



JUN 2019

Why go to Church?

If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this! If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it. If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a news-paper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sabbath. 'I've gone for 30 years now,' he wrote, 'and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.' This started a real controversy in the 'Letters to the Editor' column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

'I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this .. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!'

When you are DOWN to nothing God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, 'Jesus, could you get that for me?'

Let the world know you as you are, not as you think you should be, because sooner or later, if you are posing, you will forget the pose, and then where are you? ~Fanny Brice

Look back and thank God.

Look forward and trust God.

Look around and serve God.

Look within and find God!

The story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of eastern Kentucky with his young grandson. Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old worn-out Bible. His grandson who wanted to be just

like him tried to imitate him in any way he could. One day the grandson asked, "Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?" The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, "Take this old wicker coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water."

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, "You will have to move a little faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again. This time the boy ran faster, but again the old wicker basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was "impossible to carry water in a basket," and he went to get a bucket instead. The old man said, "I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough," and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point, the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all. The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty. Out of breath, he said, "See Papa, it's useless!" "So you think it is useless?"

The old man said, "Look at the basket."

The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. Instead of a dirty old wicker coal basket, it was clean;

"Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out."

Moral of the wicker basket story: Take time to read a portion of God's word each day; it will affect you for good even if you don't retain a word.

Thought for Today: Gods Love is like the ocean, you can see its beginnings but not its end. I really like this story because I don't retain things too good anymore ... old age may have something to do with it but I just figure my brain just gets overloaded!! God isn't concerned about your brains anyway, He's more concerned about your heart! God Bless all of you!

Going Home

"Go Home to thy friends and tell how great things The Lord hath done for thee," Mark 5: 19 KJV

My husband and I looked forward to going home around the same time every year in the summer. We moved from a Northern state to a Southern state about 12 years ago (this was written in 2007). Although we enjoy the countryside, there's an expression that says "There's no place like home, "We believe that!

Returning home, our mode of transportation was the bus, airplane or car. Several times we flew, but most of the time, we rode the bus, which is enjoyable to me. I begin packing our luggage six weeks before our planned departure. I started a count down on the calendar and on my job. My husband and I both with anticipation began to discuss who we were going to visit and which special treats we were going to purchase. Oh well ,there's only so much you can do in seven days.

Finally, departure day is upon us. At the bus station we see hundreds of people anxiously waiting to get to their destinations. Some were going home, some leaving home, others just going on vacation. I enjoy people watching!! Some have large bags, some small. Some even have plastic bags or none at all. Some are very friendly, others are very rude. We had the opportunity to ride, "priority seating" (up front next to the driver), because of my husbands vision. It was a long 19 hours, but very pleasant and educating. We even had a praying bus driver. He wouldn't move his bus, before having prayer with his passengers.

Finally, home at last! But wait, we notice a change in our city. New homes have been built in my old neighborhood. Old familiar buildings have been torn down! People are not as friendly. There's a vast amount of sickness,. classmates deceased! What's happening? Home is just not the same!

Don't despair! One day we'll be going to another home! It won't be a long bus ride. We'll always travel by air. Preparation takes a lifetime. This is a home where there are only new mansions. No death, No sickness. We'll even be able to see some of our loved ones and friends we haven't seen in years. Pack your bags for an eternity. You can never start too early for your **home going**.

Presented for us to use since the Pastor is at Campmeeting. Of course this is some of Elaine Johnson's original writing. We will be sharing more of her work in the upcoming months. Looking forward to hearing from the Pastor next month. Are you ready for Jesus to Come? That has been the sermon theme for several weeks now including some of the special music. Good question, you have the choice to make the right decision and be ready for the great Home Coming or Going. Until next month.

Pastor Dan Thompson & wife Linda email: bushpilot1212@gmail.com Phone:907-750-7851

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

Assistant Head Elder, Linkous, Gary - 256-377-2244 Email:flink0839@gmail.com

***Clanton Seventh-day Adventist Church
401 North 18th Street
Clanton, Al 35045***

...In Special Memory of Felicia Higgins...



Obituary

Felicia Scott Higgins, 62, of Clanton passed away Saturday, May 4, 2019 at her residence. She was born on Thursday, August 17, 1956 in Chilton County, AL, Daughter of the late Lorene Mims Scott. She was a Childcare Worker.

Surviving are Son, Camron Higgins; Daughter, Cassie Higgins; Granddaughters, Makaylynn Sanders and Phoenix Sanders. She was preceded in death by: Husband, Douglas Higgins; & Mother, Lorene Mims Scott. Martin Funeral Home directed. There was a Memorial Service at the Clanton SDA Church on Sabbath afternoon, May 18, 2019 at 2:00 pm. Shawn Smith who was a long time friend of the family and lay pastor of the Sylacauga and Selma churches had the Homily. Charlotte Powers had special music accompanied by her mother Maxine Plier, with Robert Ernest reading the Eulogy. The service was well attended by family and church friends.

Eulogy

Felicia Higgins a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend. To know her was to truly love her. She was a very respectful and caring individual who helped to raise both of her granddaughters Makaylynn and Phoenix. She used to drive her children crazy with all of the weird and unusual nicknames she would give them as well as her grandchildren. She was married to her husband Doug Higgins for 42 years. She once told me a story of how they met. One night out with friends she went to a bonfire where not one but two gentleman had their eye on her. When it was time to leave, she's walking back to the car and before the unnamed gentleman had the opportunity to stand; Doug jumped up and offered to walk her back to the car like a true gentleman. After being married for over six years they had their two children Camron and Cassie and many years later along came the grandchildren. Felicia always talked fondly about those days, a true love for a lifetime that stands even today. She will truly be missed by all of her friends, family and loved ones, a pain that will last as long as time but remembering how kind and generous she was will help to heal those wounds. She would truly be honored by how many people showed up today to remember her. There is a quote by Cicero that says the life of the dead is placed in the memory of the living. If we continue to remember our memories of her, then she will never truly be gone. We will love her and miss her forever; until one day when we see her again.



Hello everyone! This is Madison Chrishon, and I'd like to share with you this absolutely amazing experience the Lord has been bringing to pass in my life. I have not even reached a full two years of baptism, yet in such a short time God has entrusted to me so many talents and opened so many doors. I can do many things that beforehand I could not, but I think one of the prime examples of these is how He's opened the door for me to be an entrepreneur. In this, He has created a way for all of my strengths to work together to one end—to work as the right hand of the gospel through health ministry. Ladies and gentlemen, I present to you **Light of Dawn Bakery Goods!**

This whole occasion came about at my grandmother's Labor Day program of 2018. Prior to this, I had been participating in the church's medical missionary program and in me a desire to do more in lines of health evangelism was growing. In a kind of subtle way, the class was changing our lives. Menus changed, cooking methods changed, ingredients changed; I even noticed around the same time that we switched to a more ancient form of wheat that my oldest brother dealt with less nasal discomfort. I loved (and still do) learning how to cook with more wholesome ingredients, and by the grace of God I got

better and better at it. Then, as the annual Labor Day event got closer, my grandmother voiced her idea of having kids do young-entrepreneur booths at the gathering. As in, my brothers and I needed to get some businesses together and sell some stuff! Without a doubt, my first thought was to bake. Choosing products were easy—what would sell better than cookies when you're the only dessert at the event! However, choosing a business name and logo proved more difficult. I prayed and turned to the Word of God for a revelation, and some way or another I wound up in Isaiah 58. The more I read, the more I was in awe of how everything that I wanted to do in lines of health ministry was wrapped up in one beautifully written chapter. Then finally I got to verse ten:



“If you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday.”

‘There it is!’ I thought. Thus as I was laying on my bed reading God's word did He make clear to me my business name, mission statement, purpose and goals, and anything else I would ever need to know about this business which He's instructed to my care.

Needless to say, the first event was a success! With the tremendous help of my grandmother, my little booth sold out of nearly everything I had and woke the attentions of many. Catching a glimpse of what God had in store for me I temporarily shut down the business to take time to prepare and make the most of this opportunity. During that time, God even blessed me and my siblings to receive a homeschool grant just for helping young people become entrepreneurs! He provided so much for me and this business, even to the point where strangers would bid me blessings upon hearing of this business. But now, the time is here for reopening. Miracle and miracle has led me to this point, and I am so excited to see what God will do for **Light of Dawn** as I move forward in faith. Please join me in prayer as I enter into my very first baking session.

For the month of June, I will be selling baked goods that are all vegan, 100% whole grain, and use unrefined oils and sweeteners. Not to mention delicious! For more information about ordering and other inquiries please check out and follow my social media pages at [Facebook.com/lightofdawnbakerygoods](https://www.facebook.com/lightofdawnbakerygoods) or [Instagram.com/lightofdawnbakerygoods](https://www.instagram.com/lightofdawnbakerygoods), or email me at lightofdawnbakery@gmail.com. This form of health ministry will reach many people and by God's grace I know that it will grow, so please join me in prayer that **Light of Dawn Bakery Goods** will shine as the noonday!



Brenda K Davis—Editor and Information gatherer
 Newsletter Info: Email: bkddavis2010@hotmail.com
 Cellphone: 334-349-0983

Reminiscing Corner

J	1	Renee Lucas	Anniversaries Gary & Florine Linkous— 6/23/1998
U	8	Anika Chrishon	
N	19	Linda Mims	
E	20	Annita Wiese	
	21	Kay Houston	
	30	Edward Higgins	



Happy, Birthday and a Special Anniversary to a wonderful couple. We pray that you are blessed with many more. If I don't have your special day, let me know. Brenda

Speaker Schedule: June: 1, Stan Hobbs; 8, Pastor Thompson; 15, Ted Winslow; 22, Steven Radford; 29, Pastor Thompson & Communion.

I'm sure there won't be guessing about whose wonderful family is in this picture. This picture includes some blessed memories including Sara being dedicated. Jimmy has graduated from high school, sorry he is now James (our Jimmy all grown up now). Time flies doesn't it. Don't forget to give me a picture that you want to share next month. Have a good month. Thanks, Brenda

Church service every **Sabbath at 11:00** at the Maplesville Train Depot. Please feel welcome to come & join us. Shawn Smith - Pastor for the Selma/Sylacauga Churches



Church Vespers and social, Sabbath the 25th. James told about his mission trip.

Hugging is good medicine.

It transfers energy and gives the person hugged an emotional lift. You need four hugs a day for survival, eight for maintenance, and twelve for growth. Scientists say that hugging is a form of communication because it can say things you don't have the words for. And the nicest thing about a hug is that you usually can't give one without getting one.



Looks like the Church Social which was a surprise graduation celebration went well.



Fun was had by young and old.

- ◆ Websites Bill Weise has set up & would like special prayer about the responses from these sites.
www.stepsupward.org www.eqwhiteclassicquotes.org <http://www.grandmastidbits.org>
- ◆ We have a website!! **UPDATED - Church Website:** <https://www.clantonsda.com/> 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. If you get an online version and want a hard copy or if you don't want to get the Newsletter, Let me know. Thanks, Brenda



James Oakley Powers was born February 26, 2001. He has home-schooled from Kindergarten through 12th grade. He weekly attended a home-school co-operative grades 9-12 in Clanton.

He has taken piano lessons since age 7. He auditioned for the Alabama Music Teachers Association district level 2016, 2017, and 2019. He competed at the state level all three years and received Outstanding (the highest mark) in all but one. In order to compete in these auditions and competitions, it is required to learn all the scales, chords, cadences, arpeggios and intervals for 30 keys and perform three pieces from different time periods by memory in front of a judge.

In March he went on a mission trip to El Salvador with Cicero Indiana SDA Church and spent 10 days helping to build a church. Mission Group



James graduated with AB honor roll all four years of high school and earned a College Preparatory Diploma.

He enjoys playing the piano, blacksmith and blade smith activities, hiking, and other outdoor activities.

He plans to work with his father for a year to save up money for future education possibly involving music.

Return Address:

**Brenda K Davis
187 County Rd 313
Stanton, AL 36790**



To: «AddressBlock»