

June  
2015

Potato Chips..... What better way to celebrate Fathers day

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with a bag of potato chips and a six-pack of root beer and started his journey.

When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old man. He was sitting in the park, just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to him and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old man looked hungry, so he offered him some chips. He gratefully accepted it and smiled at him.

His smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him a root beer. Again, he smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

As twilight approached, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave; but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old man, and gave him a hug. He gave him his biggest smile ever..

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with God." But before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? He's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old man, also radiant with joy, returned to his home. His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and he asked, "dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?"

He replied "I ate potato chips in the park with God." However, before his son responded, he added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime! Embrace all equally!

**Have lunch with God.....bring chips.**

Send this to people who have touched your life in a special way. Let them know how important they are. I did!!!!

God still sits on the throne. You may be going through a tough time right now but God is getting ready to bless you in a way that only He can. Keep the faith!

Thanks to Frances Roberts for sharing this with us.....

## PASTOR'S CORNER



Pastor Michel and Emma

Caption says: "Daddy Love" - What a loving proud father look.

Emma Isabel Rodriguez. I hope you enjoy watching her grow up. Not sure what the look on her face is but she is definitely precious.... Looking forward to seeing the picture on Facebook that we can use next month. Until then, Brenda



Years ago, I was enthralled as I listened to a pastor who for several years had faithfully served the church. His executive responsibilities had taken him all over this country. As he concluded his message, he told of one of the most frightening, yet thought-provoking, experiences of his life. He had been on a long flight from one place to another. The first warning of the approaching problems came when the sign on the airplane flashed on: Fasten your seat belts. Then, after awhile, a calm voice said, "We will not be serving the beverages at this time as we are expecting a little turbulence. Please be sure your seat belt is fastened."

As he looked around the aircraft, it became obvious that many of the passengers were becoming apprehensive. Later, the voice of the announcer said, "We are so sorry that we are unable to serve the meal at this time, "The Turbulence is still ahead of us" Then the storm broke. The ominous cracks of thunder could be heard even above the roar of the engines. Lightening lit up the darkening skies, and within moments that great plane was like a cork tossed around on a celestial ocean. One moment the airplane was lifted on terrific currents of air; the next, it dropped as if it were about to crash. The pastor confessed that he shared the discomfort and fear of those around him. He said, "As I looked around the plane, I could see that nearly all the passengers were upset and alarmed. Some were praying. The future seemed ominous and many were wondering if they would make it through the storm."

Then, I suddenly saw a little girl. Apparently the storm meant nothing to her. She had tucked her feet beneath her as she sat on her seat; she was reading a book and everything within her small world was calm and orderly. Sometimes she closed her eyes, then she would read again; then she would straighten her legs, but worry and fear were not in her world. When the plane was being buffeted by the terrible storm, when it lurched this way and that, as it rose and fell with frightening severity, when all the adults were scared half to death, that marvelous child was completely composed and unafraid." The minister could hardly believe his eyes.

It was not surprising therefore, that when the plane finally reached its destination and all the passengers were hurrying to disembark, our pastor lingered to speak to the girl whom he had watched for such a long time. Having commented about the storm and behavior of the plane, he asked why she had not been afraid.

The child replied, "Cause my Daddy's the pilot, and he's taking me home."

There are many kinds of storms that buffet us: Physical, Mental, Financial, Domestic, and ... Many other storms can easily and quickly darken our skies and throw our plane into apparently uncontrollable movement. We have all known such times, and let us be honest and confess, it is much easier to be at rest when our feet are on the ground than when we are being tossed about a darkened sky.

Let us remember .....Our Father is the Pilot. He is in control and taking us home.....So Don't Worry.

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## A Special Tribute to the Father's

Fathers are wonderful people  
Too little understood,  
And we do not sing their praises  
As often as we should...  
For, somehow, Father seems to be  
The man who pays the bills,  
While Mother binds up little hurts  
And nurses all our ills...  
And Father struggles daily  
To live up to "his image"  
As protector and provider  
And "hero of the scrimmage"...  
And perhaps that is the reason  
We sometimes get the notion  
That Fathers are not subject  
To the thing we call emotion,  
But if you look inside Dad's heart,  
Where no one else can see,  
You'll find he's sentimental  
And "soft" as he can be...  
But he's so busy every day  
In the grueling race of life,  
He leaves the sentimental stuff  
To his partner and his wife...  
But Fathers are just wonderful  
In a million different ways,  
And they merit loving compliments  
And accolades of praise,  
For the only reason Dad aspires  
To fortune and success  
Is to make the family proud of him  
And to bring them happiness...  
And like Our Heavenly Father,  
He's a guardian and a guide,  
Someone that we can count on  
To be always on our side.

Author: Helen Steiner Rice

Here is a message by DaySpring co-founder, Roy Lessin. We hope it will encourage you today.

*Presented for us by Sue Mims*

### *Just Think.*

You're here not by chance,  
But by God's choosing.  
His hand formed you  
And made you  
The person you are.  
He compares you to no one else....  
You are one of a kind.  
You lack nothing  
That His grace can't give you.  
He has allowed you to be here  
At this time in history  
To fulfill His special purpose  
For this generation.

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1



**June is known as the Wedding month.** Just something cute for everyone to enjoy.

A little boy was at his first wedding. After the service, another child asked him, "How many men can a woman marry?"

"Sixteen," the little boy said.

"How do you know?" his friend asked.

"The preacher said it---four better, four worse, four richer, four poorer," the boy replied.

Eva L. Jeltz.

# THE BANNER MAN

Submitted by:

Kay Cheser, Sabbath School Superintendent

Mr. Song lives in the Seoul Capital Area in South Korea. Living and working in such a big city, Mr. Song wondered how to reach the millions of people all around him with the important news that Jesus is coming soon and how to be ready.

He thought and prayed about it and decided that it was very important for people to know about the Sabbath because it will help them to be ready for Jesus' soon coming. He wanted them to know about the three angels' messages in Revelation 14.

"I wanted people to see the truth, so my plan was to come up with a way for them to immediately see the heart of the three angels' messages—which is the Sabbath," Mr. Song said.

## A Big Idea

Soon, a big idea came to Mr. Song. He contacted an advertising company, and designed a special backpack with a big banner. The sign has large yellow words on a blue background. The words are in Korean, but translated they mean: "Lord's Day = Saturday = Seventh-day."

As he thought about this special way of evangelism, Mr. Song remembered two Bible examples: 1) Jonah, who was sent to walk around a large city, proclaiming the need for repentance; and 2) the children of Israel who were a silent witness as they marched around Jericho.

## Surprising Encounters

Mr. Song wears his banner as he rides his bicycle or the subway to and from work each day. He also wears the banner when he goes walking in the park.

"When people see the banner, they are curious and they read it with a loud voice," he says. "There are always people around, and they talk about the words on the banner. The Sabbath is an important message, but this is my strategy."

When he first started wearing the Sabbath banner, Mr. Song worried that people might get mad at him, or think that he was judging them. Instead, he was delighted to see that many were interested in learning

more about the message that he carried on his back.

"One day when I took the subway, a man kept following me. Finally he said, 'I know this is the truth. Is there a church that keeps the Sabbath day?'"

Sometimes Sunday-keeping Christians read Mr. Song's banner and exclaim, "I didn't know that!"

One Sabbath afternoon when Mr. Song was walking in the park, two couples were excited to see the banner. "Oh, you must be from the Seventh-day Adventist Church!" they exclaimed. "We haven't been to church in a long time. Where is it? We've been looking for one!"

Children also enjoy seeing Mr. Song and his banner. They love following him around for as long as their parents will let them. Sometimes Mr. Song lets them wear his banner—like the little girl on the front of this magazine. Children love to wear the Sabbath banner!

## Angels Walking Beside Me

But sometimes it's a little harder for adults. "I'm not brave enough to carry this banner on my own," says Mr. Song. "I need to behave very well because I'm carrying this important message. My mind should be peaceful. I pray and pray—then I feel at peace and filled with the Holy Spirit's power. I know that God's angels are walking right beside me."

## Now other people want banners.

Not long ago an elder in Mr. Song's church asked for a copy of the design for the special banner backpack. "I felt that I needed to do some type of evangelism too," said the elder. "And this is the one for me." Already his banner has attracted a lot of attention.

"I feel very happy," Mr. Song says. "I am looking for lost sheep. My strategy is: just one look, and the message on the banner is forever recorded in their minds.

And whenever people ask for more information, I share literature with them. This is just the beginning. Who knows what will be the results?"

If you had a backpack banner, what would it say?





## Adventist Evangelist Ron Halvorsen Sr. Dies

POSTED MAY 16, 2015 By Andrew McChesney, news editor, *Adventist Review*

Ron Halvorsen Sr., a New York gang member who gave his heart to Jesus at age 17 and became a Seventh-day Adventist evangelist who led thousands of people to baptism, died on Friday after a lengthy illness. He was 76. His son, Ron Halvorsen Jr., announced the death on Facebook late Friday evening and asked for prayers for his family, especially his mother, Carrol, and sister, Diane. "I'm in transit to dad and mom. Just before they closed the door to the plane in Dayton, I received news that my dad has passed away," Halvorsen Jr. wrote. Ron Halvorsen Sr. was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a cancer that starts in the bone marrow's plasma cells and affects the whole body, in November 2014. He had successfully fought off three previous bouts with cancer and believed that he would land on his feet again, making plans to travel to Norway and engage in other evangelistic activities, said Ruthie Jacobson, who prayed with Halvorsen just hours before he died.

"He was still working for the Lord," she said, adding that he had recently told her that he still had a lot of work to do. Condolences poured in from around the world, with friends describing Halvorsen as humble, approachable, and gracious. "Elder Halvorsen was one of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's great evangelists, and he preached the straight truth of the Bible," said Ted N.C. Wilson, leader of the Adventist Church. "It hit home to those who listened attentively."

"A giant has fallen. A true giant," said John Bradshaw, director and speaker for It Is Written, where Halvorsen worked for more than a decade as an evangelist and prayer coordinator after he retired. "Ron believed in preaching the power of the gospel," Bradshaw said. "It had changed him, and he knew it could change others. And as God worked through Ron, it did so many times."

Evangelist Mark Finley said Halvorsen left an enduring legacy as a Christ-centered, fearless biblical preacher who loved people and had a passion for evangelism that was undimmed through the years. "He was consumed with the overwhelming desire to see men and women, boys and girls won for Christ," said Finley, who called Halvorsen a dear friend whose life was intertwined with the Finley family for decades. "He was one of a kind, but if by the grace of God we had 1,000 preachers like him whose whole life was consumed with winning the lost....."

### He Prayed to the End

Jacobson, prayer ministry leader for the North American Division who worked with Halvorsen for the past two decades, praised him for the way he merged evangelism and prayer.

"He would not do evangelism without a lot of prayer," she said.

He prayed to the end, she said. Jacobson prayed with Halvorsen often in the months after she attended a special anointing for him in November.

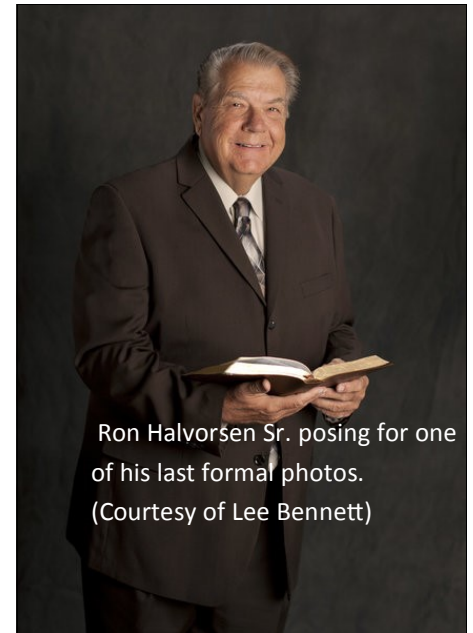
Halvorsen called her last Sabbath morning and said, "Please pray. I cannot breathe."

After Jacobson prayed, he said, "Wonderful, I can breathe. God is so good."

He called her again for prayer on Friday morning, but his voice was weak.

"He had been going downhill all week," Jacobson said.

She prayed and promised to visit him in the hospital where he was staying in a suburb of Orlando, Florida. She arrived five minutes after he died. See **Ron Halvorsen, Sr. (continued)** for more of **his story**.



Ron Halvorsen Sr. posing for one of his last formal photos. (Courtesy of Lee Bennett)

Ron Halvorsen Sr., meeting in late 2014 with Jim Londis, who helped lead him to Jesus.



**Ron Halvorsen, Sr.** (continued)

**Over 10,000 Baptisms** - Halvorsen was born on Jan. 18, 1938, in a tough neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York, and joined a gang as a teenager. But his life changed drastically when a teenage friend, Jim Londis, helped lead him to Jesus when he was 17. (The video <http://www.adventistreview.org/church-news/story2662-adventist-evangelist-ron-halvorsen-sr.-dies#.VVckg8DbTN0.mailto> - tells the story.)

Halvorsen and Londis remained lifelong friends. Londis, a former pastor of Sligo Church and former president of Atlantic Union College, is now retired and living near Collegedale, Tennessee. He was traveling abroad and could not be reached immediately.

After accepting Jesus, Halvorsen went on to serve as a pastor in churches in Connecticut, Tennessee, and Takoma Park, Maryland, as well as at Southwestern Adventist University in Texas. But he will no doubt be best remembered as a powerful evangelist with a remarkable personal testimony and an active prayer life. He never forgot how God changed his life as a young gang member on the streets of Brooklyn. "I've held an evangelistic meeting every year of my life ever since" being converted at the age of 17, Halvorsen said in an interview on It Is Written about two years ago. "I told my wife, 'Honey, if I die before Jesus comes, put a pulpit in my casket because I'll come up preaching.'"

**A Thrilling Story** - A favorite story that Halvorsen told about evangelism and baptisms occurred after he passed the 6,000 mark. As the story went, he approached a church leader and said, "Elder, I understand that series you held in New York City some years ago was a great success!" The church leader looked not only puzzled, but embarrassed. "No, I think you're mistaken," he replied. "That meeting didn't turn out nearly as well as we had hoped." Halvorsen smiled. "Well, I think the number I'm hearing is that there were at least 6,000 baptisms in that meeting," he said. The pastor looked truly confused. Halvorsen had to have his facts terribly mixed up. Halvorsen continued: "You see, elder, there was a woman at that meeting who was baptized along with her son. Her son was my friend and brought me to the Lord. I was baptized, and so far I've baptized more than 6,000 people in my ministry. So it seems to me you've had over 6,000 baptisms for that series you held." "Oh, thank you for telling me that," the church leader said, tears welling up in his eyes. They both shed tears as they thought about the amazing ways that God works.

**'Relentlessly Lifting Up Jesus'** - Among the people whom Halvorsen baptized were Finley's mother and sister. "He was our local pastor in Norwich, Connecticut, when I was a college student," Finley said. "I looked forward to coming home to hear his powerful Christ-centered sermons." Years later, Finley and Halvorsen held evangelism series together. "One of my fondest ministry memories is holding an evangelistic meeting with Ron in San Diego, California, alternating preaching and baptizing hundreds of seeking people," Finley said.

Halvorsen worked as an evangelist for the Carolina Conference, Faith For Today, and the General Conference in New York. He also taught homiletics at various colleges and was ministerial director of the Mid-America Union. Before retiring, he worked as church growth director for the Southern Union. He wrote two books, "From Gangs to God" and "Prayer Warriors." In retirement, he conducted prayer seminars for the North American Division and worked at It Is Written. Bradshaw said the last evangelistic series that Halvorsen held was for It Is Written in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2013. "It was vintage Ron, relentlessly lifting up Jesus," Bradshaw said. "If there was one thing Ron loved to emphasize, it was God's love and grace, God's willingness and ability to save the worst of sinners. What an amazing thing to be remembered for."

**He said Halvorsen's legacy** would be the countless lives that he had influenced with the gospel.

"The first person I told of Ron's death told me how her sister — who been away from God for 35 years — returned

### June Birthdays

- 1- Renee Lucas
- 15 - Gladys Smith
- 20 - Annita Wiese
- 21 - Kay Houston
- 25 - Marcia Cleckler
- 30 - Edward Higgins

### Anniversaries

- 15th - Doug & Felicia Higgins
- 23rd - Gary & Florine Linkous

### Calendar of Events

- ◆ **Weekly:** Prayer Meeting: Tuesdays at 7pm

Jail Ministry: Sundays 6:30pm at the Clanton Jail - Steven Radford needs women volunteers to sign up and visit the Women's end of the jail. Currently they aren't being visited at all... Pray about it and call him. If you don't have his number he can be reached through my number or email. Thanks for helping with this worthy missionary project.

- ◆ **Monthly:** Tennis Shoe Sabbath: 1st Sabbath each month, after lunch. Come help us make Kingdom Friends for God.

Book Group: 2nd Sabbath After Lunch in the Teen Room.

Sabbath School Visitation: 3rd Sabbath each month.

Nursing Home Visitation—4th Sabbaths

- ◆ **Speaker Schedule for June:** 6/6 - Noel Brooks; 6/13 - Elder Sigamani with Ordination & Commitment; 6/20 - Pastor Rodriguez; 6/27 - Ralph Sheperd

- ◆ I am still receiving choices of which way you want to get your Newsletters. Those that still want it US Mail this is fine....

### ◆ Highlights from the May School and Church board meetings:

- ◆ CD's "Hallelujah We're Home at Last!" - For sale as a **fund raiser for the Kindergarten**. 100% of the \$15 goes toward the school. Information on the bulletin board, see Dot Wilson to get one for yourself, and one to share with a friend. The CD's were produced and distributed by 3ABN. You will enjoy it very much, I did.
- ◆ Voted to move ahead with having Kindergarten next year and to advertise for a **Pre-K helper/teacher for the 3 year olds**. We really need a wonderful SDA that would enjoy working with and developing 3 year olds into getting ready for kindergarten the next year. The hours would be from 8 to 12 five days a week. All Chilton County School holidays are observed. Stan Hobbs - Educational Director for the Gulf States Conference asks that interested parties submit: 1. a resume, 2. cover letter and 3. a philosophy of teaching in writing to Kelsey Abbott the General Conference Educational Director. Looking forward to hearing from any of you that are interested. Brenda Davis- Kindergarten - Secretary/Treasurer
- ◆ Plans to **replace the roof** and all rotting wood for the education room. Estimates will be gotten soon.
- ◆ It was Voted to once a year take up an **offering for our SDA Kindergarten & Pre-K school** sometime by the first of August. This could be done by saving until the first of August each year or by systemically giving so much a month toward this worthy project.
- ◆ **Evangelism** - The Board will be planning a Revelation Seminar with an evangelist by the first of 2016. As the planning begins soon all church members will be encouraged to meet in a church business meeting so that we can all be working together and be ready to invite those friends that we have been working with to come with us to this seminar next January. Praying is a good way to start the process,

This months picture: How many of you were here when they were here? Last months picture: How many of you enjoyed last month's picture, I know that Pat Gill thanked me for remembering Verla. OK, I would think it is about your turn. Until next month, Brenda



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

[www.stepsupward.org](http://www.stepsupward.org)  
[www.eqwhiteclassicquotes.org](http://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 News to find this publication on line each month.





Kay 3's Vegan Recipes

## Mexican Salad

I have been heavily requested to give you the recipe for the Mexican salad I have brought the last three weeks.

Lettuce ; butter and leaf carefully trimmed: 5 cups  
corn fresh or frozen: 2 cups I usually use frozen, making sure to thaw and drain well  
black beans...rinsed and drained, 1 can  
grape tomatoes halved, 1 pint  
green onions, finely sliced, 5 onions (use mainly the green  
crushed corn chips, 1 1/2 to 2 cups  
black olives, slice drained, 1 can  
avocado, diced 1, added just before salad is dressed

Dressing, make in blender

1 avocado  
½ cup Veganaise or a bit more to achieve desired thickness  
3 Tbl safflower oil  
½ tsp onion powder  
1/4 tsp garlic powder  
1 ½ tsp rice vinegar  
1 shake Tabasco sauce  
1 to 2 tsp lime juice  
Mix until smooth

Mix in blender. I add the ingredients to salad bowl,, in order listed , then pour dressing over it and mix in the dressing just before serving.

Just one of those “FYI’s”, that might be of interest to some of you. Roy & I were at Atlantic Union College, South Lancaster, Massachusetts in 1967 when Jim Londis was on the Staff. Roy remembers Herbert Douglass who wrote several books and just died not long ago also as being the Dean of Boy’s that year. Mark Finley was a Senior that year & yes, we were just freshmen but I remember that we had Ron Halvorsen either come to the College or we went to hear him somewhere tell his story. Just thought I would reminisce for a minute... Until next month. Brenda (that is where I met my husband at AUC at college)

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