



Senior Heartbeat



TEMPLE
BAPTIST CHURCH
COME GATHER AROUND THE WORD

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Bluebirds to be focus of May meeting

By Dale Oden

Easter Sunday at Temple was a glorious experience. The crowds were great, the music was won-

derful and the preaching was uplifting!

What a delightful way to celebrate the resurrection of our

Savior! And to be able to announce that we had exceeded our goal of \$63,000 for the Annie Armstrong Offering for North

American Easter Offering was exciting!

Thank you for your generous giving to our mission offer-

ings. God continues to bless our giving to these special mission offerings.

We were blessed by the music of David Worthington at our April luncheon. He had all of us singing some old familiar hymns.

I am always thankful for those who come to entertain us. I understand that the group "Brothers N Christ" did a wonderful job at the recent Senior Expo. I hope to have them sing for us in the fall.

Okay Bird Watchers! The program for this month will feature the founder of the Louisiana Bayou Blue Bird Society.

Evelyn Cooper and her daughter, Sheryl Bassi, will be with us on Tuesday, May 21, at 11:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Mrs. Cooper founded this society in the '90s to help get the beautiful bluebirds back in our state.

I hope that you will join us to see

See Branson p. 2.

Ode to simpler days in many ways

Author unknown

A little house with two bedrooms,
One bathroom and one car on the street

A mower that you had to push

To make the grass look neat.



In the kitchen on the wall
We only had one phone,
And no need for recording things,
Someone was always home.

We only had a living room
Where we would congregate,
Unless it was at mealtime
In the kitchen where we ate!

We had no need for family rooms
Or extra rooms to dine.
When meeting as a family
Those two rooms would work out fine!

We only had one TV set
And channels maybe two,
But always there was one of them
With something worth the view!



For snacks we had potato chips
That tasted like a chip.
And if you wanted flavor
There was Lipton's onion dip.

Store-bought snacks were rare because
My mother liked to cook
And nothing can compare to snacks
In Betty Crocker's book!

Weekends were for family trips
Or staying home to play
We all did things together —
Even go to church to pray.

When we did our weekend trips
Depending on the weather,
No one stayed at home because
We liked to be together.

Sometimes we would separate
To do things on our own,
But we knew where the others were
Without our own cell phone!

Then there were the movies
With your favorite movie star,
And nothing can compare
To watching movies in your car

Then there were the picnics
At the peak of summer season,
Pack a lunch and find some trees
And never need a reason.

Get a baseball game together
With all the friends you know,
Have real action playing ball —
And no game video.

See An older, page 2.

An older time reviewed in rhyme

Continued from page 1.

Remember when the doctor
Used to be the family friend,
And didn't need insurance
Or a lawyer to defend.

The way that he took care of you
Or what he had to do,
Because he took an oath and strived
To do the best for you.

Remember going to the store
And shopping casually,
And when you went to pay for it
You used your own money?

Nothing that you had to swipe
Or punch in some amount,
And remember when the cashier person
Had to really count?

The milkman used to go
From door to door,
And it was just a few cents more
Than going to the store.

There was a time when mailed letters
Came right to your door,
Without a lot of junk mail ads
Sent out by every store!

The mailman knew each house by name
And knew where it was sent;
There were not loads of mail addressed
To "present occupant"!

There was a time when just one glance
Was all that it would take,
And you would know the kind of car,
The model and the make!

They didn't look like turtles
Trying to squeeze out every mile;
They were streamlined, whitewalls, fins
And really had some style

One time the music that you played
Whenever you would jive,
Was from a vinyl, big-holed record
Called a forty-five!

The record player had a post
To keep them all in line
And then the records would drop down
And play one at a time.

Oh sure, we had our problems then,
Just like we do today
And always we were striving,
Trying for a better way!

Oh, the simple life we lived
Still seems like so much fun,
How can you explain a game,
Just kick the can and run?

And why would boys put baseball cards
Between bicycle spokes
And for a nickel, red machines
Had little bottled Cokes?

This life seemed so much easier
Slower in some ways
I love the new technology
But I sure do miss those days.

So time moves on and so do we
And nothing stays the same,
But I sure love to reminisce
And walk down memory lane.

With all today's technology
We grant that it's a plus!
But it's fun to look way back and say,
Hey look, guys, that was us!
— From Fred Benefield



"The church got together and came up with
a job description for you."

from *The Joyful Noiseletter*
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Branson, Passion Play trips scheduled

Cont. from page 1.

and hear what is being done all across Louisiana to save these birds. There will even be some door prizes given out!

In case you haven't heard, the Branson Christmas Trip has been planned for Nov. 11-15. We will be staying at the Branson Hilton at the Convention Center, which is where we have stayed in the past.

It is a beautiful hotel located across the street from The Landing. This is the shopping area that is full of shops and restaurants.

We will see five Christmas shows and eat some delicious meals before returning to Ruston on Friday, the 15th.

Also, let me remind you that we are taking deposits for the May 2020 trip to Oberammergau to attend the Passion Play.

If you have an interest, please stop by the Church Office for a brochure. Dr. Reggie and I would love to have you go with us.

The earlier we get deposits in to the travel agency, the better seats that will be assigned to our group for the play.

Facing the 'dark forest' of life

By Ann Clark

Did you know the remarkable facts about the aspen trees? For instance, an entire grove of slender, white trunked aspens can grow from a single seed and share the same root system. Their root system can exist for thousands of years whether or not they produce trees.

They sleep underground, waiting for fire, flood or avalanche to clear an open space for them in the dark forest. After a disaster has cleared the land, aspen roots can sense the sun at last. The roots send up saplings, which become trees. For aspens, new growth is made possible by the devastation of the disaster.

There could be so many applications here. But consider the early Christians who because of persecution had to go 'underground' and then were dispersed all around. But after the horrors of their persecution and dispersal they found space and they sprang up.

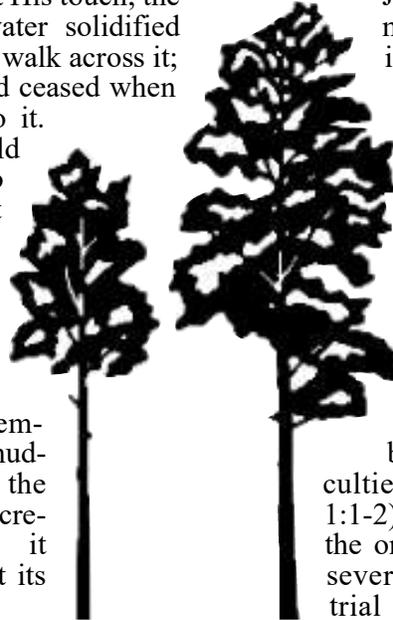
They came up and became missionaries, groups, and churches. They were finally able to arise out of the blackness of their dark forest into the glorious sunlight of the power of God.

Jesus, Himself, went through the darkness of the passion and death, but He too arose in the power of God.

Rick Renner in his book 'The Gems' stated, "I find it amazing that although Israel rejected Jesus and the Roman authorities crucified Him, but creation

always recognized Him! During His life on earth, the waves obeyed Him; water turned to wine at His command; fishes and bread multiplied at His touch; the atoms in water solidified so He could walk across it; and the wind ceased when He spoke to it.

So it should come as no surprise that Jesus' death was a traumatic event for creation. The earth shook, trembled, and shuddered at the death of its creator for it instantly felt its loss."



God's children were all hidden in the dark forest of a sinful world but suddenly that 'avalanche' of the death and resurrection of

Jesus Christ made room in the "SON-shine" for them to emerge.

James, the apostle, wrote that our own growth in faith is also made possible by difficulties. (James 1:1-2) "Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because,

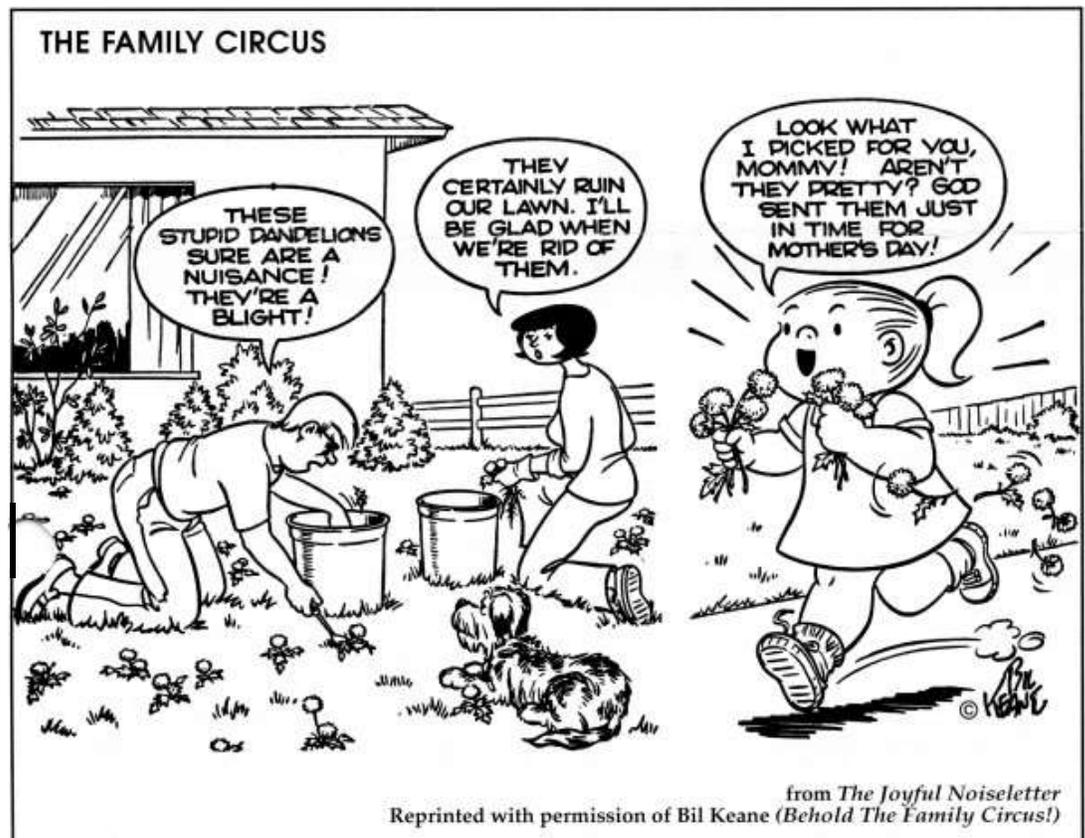
having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life."

Are you in a dark forest right now because of some circumstances that have arisen in your life?

God's ways aren't our ways but He knows just how to clear the way for the sun to shine in your life again.

Take heart; have patience; and keep the faith; God will clear the way. Like aspen trees, faith can grow in times of trial when difficulty clears space in our hearts for the light of God to touch us.

Prayer: Thank you, Lord God, for being with us in our trials, and for helping us to grow through difficult circumstances.



Temple Baptist Church

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Congratulations!!!

May Birthdays

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Billy Chandler | 9 Bonnie Nolan | 22 Betty Cox |
| 2 Joan Frazier | 10 June Young | 22 Emily Moore |
| 3 Sandra Powell | 11 Mike Barmore | 22 Bobby Sanders |
| 4 Janie Ainsworth | 12 Marilyn Gullatt | 23 Robert Dawkins |
| 6 Edna Smith | 14 Ronnie Rodrigues | 24 Johnie Echols |
| 6 Leon Stamm | 15 Ronnie Holloway | 24 Sarabeth Ringle |
| 6 Barbara Washington | 17 Sue Gullatt | 25 Nancy Collie |
| 6 Greg Thomas | 18 Betty Chandler | 28 Jill Goulart |
| 7 Rick Rogers | 18 Pam Walpole | 28 Dale Oden |
| 9 Bruce Ayres | 19 Susan Miller | 30 Minette Cox |
| 9 Donald Colvin | 22 Fred Baragona | |

May Anniversaries

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 16 Minette and Bill Cox (1958) | 24 Margie and Robert Hearn (1959) |
| 21 Vera and Royce Watson (1952) | 25 Helen and Harold Shrell (1996) |

If you would like your birthday and/or anniversary added to the lists published each month in Senior Heartbeat, please call the Church Office (255-3745).