

FEB

2018

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to give you hope and a future .•... You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:11,13

1. **WAKE UP!!** Decide to have a good day.
"Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" Psalms 118: 24

2. **DRESS UP!!** The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord looks at the heart."
I Samuel 16:7

3. **SHUT UP!!** Say nice things and learn to listen.
God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking. "He who guards his lips guards his soul."
Proverbs 13:3

4. **STAND UP!!....** For what you believe in.
Stand for something or you will fall for anything .. "Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good ..."
Galatians 6:9-10

5. **LOOK UP!!....**To the Lord
"I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me."
Philippians 4: 13

6. **REACH UP!!....** For something higher.
"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, And He will direct your path."
Proverbs 3 :5-6

7. **LIFT UP!!....** Your Prayers.
"Do not worry about anything;
Instead PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING."
Philippians 4:6

and remember:

GOD ANSWERS PRAYER.....

NOW This is The Real Living Bible

His name is Bill. He has wild hair, wears a T-shirt with holes in it, jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of College. He is brilliant, kind of profound and very, very bright. He became a Christian while attending college. Across the street from the campus is a well-dressed, very conservative church. They want to develop a ministry to the students but are not sure how to go about it. One day Bill decides to go there. He walks in with no shoes, jeans, his T-shirt, and wild hair ... The service has already started and so Bill starts down the aisle looking for a seat. The church is completely packed and he can't find a seat. By now, people are really looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one says anything. Bill gets closer and closer to the pulpit, and when he realizes there are no seats, he just squats down right on the carpet. By now the people are really uptight, and the tension in the air is thick. About this time, the minister realizes that from way at the back of the Church, a deacon is slowly making his way toward Bill. Now the deacon is in his eighties, has Silver-gray hair and a three-piece suit. A godly man, very elegant, very dignified, very courtly. He walks with a cane and, as he starts walking toward this boy, everyone is saying to themselves that you can't blame him for what he's going to do. How can you expect a man of his age and of his background to understand some college kid on the floor? It takes a long time for the man to reach the boy. The church is utterly silent except for the clicking of the man's cane. All eyes are focused on him. You can't even hear anyone breathing. The minister can't even preach the sermon until the deacon does what he has to do. And now they see this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty, he lowers himself and sits down next to Bill and worships with Him, so he won't be alone. Everyone chokes up with emotion.

When the minister gains control, he says, 'What I'm about to preach, you will never remember. What you have just seen, you will never forget.'

'Be careful how you live. You may be the only Bible some people will ever Read!'

PASTOR'S CORNER

At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth. Philippians 2:10

Cleopatra, Galileo, Shakespeare, Elvis, Pelé. They are all so well known that they need only one name to be recognized. They have remained prominent in history because of who they were and what they did. But there is another name that stands far above these or any other name!

Before the Son of God was born into this world, the angel told Mary and Joseph to name Him *Jesus* because “he will save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21), and “he . . . will be called the Son of the Most High” (Luke 1:32). Jesus didn’t come as a celebrity but as a servant who humbled Himself and died on the cross so that anyone who receives Him can be forgiven and freed from the power of sin.



Jesus Christ is not valued at all until He is valued above all. Augustine

The apostle Paul wrote, “God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:9–11).

In our times of greatest joy and our deepest need, the name we cling to is *Jesus*. He will never leave us, and His love will not fail.

Jesus, You are the name above all names, our Savior and Lord.

We lift our praise to You as we celebrate Your presence and power in our lives today.

INSIGHT

God, who exists eternally in three Persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—has a variety of names that describe His attributes, including Good Shepherd, Lion of Judah, Lamb of God, Prince of Peace, Almighty God, Strong Tower, and Comforter. Yet here in Philippians 2 Jesus is called the “name that is above every name” (v. 9). Paul, the author of Philippians, goes on to say that at the sound of His name “every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth” (v. 10). Why this enthusiastic praise for the name of Jesus? It’s because of who He is, what He left behind, and what He accomplished. Jesus, the Son of God, left the magnificence of heaven and the presence of His Father and humbled Himself by taking on “human likeness” and “becoming obedient to death” (vv. 7–8). Thus humbled, Jesus was “exalted . . . to the highest place” and given the name above all names (v. 9). He died and rose again because of His love for us and is deserving of our praise and the overflowing joy it expresses.

Whom can you tell about Jesus?

Pastor Michel Rodriguez & wife Elizabeth and daughter Emma Isabel —Phone: 817-219-7347

104 Homewood Ct. Millbrook, AL 36054 email: wintermich@icloud.com

Head Elder, Robert (Bob) Ernest— 205-280-1297 Email: RobertE699@aol.com

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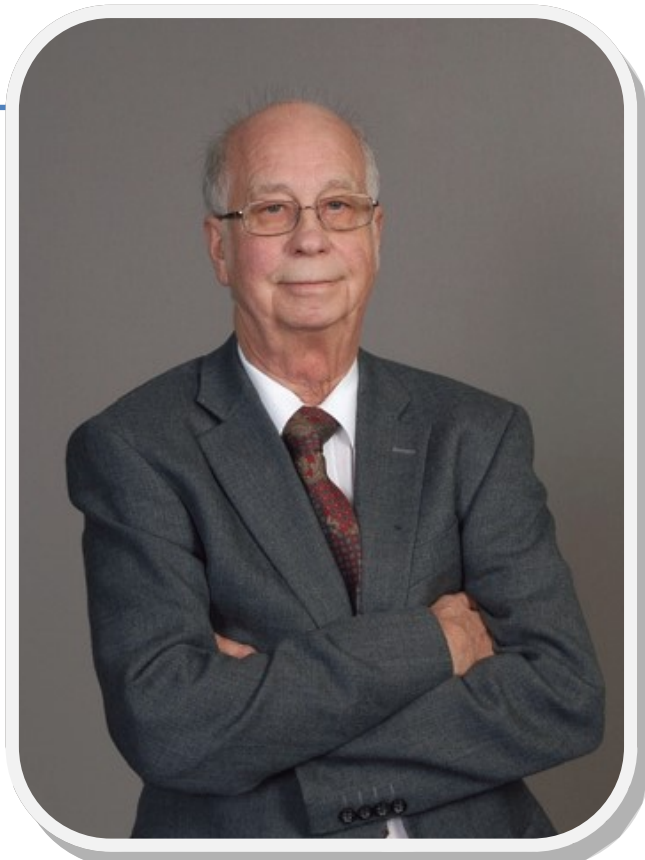
In Memory of

Robert Marion Higgins

August 1, 1944 - January 13, 2018

Higgins, Mr. Robert Marion, age 73, a resident of Clanton died on Saturday, January 13, 2018. Mr. Higgins was born on August 1, 1944 to the late Roy F. Higgins and Ruth Higgins. He is survived by his son, Edward Higgins of Clanton, AL; special friend, Dot Wilson; brothers, James R. "Jim" (Mary L.) Higgins of Clanton, AL, and Byron (Debbie) Higgins of Clanton, AL; sister-in-law, Felecia Higgins of Clanton, AL. Preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Higgins and brother, Douglas Higgins.

Funeral services will be Monday, January 15, 2018 at 1:00 pm from the Martin Funeral Home chapel with Rev. Billy Wyatt officiating. Interment will follow in Martin Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be from 12 pm until 1 pm Monday at Martin Funeral Home.



Rev. Billy Wyatt officiated at the funeral on Monday the 15th. He is a Nephew of Roberts on Dorothy's side of the family, said he had known Robert for 31 years. Several songs were played: The Old Rugged Cross, I've got a Mansion and I wonder if the trumpet will be the next sound I hear.

He gave high praises for the Clanton Kindergarten, his daughter went to our kindergarten and he feels like this is a very good image for our church to continue as long as we can. A lot of wonderful things are learned by children because of going to Kindergarten at the Clanton Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Before Robert went to surgery he was concerned about Edward his son and giving advice on what to do. He was a caring person and wasn't saying "woe is me" but making sure his family was taken care of instead.



Billy Wyatt knew Robert and that he believed that his body was God's and he took care of it, not smoking, drinking and eating only those things that were healthy. Rev Wyatt read from Romans 12:1 on Christian conduct. He quoted from John 11:20-26 about the story of Lazarus, whosoever believed in me shall never die. Also from I Corinthians 15 about the resurrection of Jesus; and because of his death, we can say "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ". We can have eternal life and look forward to the second coming and being together with our loved ones in Heaven.

The funeral was well attended by church members and family and friends even with the flu season and being on a Monday even though it was a holiday as far as schools and etc were concerned.

Just my take on everything, if you couldn't attend, just wanted you to be informed. As usual reporting: Brenda

SPOTLIGHT ON THE BRENT CHRISHON FAMILY



Brent was born in Lafayette, Louisiana May 1, 1975, and I was born in Birmingham, Alabama June 8, 1977. By divine providence, we met at my home one Sabbath afternoon in 1998. My mother was especially blessed with the gift of hospitality and many people would gather at our home on Sabbath afternoons. Mama tended to keep her eyes open for senior citizens who may be a little lonely, college students were living away from home, and professional young adults who relocated to the area with their jobs-people who would appreciate good fellowship and a home cooked meal.

Mark Denman was a young man from Louisiana who moved to Birmingham for a job. He would frequently join us for Sabbath lunch after church, but one Sabbath was different. This particular Sabbath Brent was with him. They were a little late and by the time they arrived at my home, I was getting ready to leave headed back to church for AYS. We briefly greeted each other and went our separate ways. Later that evening, I went over to Mark's home with some other young adults from the church and Brent was there. This time we had an opportunity to get talk with each other longer. Since Brent was new to the area, I offered to show him around and often invited him to different events that were taking place. We quickly became good friends.

One Sabbath during worship service at Ephesus SDA church, Brent and I were sitting next to each other and the Lord gave him the impression that he was sitting next to his future wife. Shortly afterwards, he spoke to my parents, and then we started making plans to get married. We were married November 25, 1999 at Ephesus SDA Church in Birmingham. Unfortunately, by November 2000 we were separated! Brent was under great temptation, and he began having second thoughts about God, being an SDA, being married, and living in Birmingham. He decided to turn his back on his God, his church, and his wife. He returned to Louisiana and tried his best to enjoy life as a worldly, single man. Meanwhile, I was left confused, heartbroken and alone in our new home. I felt alone, but I was not really alone. The Lord was there for me every step of the way. He encouraged me with precious promises from the Bible and day by day gave me the strength I needed to face this crisis.

The very day Brent left, I was invited to join a group of ladies who were praying for their wayward husbands and broken marriages. I accepted the invitation and found myself blessed and encouraged by the fellowship, seasons of prayer, Bible study and amazing reconciliation testimonies from the other ladies. I had never experienced anything like this before. These women were serious about prayer and serious about seeing the Lord save their marriages and their spouses and their children. I am eternally thankful to the Lord for putting me in touch with these women at just the right time.

By God's grace, I decided to pray for Brent and our marriage. If the Lord did it for the ladies in the group, maybe he would bring reconciliation between Brent and me. On many occasions I had to walk by faith and not by sight, but five years later Brent and I were reunited. *The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad!* (Psalm 126:3)

Satan thought evil against [us]; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive." (Genesis 50:20)

We recommitted our lives to Jesus and decided to become full-time missionaries. At the end of 2006, Brent resigned from his job as a pharmaceutical sales representative, and we moved to Georgia so he could receive medical missionary training at Wildwood College of Evangelism. In 2007, we received an invitation to serve as missionaries in S. Korea as Bible/English teachers with the SDA Language Institute. We accepted the invitation, said goodbye to our family and moved to Korea with Baby Samuel. After spending almost a year in Korea, we returned home.

Since 2007, Brent has done both secular and religious work, and I resigned from my job as an elementary school teacher in 2005 in order to focus my time and energy on taking care of our growing family and training our children to be successful in this life and in the life to come.

Things weren't looking too good for our family back in 2000, but the LORD has restored unto us the years that the locust hath eaten (Joel 2:25), and He has blessed our latter end more than our beginning! (Job 42:12)

We are so happy to be a part of the Clanton SDA Church. Thank you for your continued love, prayers and support. We love you!

~Submitted by Anika Chrishon: Wife of Brent Chrishon and mother of Madison (14), Samuel (11), Daniel(5), Anthony-Joseph(3) and Michael-Shepherd(1)



February Birthdays

- 1 - Anne Chandler & Holly Boggus
- 5 - Terry Cheser
- 7 - Kelaiah Radford (2010)
- 10- Tony Plier
- 12 - Carol Fortuna
- 15 - Gary Ernest
- 19 - Laurie Ernest
- 25 - Cameron Higgins, Anthony-Joseph Chrishon (2014)
- 26 - Jimmy Powers, Jim Higgins
- 28 - Madison Chrishon

Anniversaries

- 1 - Gary & Laurie Ernest
- 15 - Donnie & Holly Boggus

Happy, Happy Birthday to everyone this month. If I don't have your special day, let me know. We want to celebrate with you. Brenda



Last months reminiscing: Pastor Kenneth Harding and family. Bea Hill said that Beth Harding Jeffers (the older daughter) is a member of the Birmingham church now with her husband, son and daughters. I found her on Facebook but everything was posted 8+ years ago, she must be a busy mother and hasn't updated anything lately.

I decided to post a picture that most of us would remember, she died 3/5/03 so this is from more than 15 years ago. I was hunting for pictures to put on the "in memory of" page, and found this on my computer.

Tentative Speaker Schedule -

February 2018 - 3rd - Pastor Rodriguez, 10th - Tui Pitman, 17th - Pastor Rodriguez/Pastor Ordination, 24th - Ted Winslow
Sonlight ministries - 1st Sabbath at 3:00 PM @ the Clanton SDA Church -see Ralph Sheperd or Treva Radford for more info

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY -

Imagine your world without it. Religious Liberty offering, starting January 27, 2018. The annual Religious Liberty Offering helps ensure that we are free to practice our faith and share the Gospel as God has instructed. It is because of your faithful giving that we are able to offer legal aid to individuals experiencing religious discrimination in the workplace. And it is because of your sponsorship of Liberty magazine subscriptions that though leader everywhere are better informed on and more responsive to issues of religious freedom. When you scan the morning newspaper headlines or glimpse the cable channel ticker you quickly ascertain that these are turbulent, volatile times. Devalued credit rating, rising unemployment, divisive partisan politics. Privacy, discretion and civility have all but vanished in the name of security and patriotism. The final events are proving to be rapid ones. But there is opportunity in Crisis! Now is our time to proclaim, protect, and support Liberty! Now is our time to champion freedom of conscience for ourselves, for our fellow believers, and for those who do not yet know Jesus. Make your pledge now and turn in your offering before the end of March. \$30 sponsors 5 liberty subscriptions, \$60 sponsors 10 Liberty subscriptions, \$100 Silver Level Partner, \$500 Gold Level Partner, Other \$... There are about 88 county leaders that we of the Clanton church have sent Liberty to over the years, these include the judges, pastors, doctors offices, principals, sheriff, councilmen, commissioners & attorneys in this area.

"As in the days of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, so in the closing period of earth's history the Lord will work mightily in behalf of those who stand steadfastly for the right. He who walked with the Hebrew worthies in the fiery furnace will be with His followers wherever they are. His abiding presence will comfort and sustain" Prophets & Kings, p 512-513



Children's Story - Sabbath, January 20, 2018.

We were blessed by a story from Treva Radford about habits and how hard they are to break using toothpicks. If you keep doing the bad habit over and over it is like trying to break several toothpicks wrapped together, it isn't something we can do by ourselves. Only Jesus can help us. Several prayed that God would help them overcome their bad habits. We as adults enjoyed the lesson story also.



Brent & Samuel with happy customers.

MISSION TRIP TO FLORIDA

Brent and I were asked to help chaperone a small group of student literature evangelists for a 10-day mission trip to Lady Lake, FL (December 17-28, 2017). Brent was one of the leaders who trained the students and went out with them on a daily basis as they

shared message and health books on a donation basis in the surrounding areas. I worked in the kitchen making sure the team had healthy, yet delicious physical food to keep them going as they shared spiritual food in the community.

Our oldest son, Samuel(11), had the privilege of going out into the community with the students. We didn't know if Samuel would be able to keep up with the older students and handle all of the walking while carrying his books, but the Lord helped him, and HE DID IT. *I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.* Philippians 4:13

By God's grace, the young people distributed over 200 books during their winter break!

Here is a testimony Samuel wrote about one of his experiences:

Hey, it's Sam!

There was a man outside in his front yard on his phone so we waited until he got off the phone. His place was nice, the only house at the dead end where there was also a dock and a gazebo by the lake.

When he got off the phone he was friendly to us, but said he did not like to read.

But he said he could give a donation to what we were doing. So he went to get his checkbook and wrote a nice donation. We were able to give him a *Steps to Christ* and encouraged him to read it!

We asked him if he was a doctor, but he said he was a real estate broker and that he was from Guiana. He said he had bought books from students before, but hadn't read them. We encouraged him to read the books and get closer to Jesus. We prayed with him before we left.

~Submitted by Anika Chrishon

- ◆ Websites Bill Weise has set up & would like special prayer about the responses from these sites.
www.steppingupward.org www.eqwhiteclassicquotes.org <http://www.grandmastidbits.org>
- ◆ We have a website!! <http://clantonsda.org/>, Tony Plier has posted sermons, music & a lot of info, look under Newsletters to find this publication on line each month. Tony has made it so the previous couple years are there also. Thanks to all those that are going to contribute next month. If I missed a momentous occasion, please send it to me and we will post next month. If I email you and US mail the newsletter, let me know that I can not US Mail to you, I know several want the "hard copy". Until next month, Brenda



Cavassing Team with an SDA woman they met while cavassing at her job.

Return Address:

Brenda K Davis
187 County Rd 313
Stanton, AL 36790



To: «AddressBlock»