry Berrill	March 12
John Kimmel	March 13
Randi Herrity	March 18
Donna Westbrook	March 19
Cindy Bills	March 21
Lester Erbe	March 24

Financial Update

(through January 31, 2021)

“The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want...”

	Actual	Budget
Income	\$27,249	\$18,333
Expense	\$18,799	\$18,334

Windsor Chapel has sent \$3,274 to our missionary partners this year. That is 12% of your giving!

Praying for Our Missionaries

If you would like to partner with our missionary families by interceding in their behalf, please email chapel@windsorchapel.org. You will receive regular e-mail updates and prayer requests from our missionaries around the world and experience the joy and privilege of witnessing God’s awesome work and powerful answers to prayer.



Fannie Harris

By Elise Bruno

During the summer of 1974, my mother was hospitalized. In His wisdom, God placed her in a room with Fannie Harris. During those few days, Fannie ministered to my mother, comforting, encouraging, soothing her and finding joy in small ways. Fannie's children would visit after school, and they would all sing hymns for my mother and brighten her life. I was so grateful for their kindness, I wanted to thank them in some way, so I invited them for a picnic at our home. And thus began a treasured friendship.

From George and Fannie we learned how to really walk with the Lord; how to really give sacrificially and how to love the unlovable. In Fannie we saw a woman standing by and always supporting her husband, even when much was asked of her; a woman who mothered ten children and still had a heart full of love for others; a soft-spoken woman who could fill the hall with a soaring sound when she lifted her voice to song.

Fannie's sweet smile, her gentle laugh, her generous nature, and her genuine goodness, and her daily and unembarrassed walk with the Lord—that's what I will remember about Fannie Harris.



Fannie always had a song in her heart for the Lord, and her voice could reach the rafters.

Fannie Harris

October 16, 1933 - February 5, 2021

Fannie was born in Suffolk Virginia, one of twenty-seven children. She accepted Christ at an early age. In 1956, Fannie married the love of her life, the late George L. Harris Sr., and they moved to Trenton, New Jersey. They had ten children.

Fannie loved to serve the Lord, and others in the community as well. Fannie and George were missionaries of Windsor Chapel. The Lord laid on Fannie's heart to start a food ministry which started out with ten families and led to thousands of families being fed over the years. Fannie was a great songstress with her signature song being, "Don't let the Devil Ride."

Fannie was a loving, caring mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She was such a precious jewel.

(The above was compiled from Fannie's obituary)

Elders' Corner

By Tom Taylor

"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open to us a door for the Word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ for which I have also been imprisoned; that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak." (Colossians 4: 2-4)

One of the great privileges and responsibilities we have as a local church is to support those who God has called to take the good news and the Kingdom of God to all the world. People from other nations, tribes and tongues:

Papua New Guinea

Diane and Walter Kennedy

Brazil

Beth and Jonas Menezes

Sweden

Char and Ron Bystrom

International Students at Princeton University

Aruna and John Desai

University of Connecticut

Jen and Scott Thomson

Penn State

Joe Violi

We support them in prayer asking God for open doors, for wisdom and power, standing against the powers of darkness, that they be strengthened in the inner man, that they grow in His grace and that the joy of the Lord be their strength. We can also support them by a "word in season," a phone call, a written note, an email, and even a text. They are family. Brothers and sisters out in the battlefield, taking hits and experiencing the joys and sorrows of serving our Lord.

Last, but not least, we support them financially and as we all know financial pressures have increased. Due to our financial situation, we made the difficult decision to reduce support to all our missionaries. In communicating this with them, they have expressed their understanding, appreciation, and continued gratitude. These are times to look to the Lord, stand together, pray together, and see His glory moving forward. Love to you all!

Further Up and Further In

Inviting dialogue to encourage growth in and among us



By Cindy Bills

Playing—And Working Well with Others

"Plays well with others." This iconic kindergarten evaluation statement has been used across our elementary schools for years, so much so that it has been expanded and used to describe adults. Combined with the issue of bullying, this statement reflects the value we place on interacting with others in a constructive way.

But playing well with others is a complex phenomenon. Not everyone is "nice." And sometimes, differing personalities and personal histories make positive interactions difficult even when both parties want to play well. This has been illustrated at our home over the past several months. In true COVID-life fashion, our next door neighbors got a gorgeous black lab puppy last summer. As Nova got a bit older, we welcomed her into our yard to meet and play with our 7-year-old labradoodle, Lucy. It was fun, but I wondered how long it would last: the dog trainers we have used told us that doodles have a style of play that is incompatible with many dogs, especially those in the retriever category. And sure enough, as Nova reached adolescence, she began to play more aggressively, her alpha dog personality on full display. Lucy, intimidated and annoyed, would snap and growl.

It would have been easy to simply stop the play times. But I remained convinced that the play times were good for both dogs, and we continued. Over the past weeks, I have seen what our dog trainers were talking about: labs play rougher than doodles, and doodles don't like it. I was watchful and careful to distract

Continued on page 5...

“Playing and Working...” continued...

Nova when she became aggressive and encouraged parallel play as well as positive interaction whenever I could. I ended each morning’s play time when it became unfriendly. And over time, subtle changes began to surface. Lucy would happily eat her breakfast and then pace in the kitchen, looking expectantly at me. And if she heard Nova bark, she would be at the door, whining. While play times continued to require watchful supervision, and the two dogs did not always play well with one another, there was clearly a budding friendship. Lucy is learning to set her boundaries but also to relax and enjoy playing. Nova is learning to respect Lucy’s boundaries and play more gently.

While they are both (usually) great dogs, Lucy and Nova were not naturally compatible play partners. But they have learned to play—and become real friends—as we have persisted with our morning playtime routine. I believe that we can learn something from Lucy and Nova. The Lord calls us to be about the work of His kingdom, and the New Testament makes it clear that we are most effective when we work in concert and collaboration with one another.

I wonder how Jesus picked the pairs when He sent the 70 disciples out; or the two disciples to whom He gave the job of bringing the donkey for His triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Compatibility, or an opportunity for personal and relational growth? The Apostles argued among themselves about who was greatest. The book of Acts records a disagreement between Paul and Barnabas that was so serious that they went their separate ways for a while. And the Epistles frequently address issues of interpersonal conflict among believers. We are a difficult bunch!

The rewards, however, for working through and beyond our differences and challenging personalities, defenses, and quirks are

amazing. We experience the joy of the Lord working in us and among us; we are able to appreciate God’s creation of others; we know the satisfaction of unexpected friendships; and we are better able to fulfill the Lord’s purposes for us in manifesting His unifying love to an unbelieving world that is characterized by competition and division. Perhaps we can learn something from the two dogs romping in our back yard each morning.

Please feel free to contact Cindy (609-275-8557 or cynthialbills@gmail.com to continue the dialogue...

Worship Service Emails

If you are not receiving the Windsor Chapel’s emails containing the links for the live streaming of our worship service, we may not have your current email address in our database. To receive these emails and other important chapel announcements, please contact Dorothy in the chapel office at chapel@windsorchapel.org, and let her know that you would like to be added to our Windsor Chapel Email List.

*Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest
Is a faithful messenger to those
who send him,
For he refreshes the soul of his masters.
Proverbs 25:13*



**Donna Westbrook and friend in
Mercer County Park**

To Give or Not to Give

By Janet Berrill

This past Valentine's Day highlighted for me something I've been wrestling with for a long time. Do I give gifts to my children and husband that I know they would like, but I'm not sure is good for them? In this case, I am specifically thinking about food: things like soda, candy, cookies, etc. When my boys were younger, I wasn't as aware or focused on healthy nutrition as I am today. We normally had some candy and cookies always available. I would limit how much they could have, but having a sweet treat was a daily occurrence, for me as well as for them.

Over the past several years, I have learned more about healthy eating and how bad consuming sugary foods can be for you. This knowledge made things difficult for me this past Valentine's Day. Now that my sons no longer live at home, I usually send them a little something for Valentine's Day. In the past I've sent them a bag of their favorite candy or homemade cookies. But is that good for them? Now that my kids are adults, they need to be more careful about what they eat. Calories they ate and burned up as a child have a way of sticking around longer when eaten as an adult! So is sending them cookies a bad idea? Is it okay to have cookies on occasion? Should I send them something healthier? How would kale go over?

I wanted to give my boys something that would show them I loved them and would make them happy. But I didn't want to give them something that is bad for them. What was I to do?

As I wrestled with this decision, I reflected on how I don't always know what is good, but God does. And sometimes I will ask for something I think is good, but God know it is not. Our sinful nature can deceive us into thinking what we want is good. When we accept Jesus, we are no longer a slave to our sinful nature, but unfortunately our sinful nature still exists. Because of that, we still have desires that come from our sinful nature. Often we are not aware of the source of the desires we have. For example, we might have a desire to help someone, which seems good, but the source of the desire

might be because we want the person to think highly of us, which is pride, and that is bad.

It's not only our sinful desires that may cause us to want something we think is good but God knows is bad for us, but also our lack of knowledge. We don't know the big picture; we don't know what the future holds; we don't know what is going on with other people; we don't know what God wants to teach us. Given our lack of knowledge, we might want something we think is good but God, who knows all, knows it is actually harmful.

I am so thankful that God knows what is good for me. He doesn't have to wrestle with the decision I do: is this a good thing to give or not? Psalm 85:12 says, "*The LORD will indeed give what is good.*" He knows what is good and will only give me good things. So when I ask for something and don't get it, I can trust that God had given me what is best.

P.S.

If you're like me, you want to know how things ended up, so I'll tell you, even though it is not the point of the article. I decided to send my sons and their significant others homemade cookies for Valentine's Day. I included directions for freezing the cookies so they would stay fresh longer as they ate them a couple at a time. (Was that a subtle enough hint to not eat too many at once?) For my husband, I made him a healthy dinner of chicken, rice, and vegetables.



If you have any items or information you would like to share in the newsletter, please e-mail:

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