

Childhood

by: Stan Mitchell

A friend of mine tells of the day he went with a group of people to a nursing home, to the ward that cares for those suffering from Alzheimer's.

Most of the residents were, to put it as kindly as possible, no longer there. Their stares were vacant, their memory as empty as a Montana prairie. They remembered nothing, knew no one, not even themselves. It was a heartbreaking experience.

What could the visitors do? What could they say? Because they didn't know what to talk about, they sang hymns – "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," and "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know."

And something astonishing happened. These elderly people began to sing along! Silver heads perked up, feathery thin voices were raised in song. Apparently the earliest childhood memories are the very last to go, and these poor victims of this dreadful disease remembered the songs they sang in Sunday school.

Children are high fidelity microphones, picking up every breath, every inflection, every tone they hear. When parents quarrel, they know; when ladies use language that once made sailors blush, they hear; when voices are raised in honor of an incomparable God, the sound and the words lodge deeply in the memory.

Tell an adult that God is right here, in our midst, and he will scoff. Tell a child, and he will say, "OK." Tell an adult that he should forgive his brother, and he will set his face in stone and intone, "Never!" Tell a child to forgive his brother, and in moments they will be lost in their play again.

The Teacher said it best: "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14).

All of which makes me determined that we will put in our children's memories things of substance, pieces of our spiritual heritage that have stood the test of time.

You see, the real tragedy is not when an Alzheimer's victim forgets his childhood, but when a society forgets its conscience.

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That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

June 11, 2017

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.

Thursday

Home Bible study-7:00pm

**ALL THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
GREET YOU.**

ROMANS 16:16

Today's Sermon: *Called to Holiness – part 2*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:6-13

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Next potluck: June 18. Summer theme. It is also Father's Day, so if that causes a conflict, we can set it back to the 25th.**
- **Ladies Class: has been suspended for the summer. We will resume after Labor Day in September. Watch this space!**
- **Midweek Bible study Thursday nights at 7pm.**



- ✓ Workers from the church in Kittanning will again be traveling to Sayre to conduct a vacation Bible school here. This year the one day vacation Bible school will be on Saturday, August 19th.
- ✓ Darlene and Jackie will be returning from OK on Wednesday.
- ✓ Arthur and Sandy have booked a flight to Alaska on June 26th, returning July 10th. They will be visiting their son, Robin, his wife, Katie and their 7 children in Soldotna. Nate's dad will be preaching here on July 9th, but at this point we do not have a preacher for July 2nd.
- ✓ Arthur is working on a canoe/kayak trip down the Susquehanna River from Owego to Sayre to take place sometime this summer. We may try a few shorter excursions first to "test the waters". ;-) This is for all who are interested.
- ✓ Arthur is currently involved with two church groups in Guyana, South America. He teaches weekly lessons to each group via Skype.
- ✓ Sandy has been reaching out to several young Christian mothers in China (Inner Mongolia and Shaanxi Provinces) via WeChat, a Chinese equivalent of Skype or FaceTime, which are both prohibited there. These ladies ask questions about how to raise their children to be Christians. Please keep them in prayer if you would.
- ✓ Lani has moved to Towanda. Her new address is 310 3rd St., #3, Towanda, PA 18848. Please update your directory.

PRAYERS...

- Pray for all of our family members and loved ones who are yet lost or have strayed far away to come (back) to Christ.
- Pray for Lori Kashorek as she continues to recover from successful removal of a brain tumor at the same time as she is managing her lung cancer. She plans on starting back to work on Tuesday.
- Vicki Joice, Darlene's sister, has been told she will need to have chemo plus Herceptin infusions, and radiation therapy. She will be having a port inserted soon for the IV treatments. Darlene and her mom, Jackie, have been visiting Vicki, and will be leaving OK the day before Vicki starts her chemo treatments. Her first one is on Thursday.
- Pray for Emily Barry as she prepares for surgery on her thyroid sometime in August.
- Please remember Kiley and Thomas Dolan's mom, Heather Morse, in prayer.
- Remember Patty's son, Tim Bump, as he deals with problems in his life. He is also looking for a new job.
- Remember Loren, the man who lived in his van near where Lani lives. He has been in hospital fairly recently, and after talking to his son, Lani believes he may have gone into a home.
- Remember Deborah Albro in prayer, who is dealing with several health issues.
- If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry :

barnecat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.