



NOV  
2020

## The Next Chief Executive Officer

A successful business man was growing old and knew it was time to choose a successor to take over his business. Instead of choosing one of his Directors or his children, he decided to do something different. He called all the young executives in his company together. He said, "It is time for me to step down and choose the next CEO. I have decided to choose one of you." The young executives were shocked, but the boss continued. "I am going to give each one of you a seed today—one very special Seed. I want you to plant the seed, water it, and come back here one year from today with what you have grown from the seed I have given you. I will then judge the plants that you bring, and the one I choose will be the next CEO."

One man, named Jim, was there that day and he, like the others, received a seed. He went home and excitedly, told his wife the story. She helped him get a pot, soil and compost and he planted the seed. Everyday, he would water it and watch to see if it had grown. After about three weeks, some of the other executives began to talk about their seeds and the plants that were beginning to grow. Jim kept checking his seed, but nothing ever grew. Three weeks, four weeks, five weeks went by, still nothing. By now, others were talking about their plants, but Jim didn't have a plant and he felt like a failure. Six months went by – still nothing in Jim's pot. He just knew he had killed his seed. Everyone else had trees and tall plants, but he had nothing. Jim didn't say anything to his colleagues, however, he just kept watering and fertilizing the soil—he so wanted the seed to grow. A year finally went by and all the young executives of the company brought their plants to the CEO for inspection. Jim told his wife that he wasn't going to take an empty pot. But she asked him to be honest about what happened. Jim felt sick to his stomach, it was going to be the most embarrassing moment of his life, but he knew his wife was right. He took his empty pot to the board room. When Jim arrived, he was amazed at the variety of plants grown by the other executives. They were beautiful—in all shapes and sizes. Jim put his empty pot on the floor and many of his colleagues laughed, a few felt sorry for him!

When the CEO arrived, he surveyed the room and greeted his young executives. Jim just tried to hide in the back. "Mv, what great plants, trees and flowers you have grown," said the CEO. "Today one of you will be appointed the next CEO!" All of a sudden, the CEO spotted Jim at the back of the room with his empty pot. He ordered the

Financial Director to bring him to the front, Jim was terrified. He thought, "The CEO knows I'm a failure! Maybe he will have me fired!" When Jim got to the front, the CEO asked him what had happened to his seed, Jim told him the story. The CEO asked everyone to sit down except Jim. He looked at Jim, and then announced to the young executives, "This is your next Chief Executive Officer! His name is Jim!" Jim couldn't believe it, Jim couldn't even grow his seed. "How could he be the new CEO?" the others said.

Then the CEO said, "One year ago today, I gave everyone in this room a seed. I told you to take the seed, plant it, water it, and bring it back to me today. But I gave you all boiled seeds; they were dead—it was not possible for them to grow. All of you, except Jim, have brought me trees and plants and flowers. When you found that the seed would not grow, you substituted another seed for the one I gave you. Jim was the one with the courage and honesty to bring me a pot with my seed in it. Therefore, he is the one who will be the new Chief Executive Officer!"

- If you plant honesty, you will reap trust
- If you plant goodness, you will reap friends
- If you plant humility, you will reap greatness
- If you plant perseverance, you will reap contentment
- If you plant consideration, you will reap perspective
- If you plant hard work, you will reap success
- If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation

**So, be careful what you plant now;  
it will determine what you will reap later.**

### Prayer of Consecration

I consecrate my life, dear Father,  
Anew to Thee today. Give me  
strength, and understanding  
To live in Thine own way.

Please forgive where I have failed thee,  
Keep me, Father from all wrong.  
Send Thy Sprit, Lord, to guide me  
Like Thee may I be strong. I give thanks to  
Thee, dear Father, The chance for a new  
start; For thy tender loving mercies,  
The cleansing of my heart. I'm thankful for  
Thy son, Jesus, Who died on Calvary's  
tree, That I may have eternal life  
A sinner, Lord, like me.

Mavis Jones Woodall-presented for use by Pat Gill  
several years ago but thought it good to use again.

# PASTOR'S CORNER

## Preach or Plow?

From [Christ] the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. **Ephesians 4:4-16**

According to the family legend, two brothers, one named Billy and the other Melvin, were standing on the family's dairy farm one day when they saw an airplane doing some skywriting. The boys watched as the plane sketched out the letters "GP" overhead.

Both brothers decided that what they saw had meaning for them. One thought it meant "Go preach." The other read it as "Go plow." Later, one of the boys, Billy Graham, dedicated himself to preaching the gospel, becoming an icon of evangelism. His brother Melvin went on to faithfully run the family dairy farm for many years.

Skywriting signs aside, if God did call Billy to preach and Melvin to plow, as seems to be the case, they both honored God through their vocations. While Billy had a long preaching career, his success doesn't mean that his brother's obedience to his calling to plow was any less important.

While God does assign some to be in what we call full-time ministry (Ephesians 4:11-12), that doesn't mean those in other jobs and roles aren't doing something just as important. In either case, as Paul said, "each part [should do] its work" (v. 16). That means honoring Jesus by faithfully using the gifts He's given us. When we do, whether we "go preach" or "go plow," we can make a difference for Jesus wherever we serve or work.

By: **Dave Branon**

### Reflect & Pray

**How can you use your gifts to honor God in your vocation? How can you encourage others you know so they too can use their calling as a way to serve Jesus?**

*Help me, God, to be used right where You put me. Help me to see that my words, actions, and work ethic can profoundly affect others.*

*Taken from Our Daily Bread devotional*

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

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



# In Memory of Kathy Mostert Cunningham

October 29, 1942 to October 15, 2020



**Posted by Sheree Cunningham Araya**—Today is my 43rd birthday. It is also the day that my beautiful mommy, **Kathy Mostert Cunningham** passed away, two weeks before her 78th birthday. I had my mom for a full 43 years. The first person I loved. The person that loved me most. She has been my best friend my whole life. For the past 20 years, I called her every day, twice a day, on the way to and from work. Four years ago, I moved only 20 mins away from my parents. It's a decision that has allowed me to see them even more and go to church with them. I'm loving that decision even more now. After struggling for nearly 8 weeks with several infections, causing her health and body to deteriorate, she passed away at home this morning. We've known this was coming. It was a freight train we couldn't

stop. But it's still a shock for her to be gone. Please keep our family in your prayers, especially my dad, **Paul Cunningham**, who was married to her for 59 years. She loved her family fiercely, and we always felt that love. My mom was an inspiration to many. Her crown will have many stars. Looking forward to seeing her beautiful face and twinkling eyes again. A week ago she looked at me and said "I love you SO much. Don't ever forget that. Ever." I will never forget that, Mom. I never could. Sleep well, we'll see you soon.

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words." I Thessalonians 4:16-18 NKJV

**By Patti Marsh**—taken from a Facebook post.

She has always been there . . . and perhaps, I thought she always would be. That is my very lovely oldest sister, Kathy Mostert Cunningham (middle in photo). Let me share a few characteristics of her – a wonderful teacher, excelled in real estate, an outstanding administrative nurse; a musician, both vocal and piano; taught home management classes; outstanding cook and baker; gardener; speaker, writer, leader; a wonderful mother, grandmother, sister, daughter and wife; her quiet, firm voice brought comfort and confidence; her wisdom blessed those who asked and listened; a beautiful child of God who has touched the lives of so many. Oh, sister, how you will be missed . . . sleep peacefully, rest from your hard work, for your deeds will follow you (Revelation 14:13). In fact, those good deeds are already following you through the four amazing children of you and Paul. Yes, we grieve – losing two sisters in six weeks – so heavy. "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

*For those of you that remember Paul, Kathy & Sheree from here in Clanton. Lots of memories, them singing together, Kathy as Sabbath School Superintendent, Paul as school teacher and ..... !!!*





The 2020 Enditnow Virtual Summit on Abuse Aims to Equip Leaders with Tools to Help Spot and End Domestic Violence Experts say cases of abuse have increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. September 15, 2020 | Columbia, Md. | [Mylon Medley](#)  
*The enditnow Virtual Summit on Abuse will take place November 13 in English, and November 14 in Spanish. Photo: NAD Women's Ministries*

The North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists is preparing to host an event on November 13-14, 2020, that aims to raise awareness of violence against women and minors taking place in churches,

homes, and schools. This year, the [enditnow Virtual Summit on Abuse](#) will place a greater emphasis on providing church leaders, pastors, [seminary students](#), and schools administrators and teachers with practical tools to help victims of domestic violence, or intimate partner violence, receive the help they need in a safe, effective, and non-judgmental manner.

“We’ve built an awareness and engagement campaign over the years that has worked well. More and more people have expressed interest in our summit and resources, but now it’s time to put more tools in people’s hands,” said Erica Jones, assistant director of NAD women’s ministries. “Many ministry leaders are grasping that this is not just a women’s ministries issue – it’s a human rights’ issue.”

The keynote presenter of the summit will be Mary DeMuth, the author of “We Too: How the Church Can Respond Redemptively to the Sexual Abuse Crisis.” Additional topics covered by thought leaders in this field will include protecting children and youth, and digging out of the pit of spiritual abuse – a topic presented at a previous summit that past attendees have requested to hear again. The enditnow Summit on Abuse has been an annual event since 2017, and, as in years past, presentations will be given both in English (Nov. 13) and Spanish (Nov. 14).

**The “Perfect Storm”** With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in the United States, continued quarantined conditions, deliberations about uniquely uncertain futures, and soaring unemployment rates have led to ubiquitous feelings of isolation, high stress, and financial strain. Unfortunately for women and children on the receiving end of abuse, their abusers are often triggered by those factors when inflicting pain physically, emotionally, spiritually, or financially. Thus, the quarantine conditions that have been imposed to help keep the public safe — limiting social interactions outside of the home, closing or limiting occupancy of shelters for victims of domestic violence — has been called a “perfect storm” against the vulnerable. “It’s a whole different level of isolation,” said Jones. The National Domestic Violence Hotline [received a nine percent increase in calls](#) during late spring and early summer in comparison to the same timeframe in 2019. More than 6,000 calls referenced COVID-19 as a contributing factor to the harm they received.

Since local orders throughout the country have restricted gatherings for religious services, and home visitations are risky due to the potential of spreading the coronavirus — leaving many interactions and opportunities for fellowship restricted to computer screens via video conferences — it may be difficult to assess a cry for help from a member. However, if a leader is made aware of abuse taking place within the scope of his or her influence, Jones recommends consulting the ministry’s [“Decision Tree”](#) as a guide to properly intercede on behalf of the victim. “It’s one of the best resources we’ve made for this issue,” said Jones.

Tips on how to access additional practical, free resources from women’s ministries will be shared during the enditnow Virtual Summit on Abuse. Shared with us by Kay Cheser, Women’s Ministries Leader for Clanton SDA Church.

Brenda K Davis—Editor and Information gatherer

Email: [bkddavis2010@hotmail.com](mailto:bkddavis2010@hotmail.com)

Cellphone: 334-349-0983

Happy, Birthday. We pray that you are blessed with many more. If I don't have your special day, let me know. Brenda

<b>N O V</b>	<b>1</b>	Joyce Campbell	<b>Anniversaries: None Known</b>
	<b>6</b>	Brianna Clark	
	<b>14</b>	Noah Clark (2016)	
	<b>15</b>	La'dene Higgins	
	<b>22</b>	Shawn Smith	
	<b>28</b>	Roy Davis	

**SPEAKER SCHEDULE:** **Oct:** 31st Gary Linkous;  
**Nov:** 7th Pastor; 14th Tui Pitman; 21st Pastor;  
28th Ted Winslow; **Dec:** 5th Pastor; 12th Shawn  
Smith; 19th Ricky Woodruff, 26th Ted Winslow

**At this time: temperature is taken at the door, 6  
ft distancing for seating, masks are required in  
the Sanctuary and WE ARE CURRENTLY singing  
softly out loud.**

**Happiness keeps you sweet.**

**Trials keep you strong.**

**Sorrows keep you human.**

**Failures keep you humble.**

**Success keeps you glowing.**

**But only God keeps you going. Amen**

**The tree that never had to fight  
For sun and sky and air and light,  
But stood out in the open plain  
And always got its share of rain,  
Never became a forest king  
But lived and died a scrubby thing.**

**The man who never had to toil  
To gain and farm his patch of soil,  
Who never had to win his share  
Of sun and sky and light and air,  
Never became a manly man  
But lived and died as he began.**

**Good timber does not grow with ease:  
The stronger wind, the stronger trees;  
The further sky, the greater length;  
The more the storm, the more the strength.  
By sun and cold, by rain and snow,  
In trees and men good timbers grow.**

**Where thickest lies the forest growth,  
We find the patriarchs of both.  
And they hold counsel with the stars  
Whose broken branches show the scars  
Of many winds and much of strife.  
This is the common law of life.**



A little story: The man doesn't know that there is a snake underneath. The woman doesn't know that there is a stone pressing on the man. The Woman thinks: "I am going to fall! And I can't climb because the snake is going to bite me! Why can't the man use a little more strength and pull me up!" The man thinks: "I am in so much pain! Yet I'm still pulling you as much as I can! Why don't you try and climb a little harder?!" The Moral is: You can't see the pressure the other party is under, and the other party can't see pain you're in. This is life no matter whether it's with work, family, friends, you should try to understand each other, learn to think differently, "think of each other, and communicate better." *There were all kinds of comments about why, what & how but it was about "communicating with each other"...*

## SWEET AND SOUR MEATLOAF For Thanksgiving Dinner

1 cup TVP (Textured Vegetable Protein) granules, 1/4 cup oil, 1 1/4 cup water - Mix together in large bowl. Let stand for 15 min or more.

1 stick of margarine, 1 onion chopped fine, 1/2 pkg of Pepperidge Farm Seasoning stuffing. Melt margarine in skillet, add onions and cook for a few minutes. Then add the stuffing, mixing well with the margarine and cook until brown.

1 8 oz Veggie cheese, 2 eggs (or egg substitute) 1 TBs sage or Italian season. Add the cheese, eggs, sage and stuffing mixture to the TVP mixture. Mix well. Spray casserole or loaf pan.

In another small bowl mix together: 1/3 cup of brown sugar, 1/3 cup catsup, 1/3 cup water. Pour over the meatloaf. Bake at 350 for 45 min.



## PECAN PIE

3 TBS soy flour, 5 TBS cornstarch, 3/4 cup soy milk, 1 cup maple syrup, 1/2 cup turbinado sugar, 1/4 cup oil, 1 ts vanilla, 1/4 ts sea salt, 1 cup pecan halves.

Blend all ingredients in blender except pecan halves. Pour mixture into a medium size saucepan. Cook stirring until mixture is thickened and bring to a boil. Pour the mixture into a baked pie crust (of your choice). Arrange pecan halves in single layer on top of the pie. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 min.

BOM APETITE!

(These two recipes are favorites of ours)

God Bless. Until next month, Mirtes Schmeling

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. Don't forget without you sharing with others, we wouldn't have a newsletter. Also turn in articles, poems and pictures that you want to share. Thanks to those that do, Until next month! ..... Brenda

### *Return Address:*

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



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