

My Journey

By Laura Bennett

Back in the fall of 1975, Jesus called and chose me. I was going through a lot of storms in my life, questioning and asking myself, "What's the purpose of my existence?"

My grandmother had died the year before, and her death really hit me hard because we were so close. She always prayed for me and showed me God's unconditional love. I always felt the peace of God surrounding her whenever I was with her.

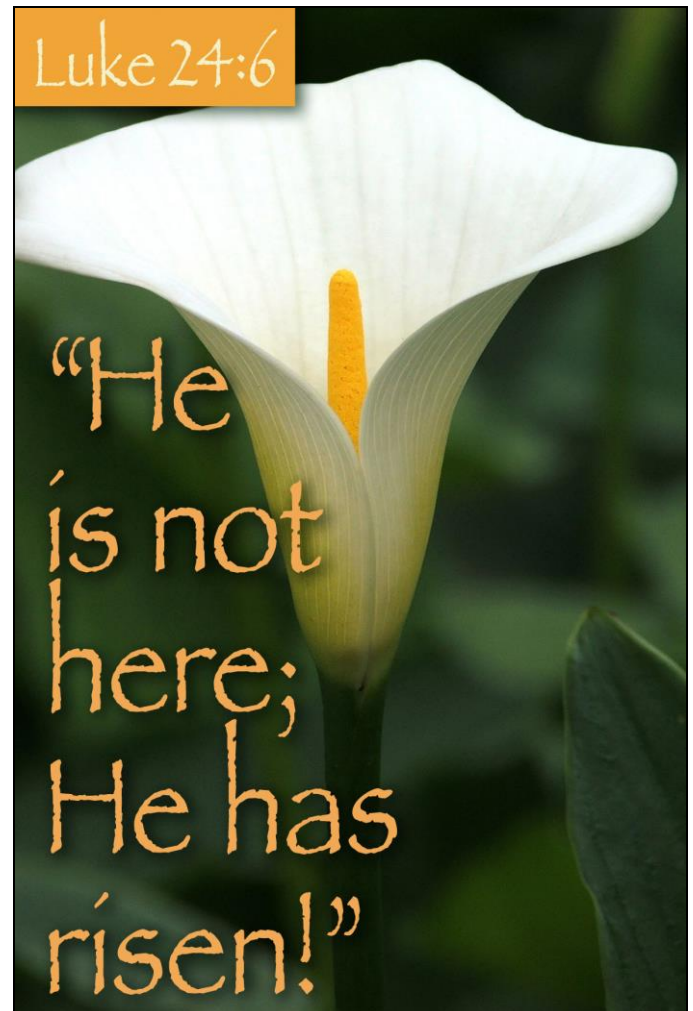
When she died of cancer, part of me died with her. I wanted to see her again, but I wasn't sure that if I died, I'd be in heaven.

Back when I was thirteen I had read some of the Bible, the Revelation of St. John, and it scared me. I never knew for sure where I'd land up when I died.

If you have ever lost someone you loved, you have hopes that you'll be reunited again. Death seems so final. So, with these thoughts and questions, my journey began.

My big brother was a biker who had ended up in prison, and we began to write each other. He had his own questions, and he had found answers in the Bible. He wrote and told me that he had a New Testament somewhere up in Grandma's attic where he used to stay. I searched for it and found it and began to read it for myself.

Well, that day I found a hidden treasure, a pearl of great price, and His name is Jesus. The Holy Spirit of God enlightened my lonely soul and revealed to me how great and good Jesus is and how much He loves us all.



My fear of death is gone now and, though my journey on this earth hasn't ended yet, some day I will be reunited with the ones I love and most of all with my Lord Jesus Christ. No matter what happens, I take comfort in His words, "I am with you always, even until the end of the world."

Your Journey

So if you are searching and you've got a lot of questions about life and death, read the Bible, because it is God's words and get to know Jesus as your Savior and Lord.

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“My Journey,” continued...

Jesus loves you and cares for you. He can forgive your sin and help you find the answers to the problems in your life. After all, He knows where you're at.

Tell Him you're sorry for the sins you've done, and ask Him to forgive you. He will!

Then get yourself a Bible (maybe there's one up in your attic) and read about the things He has done for you, and let Him lead you on your journey.



Happy Birthday!

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.

Dawn Caromano	April 3
Rachel Caromano	April 3
Gert Ferst	April 7
Lisa Yamamoto	April 9
Catherine MacQueen	April 12
Eva Bernheisel	April 14
Sarah Caroline MacQueen	April 15
John Hagestad	April 24

If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen (1 Peter 4:11)



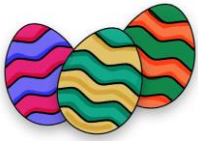
Please join us on Saturday, April 1, from 9:00 am to noon, for some healthy exercise as we spruce up our facilities in preparation for the Easter Egg Hunt which will be held at 3:00 pm on Sunday, April 2. We'll be weeding, trimming and raking outside. Bring wheelbarrows, gloves and gardening tools if you can. Coffee and donuts will be provided!

Prayer Chain Reminder

If you would like to submit a prayer request to our faithful prayer warriors, please remember to email it to prayer@windsorchapel.org. Clicking on “Reply” to a previous prayer request may delay your prayer request, since wcprayerchain@windsorchapel.org is used for sending out prayer requests and not regularly monitored for new requests. If you would like to join the prayer chain ministry and receive prayer requests, kindly send an email to chapel@windsorchapel.org.

We are grateful for the privilege of praying for you and your loved ones.

Easter Egg Hunt



Easter is almost here! It's time to invite everyone to Windsor Chapel's Annual Easter Egg Hunt, which will be held at 3:00 pm on Sunday, April 2. There will be plenty of fun and special treats for children ages 2 – 9, and everything is free! Please be sure to invite your family, friends and neighbors! Please pray for Christ to be glorified as this event is used to invite folks to our Easter Sunday Service and other activities and inform parents about our children's program. The rain date is Saturday, April 8, at 3:00 pm.



It's Not Too Late to Volunteer!

Just a few hours of your time will be a tremendous help as we prepare for our Easter Egg Hunt, one of our most important outreaches of the year. There are many ways you can help during the Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 2, or on Saturday, April 1, as we set up for the big day.

Please note the rain date for the Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 8. If you wish to serve in this rewarding ministry, please speak with Ed MacQueen on Sunday, or contact him by email at e.macqueen1@comcast.net or by phone at 609-751-6584.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

Holy Week and Easter Sunday Services



Reflect on Jesus' cross and celebrate His resurrection this Easter season with your family and friends:

*Palm Sunday
(April 2, 9:30 am)*

The children will lead us in a procession of praise during our worship service on Palm Sunday.

*Good Friday Service
(April 7, 7:00 pm)*

Our Good Friday service will feature reflective music, congregational singing and Scripture readings which will focus our hearts and minds on the Cross.

*Easter Sunday Worship
(April 9, 9:30 am)*

Don't miss this special service of celebration, combining special music and biblical reflection, on our only true foundation – Christ's resurrection! Invite your friends and family to experience the hope of our life in Christ.



Elders' Corner

By Pastor Andy Straubel

I love Easter! The weather is changing. The sun is shining longer. Nature is blossoming. But most of all it is a dedicated holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. That event two thousand plus years ago changed everything. First, it proved who Jesus was. (Romans 1:4) Second, it offers life and forgiveness. (Romans 6:10-11) Third, it brings us salvation. (Romans 10:9) Fourth, it gives us the ability to live free. (John 11:25) Fifth, it gives us hope. (Ephesians 1:18-21) Sixth, it gives us the power of Christ dwelling within us. (Acts 4:33) And finally, the resurrection of Jesus reminds us that He is coming again. (1 Thessalonians 4:14) Thanks be to God!

By the time you read this the Easter Outreach will almost be upon us. Spring is upon us; summer will soon be here. Please continue to pray for Windsor Chapel, for the ongoing ministries, for the leadership, for the new season of life and ministry in which we find ourselves. Pray for those who will have heard the Gospel. Pray for a deeper impact to be made into our community. Pray for one another as we await our Savior. Pray against the powers of darkness, for God to neutralize the influences of the enemy. Pray for the Lord to be our strength and for us to experience the joy of the Lord.

"May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 15:5-6)

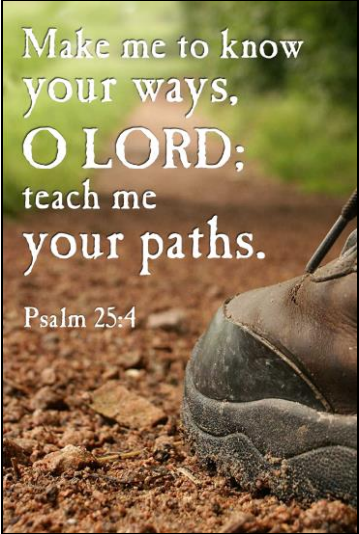
Upcoming Adventure

Hello Windsor Chapel Family!

On April 2, I will be starting my thru-hike of the Appalachian Trail. The Appalachian Trail runs from Springer Mountain in Georgia all the way up to Mount Katahdin in Maine. The length of the entire trail is roughly 2200 miles. I estimate it will take five to six months for me to hike the whole trail.

I have chosen to do a flip-flop hike which means I will start approximately in the middle, in Virginia, and hike north to Katahdin. I will then be driven back to where I started in Virginia and hike south to Georgia. By leaving early in April, I estimate I will get to Katahdin sometime in July and finish in Georgia sometime in late September or early October.

The reason for my telling you all this is that I thought you might be interested in hearing about my trip as I hike. I will have a document where I will post pictures and updates about my adventures. If someone wants to follow my updates in the document, they can email Larry at lberrill@verizon.net and let him know. For those who are interested, Larry will send out an email with the link to the document and directions on how to access it.



Make me to know
your ways,
O LORD;
teach me
your paths.

Psalms 25:4

Further Up and Further In

*Inviting dialogue to encourage growth in
and among us*



By Cindy Bills

Following in the Footsteps of Jesus

For believers, April brings a resounding cry: He is risen! Indeed! This is the time when we remember Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for us, for His death as payment before God for our sins, and then His resurrection as the first fruits of His redemptive work on our behalf. The death and resurrection of Christ are two of the best attested events in ancient history. And all four Gospel accounts bear witness to the fact that Jesus Christ died and was raised on the third day. For us.

The death and resurrection of Christ is the bedrock of our Christian faith. And while believers are quick to profess belief in that truth, we are not always quick to remain grounded on that bedrock. Not unlike the Israelites who quickly forgot the LORD's work in parting the Red Sea as they grumbled in the wilderness, we often forget that our foundation is Christ and His death and resurrection. We thank God for His sacrifice and praise Him for the power of the resurrection. And then we go through our days hurried and distracted, looking for ways to feel good about ourselves apart from the Lord.

I think it might be helpful to consider that Good Friday and Easter are not events that are isolated from Christ's entire time on earth as God Incarnate. In Philippians 2, we read that in becoming incarnate, Jesus emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant. He patiently grew through His childhood as a member of a family. And even though He knew who He was when He spent a good bit of time in His Father's house—the temple—as a twelve-year-

old (Luke 2), He remained patient through almost two decades before beginning His public ministry. Jesus submitted to baptism (Matthew 3) and then spent forty days in the wilderness fasting and being tempted by Satan (Matthew 4). Christ's life as God Incarnate was a series of choices that reflected His ongoing relationship with the Father as a day-to-day commitment.

Jesus was able to fulfill His mission on earth by living out His relationship with the Father on a day-to-day, choice-by-choice basis. And we have a mission as well! The Lord has created us for good works, prepared by God beforehand, so that we would walk in them (Ephesians 2:10). If we are to walk in those good works and obey Christ as He calls us to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow Him (Luke 9:23), we must abide in Him as branches on a vine and follow Christ as we live our day-to-day lives on a choice-by-choice basis. As we learn to do this, something amazing happens. We become increasingly free from the appearance, performance, and status standards that the world would place on us. We become less driven by self-interest and more driven by the Holy Spirit. We become better able to love. We become more like Christ. And we are able to experience the peace and joy that He offers.

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

No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. Luke 6:43-45

Assumptions

By Janet Berrill

Joshua 22 tells a story from which we have much to learn about making assumptions. Let me summarize the story. When the Israelites' tenure in the desert was up, God led them to conquer the Promised Land. Two-and-one-half of the 12 tribes settled on the east side of the Jordan River while the remaining nine-and-one-half tribes settled on the west. Because the land east of the river was conquered first, the men from the tribes that settled there agreed to fight until the land west of the river was taken. When the land was finally conquered, the men from the tribes that settled east of the Jordan River returned home.

Upon returning home, these men built an altar by the Jordan River. Hearing of this, the Israelites east of the river became so enraged that they prepared to go to war with their fellow Israelites. The reason they were so angry is because God had commanded that there be only one altar on which to offer sacrifices (see Leviticus 17:8-9) and now their brothers had built a second one.

Fortunately, before actually going to war, the western Israelites sent a delegation to those living to the east. When confronted, the eastern tribes explained that the altar they had built was not one on which sacrifices would be made, but rather it was to serve as a witness to future generations that those living east of the Jordan were part of Israel. They feared future descendants might make the Jordan River a boundary and say that those living east of the river were not part of God's chosen people. Satisfied with their explanation, the delegation returned home and war was averted.

When I first read this story, I thought about how assumptions can cause many problems. The tribes to the west were about to go to war against their fellow countrymen over an incorrect conclusion they made about something their brothers had done. Fortunately they sent a delegation to confront them before taking any action. The confusion was cleared up and war was avoided.

How often do we make assumptions about someone else's actions or motivations? And when

we do, how often are they wrong? I have a friend who assumed a fellow churchgoer didn't like her because this woman never spoke to her. As it turns out, the other woman was just shy and when circumstances brought the two women together, they got along famously and a friendship was begun.

One time I ran into someone I hadn't seen in a while, and in our brief conversation this woman was very short with me. I immediately assumed she was mad at me for some reason, but later I realized that her behavior had nothing to do with me at all. Her husband was going through a difficult medical situation that was obviously weighing heavily on her.

The Israelites sent a delegation to find out why the tribes to the east had built an altar. This wise decision avoided a war that would have been fought based on false conclusions. We can learn from this. Rather than making assumptions to explain another person's behavior, if appropriate, speak to the other person in love to find out the truth. Much pain and sorrow can be avoided when the truth comes to light.

There may be situations where speaking to the other person is not feasible. In those cases, try not to make any assumptions at all, or give the person the benefit of the doubt. Case in point: someone is being an aggressive driver. In this situation, I try to think that the driver might be in a hurry to get somewhere important. This helps me not to get angry and annoyed at the other driver and to be gracious to the driver in return.

The truth is that only God knows our hearts and we should not presume to make assumptions about other people. Many misunderstandings can be avoided if we follow this advice and learn from the Israelites.

(This article was originally published in May 2008)

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

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