

July 2016

Dear Friends, The Fourth of July, Independence Day, is a time to remember the freedom we have as a country and as individuals. The freedoms we enjoy today come with a large price that was paid by many who have faced the enemies of our country. Though not perfect—our country is the best we can hope for in this world. In John 8:31-26 Jesus tells us that He is the truth that will set us free. He gave his life to free us from the consequences of sin. Only He has the power to free us from Satan's deceptions. Jesus shows us clearly the way to eternal life. He does not give us freedom to do what we want, but freedom to follow God. As we seek to follow God, His truth sets us free to become what He intended us to be. We know as we live in the last days of this world's history that we will not always have the freedom we enjoy today. We can see now how fear of what might happen—is beginning to take away some of the individuals rights that we have taken for granted for so long. But remember the freedom God gives—no one can destroy. God bless each of you, Pastor Clay Grice (From July 2006 - Newsletter. Thought it was worth repeating this year, still as true as 10 years ago)

Thoughts for the Day that Inspire You to Success

Be kinder than necessary because everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.

A sharp tongue can cut your own throat.

If you want your dreams to come true, you mustn't oversleep.

Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important.

The best vitamin for making friends..... B1!

The happiness of your life depends on the quality of your thoughts.

The heaviest thing you can carry is a grudge.

One thing you can give and still keep...is your word.

You lie the loudest when you lie to yourself

If you lack the courage to start, you have already finished.

One thing you can't recycle is wasted time.

Ideas won't work unless 'You' do.

Your mind is like a parachute...it functions only when open.

The 10 commandments are not a multiple choice.

The pursuit of happiness is the chase of a lifetime!

It is never too late to become what you might have been.

Life is too short to wake up with regrets.

So love the people who treat you right, and forget about the ones who don't.

Believe everything happens for a reason.

If you get a second chance, grab it with both hands. If it change's your life, let it.

Nobody said life would be easy, they just promised it would be worth it.

Friends are like balloons; once you let them go, you might not get them back.

Sometimes we get so busy with our own lives and problems that we may not even notice that we've let them fly away.

Sometimes we are so caught up in who's right and who's wrong that we forget what's right and wrong.



Mission Post

- The New Caledonia Mission was first established in 1925.
- It is part of the New Zealand Pacific Union Conference.
- Sixty percent of the people in New Caledonia are Roman Catholic. French is the official language, although a number of Melanesian-Polynesian dialects are spoken. English is widely used in tourist areas.

Rescued From the Devil

The New Caledonia Mission is one of the most challenging fields in the South Pacific Division. Its territory includes the Isle of Pines, Loyalty Islands, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna islands. With a population of 280,000, there are 919 Adventist members, 6 Seventh-day Adventist churches, and 3 companies in the mission.

Pastor Felix Wadrobot is the president-secretary of the New Caledonia Mission. In the following story he describes a wonderful experience that took place in April, 2015 during evangelistic meetings held in New Caledonia. We had never seen so many baptisms—60 people! Every morning during the three weeks of meetings our church members came together from 5:30 to 7:00 a.m. for a 45-minute devotion, followed by 45 minutes of praying on our knees. At first, 60 members came, then 100, then 200 every morning. The church was in the process of praying and surrendering, and the Lord wrought big miracles! Not only baptisms, but real conversions. There were some people who, when they learned about the Sabbath, resigned from their jobs rather than work on God’s holy day. One person had worked in the same place for 29 years and was about to retire, but gave it up for the Sabbath. Then there was a young woman named Kelly who came to the meetings. I received a call about Kelly before the first meeting. “Prepare yourself,” they said. “She’s demon possessed. Bring someone to hold her.”

When Kelly arrived at the meeting, you could feel the presence of evil angels. She was sitting there, front and center, staring at me. And 250 non-Adventists were there at the meeting—it was packed! As Kelly sat and stared, I prayed, “God, don’t let her mess this up—people are watching to see if we are the true church.”

You could feel this dark cloud over us, right in the midst of the crowd. Somehow I managed to finish the sermon, and Kelly stayed quiet. Then the other pastors and I went to talk with her. We learned that Kelly had gone everywhere seeking for healing, but without success. That evening the other pastors and I were at Kelly’s home until 2:00 a.m.

As we entered the home, we could actually smell a demonic presence. We learned that Kelly had gone to the witch doctors and had been in contact with the spirit world. As we began praying for her, she started lashing out and slithering along the floor like a serpent. We prayed even more earnestly.

By 5:30 a.m. we were back at the church, praying for this girl and for all the people who were coming to the meetings. Those early morning prayer meetings were a time for real revival and reformation among the church members; it was a revival that brought spiritual fire and energy. Then in the evening it was a revival and reformation for non-members! After a while so many people were coming to the meetings that we had to downlink the program so people could go to the church because the meeting hall was too small.

With Kelly, every single day after praying with her we could see progress. First, she was able to say the name of Jesus, then she could pray, and then she was able to read the Bible—it was a process of deliverance. It was a way for her to make choices.

When she started to understand the truth, she didn’t want to go into her bedroom. We told her, “This is your home, this is your room.” All of the pastors went with Kelly into her room and prayed with her. As we prayed and mentioned the name of Jesus, she had the courage to get up and start removing the satanic things in her house. She threw away all of them.

At the beginning of the meetings Kelly was coming half-naked, but in the end she was fully clothed and in her right mind. When she gave her life to Jesus, it was the greatest day of her life.

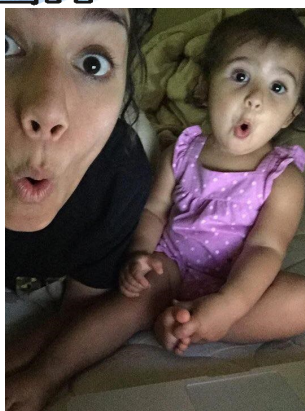
Today, Kelly is rejoicing in the Lord. She’s clean, and she cut all of her diabolical relationships before baptism. She loves Jesus, and she loves the Seventh-day Adventist Church. What the Lord can do in one or two weeks is unbelievable! Now Kelly is winning her family to the Lord.

PASTOR'S CORNER

I am not sure what Elizabeth and Emma are surprised about but looks like they are enjoying it, LOL. Emma all dressed up with a pretty green bow, isn't she beautiful?

SAFETY NET

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. Matthew 5:48



For years I thought of the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5–7) as a blueprint for human behavior, a standard no one could possibly meet. How could I have missed the true meaning? Jesus spoke these words not to frustrate us, but to tell us what God is like.

Why should we love our enemies? Because our merciful Father causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good. Why store up treasures in heaven? Because the Father lives there and will lavishly reward us. Why live without fear and worry? Because the same God who clothes the lilies and the grass of the field has promised to take care of us. Why pray? If an earthly father gives his son bread or fish, how much more will the Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask?

Only God can transform a sinful soul into a masterpiece of grace.

Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 5–7) not only to explain God's ideal toward which we should never stop striving but also to show that in this life none of us will ever reach that ideal. Before God, we all stand on level ground: murderers and tantrum-throwers, adulterers and lusts, thieves and coveters. We are all desperate, and that is the only state appropriate to a human being who wants to know God. Having fallen from the absolute ideal, we have nowhere to land but in the safety net of absolute grace.

Dear Lord, I am a sinner and I need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died on the cross to pay the penalty for my sin. You did what I could not do for myself, and in humility I accept Your gift of grace. Help me to live a life that is pleasing to You.

Only God can transform a sinful soul into a masterpiece of grace.

INSIGHT:

The final verse in today's reading is often used as an encouragement to live morally pure lives: "Be perfect . . . as your heavenly Father is perfect." Jesus's words in this passage, however, are more than moral instruction. The word translated "perfect" in the original language means "mature," "complete," or "grown-up." Perfection in this context includes loving and praying for those who seek to do us harm — just as Christ did on the cross. When we love our enemies, we mirror the perfection of heaven and the heart of the Father.

—By Phillip Yancey as presented in Our Daily Bread

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Change Your Thinking *It will take just 37 seconds to read this and change your thinking.*

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation .. Every afternoon, when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window. The man in the other bed began to live for those one hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside. The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young lovers walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance. As the man by the window described all this in exquisite details, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine this picturesque scene. One warm afternoon, the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man could not hear the band - he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words. Days, weeks and months passed. One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone. Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at the real world outside. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window beside the bed. It faced a blank wall. The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, 'Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you.' Epilogue: There is tremendous happiness in making others happy, despite our own situations. Shared grief is half the sorrow, but happiness when shared, is doubled. If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy. 'Today is a gift, that is why it is called The Present. '

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet.. He held up a sign which said: 'I am blind, please help.' There were only a few coins in the hat. A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words. Soon the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were. The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, 'Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?' The man said, 'I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way.' What he had written was: 'Today is a beautiful day and I cannot see it.' Do you think the first sign and the second sign were saying the same thing? Of course both signs told people the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign told people they were so lucky that they were not blind .. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective? **Moral of the Story:** Be thankful for what you have. **Think differently and positively.** Live life with no excuse and love with no regrets. When life gives you a 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1000 reasons to smile .. Face your past without regret. Handle your present with confidence. Prepare for the future without fear. Keep the faith and drop the fear. **The most beautiful thing is to see a person smiling ... And even more beautiful is, knowing that you are the reason behind it!!!**

Reminiscing Corner

June Birthdays

- 4 - Lily Newell
- 5 - Regan Gray
- 7 - Pastor Michel Rodriguez
- 9 - Judy Peck
- 21- Brenda Davis
- 23 - Dorothy Wilson
- 24 - Doug Higgins

Anniversaries

- 1 - Peter & Elaine Johnson
- 6 - Steven & Treva Radford
- 9 - Tom & Jeanne Bates

Happy, Happy Birthday to each of us this month.

Calendar of Events

Weekly: Prayer Meeting: Tuesdays at 6:00 PM - prayer meeting will be from 6 to 6:30 and then “It is Written Bible Studies” until 7:30.

Jail Ministry: Sundays 6:30pm at the Clanton Jail

Monthly: Each Sabbath after Fellowship meal:

Sabbath School Visitation: 1st Sabbath

Health Seminars: 2nd & 3rd Sabbaths

Nursing Home Visitation: 4th Sabbaths

Tentative Speaker Schedule: July 2 - Pastor Rodriguez, 9 - Bill Wiese, 16 - Unknown at this time, 23 - Pastor Rodriguez, 30 - Ted Winslow.

For those of you that are getting the Newsletter each month via US Mail and also have access to the internet/email, let me know if I can stop sending you the printed copy.



Last months picture: Let's see wasn't that Carolyn Calloway Beaty and George Beaty? OK, this was about 50 years ago, only clue you are going to get.

VBS

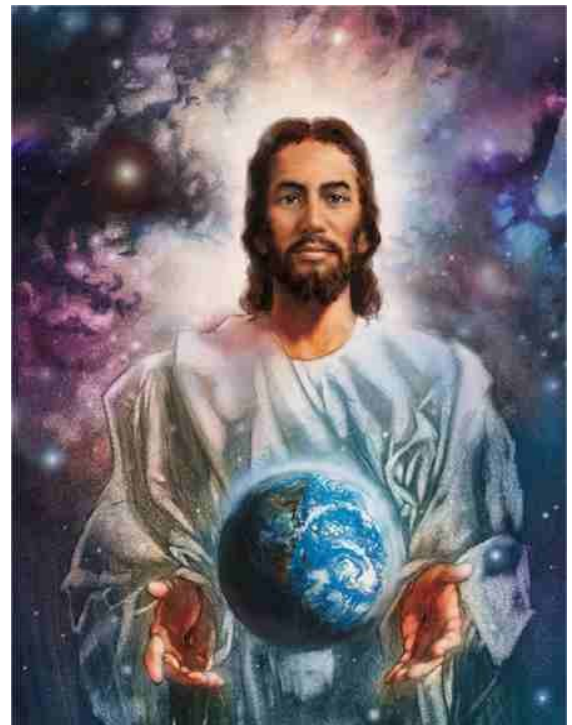
**CLANTON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
CHURCH**

JULY 18-22. 2016

9:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Ages 4-12

401 18th St N
Clanton AL 35045-2517
Phone: (205) 755-2270



IN HIS HANDS



Peppermint Ice Cream:

- 1 qt Silk soy coffee creamer,
- 1 cup sugar—(Florida Crystals),
- 1/2 tsp peppermint (ext),
- 1 Tbsp. cornstarch.

Mix all together before pouring into ice cream maker



Second Option: I went online to find an option for those of us that don't have ice cream machines. In the mood for a project? Ben of L.A.'s & NYC's has a machine-less method that will not only result in homemade ice cream, but will also give you an arm workout in the process. Once you've made your mix, add it to a small or medium sized stockpot that will fit into a large pot with room to spare. Fill the large pot with rock salt and ice, and nestle the small pot on top of top of it. Stir the mix, adding more ice to the large pot as necessary. The combination of rock salt and ice are cold enough to mimic the function of a traditional ice cream machine. You'll have soft-serve consistency within 30 minutes, say Ben Van Leeuwen. While this isn't the most efficient, quick, or hands-off path to ice cream, it's a great group activity—not to mention, a fine way to quiet the summer vacation "I'm bored!" complaints.

Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten – The School board is working on the Safety/Emergency Comprehensive Plan that the Southern Union is requiring so we can be compliant & continue for the 2016-17 School year. We will be asking for items needed as soon as Dot gets everything together. For example, small blankets, umbrellas, rain ponchos. The room still has to be painted and new carpeting, that is AFTER the leak problem has been resolved, we plan on that happening this month. Donations are always welcome and appreciated.

Websites Bill Weise has set up & would like special prayer about the responses from these sites.

www.stepsingupward.org www.egwhiteclassicquotes.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 all the 2015 ones are together and all the 2016 editions are together. Also a Face Book page has been set up for the Clanton Sda church, log on and find information posted there regularly. Thanks for communicating and sharing what you want to put in the Newsletter each month. Don't forget it is YOUR/OUR newsletter... let's share each month. Thanks to those that do regularly. Brenda

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To: «AddressBlock»