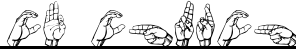


CF Joyous News

Crusselle Freeman Church of the Deaf ~ ~ "The Church That Jesus' Love Built"
A Non-Denominational Christian Church ~ Established 1902 ~ Celebrating 110 Years!

Volume 13 Issue 1



January-February-March, 2012



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Pastor Felix Love

Sheila and I sincerely hope that all of you had a wonderful Holiday season. Unlike several years past, we at the Love household decided to celebrate to the fullest. We unearthed long forgotten Christmas ornaments, trinkets, and decorations, and filled our house and hearts with the spirit of Christmas.

What a wonderful God we serve. Faced with the dilemma of punishment (death) for our sins, God decided to forgive us by sending His Son to take the fall for mankind. This alone should make us grateful everyday of our lives, yet we can hardly celebrate a few days a year! It must grieve God to witness such apathy. Our most cherished holiday has become a day of loathing, longing, jealousy and covetousness. The idea of gift-giving has pervaded Christmas and changed its meaning for many of us. But the greatest gift is the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. This is the all-encompassing message of the Crusselle-Freeman church: That God loves you and wants to share eternity with you. Now that's something to celebrate every day of the year!

God bless you all.



NOTICES

Wednesday Evening Bible Study is at 6:00 p.m. (Dinner at 5:00 p.m.)

Check out our website at www.crusselle-freeman.com

*****SEE 2012 SCHEDULE ON PAGE 7*****

To all our church Supporters:

The Trustee Board of the Crusselle-Freeman Church of the Deaf would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have supported us in years past. We have truly been blessed in, many ways and we know God has also blessed you.

The General Fund is much like your own personal checking account at home. Out of this account, money is used to pay day-to-day expenses such as insurance, kitchen supplies, maintenance, restroom supplies, utilities, paper and ink for the Sunday morning bulletins and newsletter, salaries and Sunday School supplies. The General Fund money comes from members' tithes and donations. Money earned from fund-raising (example: flea market) is not used for the General Fund. We cannot use money from the Choir Fund to pay for expenses from General Fund.

We sometimes struggle to keep enough money in our General Fund to pay for various every day expenses. And we know money is tight for everyone. So, we are asking you to look in your heart and give what you can. May God bless all you do.

Sincerely,
The Trustee Board

Welcome

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Choir Rehearsal	8:30a.m.
Sunday School	9:45a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:55a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	Right after WMU/Brotherhood & Deacon/Council Meetings
Wed. Night Dinner & Prayer/Bible Study	5:00 & 6:00p.m

Member Musings...



Visitations

by Sylvia Hattrich

I visited Diane Small and found her in good spirits. She looked great and is walking! Praise the Lord! She sang the song "I'm Glad to Be Here." She was given a fruit basket. She misses CF so much!



Diane Small

Rosalyn Petersdorf and I visited Robert and Martha Garmon and brought their fruit basket. They were happy to see us. They are doing fine. They appreciated the visit and says thanks to the WMU for the fruit basket.



Robert & Martha Garmon

Then Rosalyn and I visited Frank and Ellen Leathers, and also gave them their fruit basket. They were thrilled.



Frank & Ellen Leathers

And you know what? They have been married for 69 years. Praise the Lord! They are so blessed. It was great seeing their beautiful smiles.

**CF WOMEN'S MISSION UNION
AND BROTHERHOOD
NEED YOU!
COME AND BECOME INVOLVED!**

Is the Bible the Inspired Word of God?

by Ron Carlson
from the Jonsquill Ministries

During a question and answer session at a recent speaking engagement, a university student asked me, "Why do you believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God?" Now this is a very interesting question; and probably one of the most important questions any Christian could ask themselves.



What is so special, so unique about the Bible that Christians believe it is literally the inspired word of God?

In answering this student's question, I encouraged him to consider the following facts about the Bible:

First, the Bible is not just one single book. This is a more common misconception than many people realize, especially with people who do not come from a Judeo-Christian background. Rather than being a single book, the Bible is actually a collection of 66 books, which is called the canon of scriptures. These 66 books contain a variety of genres: history, poetry, prophecy, wisdom, literature, letters, and apocalyptic just to name a few.

Second, these 66 books were written by 40 different authors. These authors came from a variety of backgrounds: shepherds, fishermen, doctors, kings, prophets, and others. And most of these authors never knew one another personally.

Third, these 66 books were written over a period of 1500 years. Yet again, this is another reminder that many of these authors never knew or collaborated with one another in writing these books.

Fourth, the 66 books of the Bible were written in 3 different lan-

guages. In the Bible we have books that were written in the ancient languages of Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic; a reflection of the historical and cultural circumstances in which each of these books were written.

And finally, these 66 books were written on 3 different continents: Africa, Asia, and Europe. Once again, this is a testament to the varied historical and cultural circumstances of God's people.

Think about the above realities: 66 books, written by 40 different authors, over 1500 years, in 3 different languages, on 3 different continents. What's more, this collection of books shares a common storyline—the creation, fall, and redemption of God's people; a common theme—God's universal love for all of humanity; and a common message—salvation is available to all who repent of their sins and commit to following God with all of their heart, soul, mind and strength. In addition to sharing these commonalities, these 66 books contain no historical errors or contradictions. God's word truly is an amazing collection of writings!

After I had shared the above facts with this student, I offered him the following challenge: I said to him, "If you do not believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God, if you do not believe that the Bible is of a supernatural origin, then I challenge you to a test."

I said to the student, "I challenge you to go to any library in the world, you can choose any library you like, and find 66 books which match the characteristics of the 66 books in the Bible. You must choose 66 books, written by 40 different authors, over 1500 years, in 3 different languages, written on 3 different continents. However, they

Our Best Winter Vacation

by Merl Byrd

Cj and I flew to Anchorage, Alaska, on Friday, March 4, 2011. Our grandson, Joseph picked us up at the Airport at 1:30 am. While we were driving, the tempera-



ture was from -2 to -5 degrees. It was cold but not freezing unlike in Georgia. We slept only 5 hours, and went to the IHOP for breakfast.

We parked at the Mall and I was so exciting to see the Sled Dog Race. It's called Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. The sled dog race from Anchorage to Nome is 1,049 miles long. The first World Championship Sled Dog Race was held in 1946. The winner is determined by the fastest combined time. It was great watching the races.. They have an interpreter for the dog race, Cj went and watched them but I did not cuz I was very fantastic with the guy who had a real skinned wolf head on his head and the wolf fur on his body. It's so beautiful but feel bad when I looked at the wolf's eyes. I know it's a job to kill and sell furs, hats, coat, boots, carpet, etc. After that we walked a few blocks so Joseph and his Air Force buddies could sign up for the 4th Annual Running of the Reindeer. There are a lot of people participating in the race. I believe it was over 1,000 people signing up for the race.

There were about 12 reindeers waiting to race with the people. Some men were topless. Cj and I watched the race and wow, it was very, very cold. Cj was freezing cold, but as for me, I was warm. Joseph lead me his jacket and gloves, wow, they very warm. Poor Cj.. :) Joseph's team came in almost last. The reindeer hit Joseph's leg and he was limping... But he

was OK after that. The street was very icy and a lot of people fell down, it was very slippery on the street.

After that we all went out to eat at the Crush, Wine Bistro and Cellar. The wine and food were so good.

Sunday morning, Joseph took us to his church and the sad part was there was no interpreter but one lady tried her best to interpret. We went to AFB and shopped for groceries. On the way to his lady friend's house, I saw a Bull Moose, a huge one. Joseph and his lady friend cooked lunch and dinner. We felt very relaxed and spent the night there.

Monday we went for a ride to the top of the mountain. The snow was all over the mountain and the scenic was very nice to see. Then we went to Elmendorf Air Force Base. It's a nice and huge place to ride around. We went inside to where Joseph works and took pictures of his employees and his trophy which his team won 1st place in most people running the 1/2 mile marathon. I shopped around at the base.

We went out to eat for lunch at Paris Bakery Cafe, it's an Authentic French cuisine restaurant. The bakery were so delicious. Joseph's AFB buddies go there all the time. Then we all went shopping in downtown Anchorage. I bought some Alaskan stuffs. We walked through the Ice Sculpture arena. There were not many sculptures, but they did a great job on them. They have a lot of interested things to see. We stopped and ate at Glacier Brew House restaurant for dinner which was Joseph's favorite. Joseph likes the Amber Ale beer, I tried it, YUCK, too strong. We had fun and the food was great.

Tuesday, we went to another part of the downtown and browsed around. We drove south from Anchorage to Girdwood, AK. The view was so beautiful, with ice on the lake and it was amazing to see the train trail so close to the water. We stopped and ate at the Double Musky Inn, (Cajun-Creole Dining). Oh wow, the salmon was the best I ever ate. Cj loved it. It's a beautiful wooded inn with snow all over.

Wednesday morning we got up early to go to Fairbanks, Alaska, a 7-hour drive of approximately 356 miles. We stopped by McDonald's for breakfast. Gosh, McDonalds was decorated with wildlife animals, log chairs, log loveseats, log coffee tables with a fireplace, a hanging Bull Moose was head above the fireplace mantle. I think it's the most lovely decorate for a McDonalds restaurant. We stopped in Wasilla, AK where Sarah Palin lives. I posted for a fake picture of her with me, ha..We went on our way through Mt. McKinley, and Mt. Denali to Fairbanks. It was a very beautiful scenic to look at with snow on the mountains and evergreen trees...same scenic for more than 5 hours. The Mt. McKinley, and a pond in the Denali National Park at 20,320 feet, this is the tallest mountain in North America.

We got to Fairbanks around 3PM. It was very cold, -9 degree below. We went to the World Ice Sculpture, my hands were so frozen and I bought a mitten to keep them warm. It helped. The judges already picked the 2011 World Ice Art Championships for the sculptures. One man, Steve Brice, from Alaska, won the World Ice Sculpting Champion 15 times in Fairbanks and his wife, Heather, won 6 times... Hurrah for Americans... It was getting dark and the colored lights came on inside the ice sculpture, oh wow it's so beautiful, Cj, Joseph and I could not walk around anymore, we were freezing to death. ha ha.. It was -16 below that evening... We went back to our room to rest.

Thursday, we ate breakfast in the motel restaurant and then drove to Chena Hot Springs, a one-hour drive. The road was very icy, and beautiful to see. Joseph was playing "reckless driver" and it scared the heck out of Cj. ha ha. Thank God, we got to the Chena Hot Springs Resort safely. It was very, very cold, the temp ran between -19 to -21 below. We stopped by the resort and bought 3 tickets for the Aurora Ice Museum, Dog Sled ride, and snow coach ride to look at the Northern lights, Aurora Borealis. We went inside the Aurora Ice Museum first, the

See **VACATION** on page 5

VACATION—continued from page 4

color lights on the ice sculpture was so beautiful. Joseph and I bought a \$15-dollar Appletini in an ice-carved martini glass at the ice bar, it was delicious. They decorated everything very nicely. The Aurora Ice Museum stays open all year around, the temp inside stays at 20 degree every day.. After that Joseph and I busted our ice-carved martini on the ground for good luck. We went to the resort for lunch. The lunch was OK. We went over to the dog kennels for the dog sled rides. The rides cost \$60 dollars per person for 15 minutes. OOPS! We went ahead and rode, and I was kinda scared at first cuz I thought I might flip over but it was fun.. Joseph and I put on



our bathing suit and went in hot springs, Cj refused to go in hot springs. Joseph told me to come, gosh it was very cold but we went outside. Cj took pictures of us. The water temp was 110 degree. It was hot at first and then it became warm, felt very relaxed in the natural mineral hot springs. It was founded in 1905. Chena Hot Springs has been a refreshing oasis of beauty, warmth for Alaskans and visitors from all around the world. We swam and lay down and looked at the sky, then went

back inside the springs and swam again. Joseph laughed and told me that my hair was white with ice all over my head. I feel nothing and it did not make me feel chilled or cold. It felt perfect. We lay down again and saw the Northern Lights and we become very excited.. Joseph has lived in Alaska for 5 years and never saw the Northern Lights, ha.. Cj was in the lobby, reading books. The man told Cj to come outside and see the Northern Lights, he did.. Joseph looked at his watch and told me that we better hurry up and get dressed for the snow coach ride. We left around 10 pm and arrived on top of the mountain. Wow, it was very, very, very cold. The man said it was -30 degrees below. Brrrr! but we enjoyed looking at the Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights, looked like dancing lights, so beautiful, so awesome.. They provided coffee, hot tea, soup, hot chocolate, and hot apple cider. It helped us keep our bodies warm. We signed up to stay from 10 pm to 3 am, we could not stay until 3 am, it was too cold. Joseph asked the man if we can get on the snow coach back to resort, he said yes, a lot of people wanted to go back to resort, too. We stayed until 1 am, -30 degree below. if we stay until 3, it might be 50 degrees below. We drove all the way back to Fairbanks.. It was our first experience with the below-degree weather, but it was great. Cj has emphysema, the air in Alaska suits him greatly and he had no breathing problems at all. In Georgia, he gets sick a lot with emphysema. The cold air did not bother Cj's lungs... in Georgia, yes..

Friday morning, after breakfast, we

drove to North Pole, AK. There were a lot of ice sculptures at the Welcome center, Wendy's, McDonald's, and some other stores, the streets were named like Snowman Ln, Rudolph Ln, Santa Ln, etc etc... Christmas town. Very nice. Red ribbons wrapped around the poles. Very neat. Nice to shop around in Santa land and stores... I bought some candy for my YaYa Red Hat Ladies, and some Christmas stuffs. After that we stopped for lunch, then headed back to Anchorage. We got there late at night and were very tired.

Saturday morning, Cj and I washed our clothes and packed earlier so that we can spend more time with Joseph before we flew back to Jasper, Ga. We went to Red Robin Restaurant to meet some of Joseph's friends. The Red Robin restaurant is better than the one in Duluth... very fancy and good food. After that we went to Fur store and Cj bought me a fur hat with leather on top. Nice... I love it. We went to AFB and shopped for more Alaska stuffs for our children, and also for Tom and Faye. Went out to eat and came back to get ready for our Alaska Airline trip. Joseph went with us inside the gate, they let him, great and we said our good-byes and me cried. haha..

I would love to go back again during summer time. This was our best winter vacation ever!

Tips you can use...

compiled by Du Dukes

Clean Glass cookware...

Say so long to scouring those stubborn stains off your ovenproof glass cookware. Just fill the container with water, add up to six Alka-Seltzer tablets, and let it soak for an hour. The stains should easily scrub away. *Pah!*

We Need Your E-Mail Address!

Many of you may not know that CFCD has its own Yahoo Group for various church-related announcements.

We use CFNEWSFLASH to send out information about guest speakers, workshops, revival information, banquets, sick list, etc. etc.

We are very thankful to E-Peachy for posting lots of news about the Deaf Community;
but sometimes you will receive news about CFCD faster if you are a member of CFNEWSFLASH.

To join, simply email us at crussellefreeman@gmail.com with your email address requesting to be added

-or-

You can logon to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cfnewsflash/>

Please understand that we will not give your address out to anyone or any organization.

**CHURCH FINANCES
FUNDS SUMMARY
as of December 31, 2011**

• BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 6,375
• CHOIR: ADULT	\$ 9,112
• MISCELLANOUS FUNDS (Combined)	\$13,628
• MISSIONS (Combined)	\$ 4,154
• WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION	\$ 1,268
• GENERAL FUND	Minus \$ 5,600
• BROTHERHOOD	\$ 345

NOTE: None of our fund-raising activities are for our general expenses. These day-to-day expenses are paid for by church member's tithe and the generous donations of other individuals. Fundraisers are used for special projects such as building renovations.

The Church Officers & Department Leaders

General Administration/Church Officers

- **Pastor:** Felix Love
- **Music/Choir Director:** Jay Sanders
- **Chairman of Deacons:** Frances Sanders
- **Deacons:** Frances Sanders (3), Sandra Dukes (3), James Vickers (2), Faye Byrd (2), Lucy Parker (2), Philip Brooks (1), Amado Pinder (1)
- **Church Moderator:** Du Dukes
 - Wednesday Business Meetings
 - Churchwide Meetings Twice Yearly
 - Monthly Deacon/Council Meeting
- **Assistant Church Moderator:** Richard Riley
- **Church Clerk:** Sandra Evers
- **Assistant Church Clerk:** Frances Sanders
- **Treasurer:** David Spencer
- **Assistant Treasurers:** Sandra Evers
- **Chairman of Trustees:** Clarene Brooks
- **Trustees** (3-Year Terms): Richard Riley (3), Clarene Brooks (1), Frances Sanders (1)
- **Alternate Trustee:** Jim Kelley
- **Financial Secretary** (Tithes): Cheryl Shaver
- **Assistant Financial Secretary:** Clarene Brooks

Sunday School Department

- **Sunday School Superintendent:** Letha Smith
- **Assistant Sunday School Superintendent:** Clarene Brooks
- **Adult Sunday School Teachers:** David Spencer
- **Assistant Adult Sunday School Teachers:** Sylvia Hattrich, Du Dukes, Clarene Brooks
- **Children/Youth Teacher:** Loisteen Mann
 - Youth (12-17)
 - Preteens (9-11)
 - Children (4-8)
- **Assistant Children/Youth Teacher:** Vacant
- **Children/Nursery Worship:** Sheila Love

Church Staff Committees

- **CF Joyous News Editor:** Du Dukes
- **Assistant CF Joyous News Editor:** Felix Love
- **Sunday Program Editor:** Du Dukes
- **Assistant Sunday Program Editor:** Vacant
- **Computer/Web Site:** Chris Kerr
- **Church Welcome Hospitality:** Jerry Sanders
- **Head Offering Usher:** Richard Riley
- **Nomination Committee:** Richard Riley (2012), Clarene Brooks (2013)
- **Church Historian:** Jerry Sanders
- **Building & Grounds Supervisor:** Jim Kelley
- **Custodians (Fellowship Hall/Kitchen):** Vacant
- **Custodian (Sanctuary/Old Building):** Phillip Brooks
- **Outreach Coordinator:** Vacant
- **Wednesday Prayer Requests:** Sandra Evers, Clarene Brooks
- **Head Security:** Victor Torres
- **Flea Market Coordinator:** Jim Kelley
- **Kitchen/Fellowship Hall Committee:** Sheila Love, Doris Hughes, Stella Warthen, Faye Byrd, Yong Kelley

Mission Organizations

- **WMU President:** Sandra Evers
- **WMU Vice President:** Loisteen Mann
- **Brotherhood President:** Bobby Warthen
- **Brotherhood Vice President:** Richard Riley

We need...

- **Volunteers to fill Vacancies in offices**
- **Volunteers to organize a youth group**

2012 SCHEDULE (subject to change)

JANUARY

Sun 01/01 Happy New Year
 Sun 01/08 Lord's Supper
 Oath of New Officers
 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Sun 01/15 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 01/18 Business Meeting
 Sun 01/22 Churchwide Business Meeting
 Sat 01/28 DSG General Meeting

FEBRUARY

Sat 02/04 Debra Barnick's Birthday Bash
 Sun 02/05 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings Luncheon
 Sat 02/11 Valentine Luncheon
 Tue 02/14 Valentine's Day
 Sun 02/19 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 02/22 Business Meeting
 Sat 02/25 Sylvia Hattrich's Daughter Baby Shower

MARCH

Th-Fr 03/01-02 Flea Market (tentative)
 Sun 03/04 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Sat 03/10 GADB St. Patrick Party
 Sun 03/11 Daylight Saving Time
 Sat 03/17 DSG St Patrick's Party
 Sun 03/18 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Tue 03/20 First Day of Spring
 Wed 03/21 Business Meeting
 Sat 03/31 CSSD Soup Day

APRIL

Sun 04/01 April Fool's Day
 Lord's Supper
 Palm Sunday
 Fri 04/06 Good Friday
 Sat 04/07 Passover
 Sun 04/08 Easter
 Sun 04/15 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Sun 04/22 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 04/25 Business Meeting

MAY

Sun 05/06 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Sun 05/13 Mother's Day
 Sun 05/20 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 05/18 Business Meeting
 Mon 05/28 Memorial Day

JUNE

Th-Fr 06/7-8 Flea Market (tentative)
 Sun 06/03 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Sun 06/17 Father's Day
 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 06/20 Business Meeting

JULY

Sun 07/01 Lord's Supper
 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Sun 07/15 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 07/18 Business Meeting

AUGUST

Sun 08/05 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Sun 08/19 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 08/22 Business Meeting

SEPTEMBER

Th-Fr 09/06-07 Flea Market (tentative)
 Sun 09/02 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Sun 09/16 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 09/19 Business Meeting
 Sat 09/22 Autumn begins

OCTOBER

Sun 10/07 Women's Day
 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 WMU Covered Dish Luncheon
 Sun 10/14 Lord's Supper
 Sun 10/21 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 10/24 Business Meeting

NOVEMBER

Sun 11/04 Men's Day
 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Day Light Saving Time Ends
 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Sun 11/18 Business Meeting
 Wed 11/21 Thanksgiving Luncheon
 Sun 11/20 Thanksgiving
 Thu 11/22 Greening Service & Advent Begins
 Sun 11/25

DECEMBER

Sun 12/02 WMU & Brotherhood Meetings
 Sun 12/16 Council/Deacon Meeting
 Wed 12/19 Business Meeting
 Fri 12/22 Winter Begins
 Tue 12/25 Christmas Day
 Mon 12/31 Watch Night Service
 New Year's Eve



If you or your organization have any events that you would like to include, please email them to Du Dukes at dukesdu@gmail.com.

Oh, Really!!

By Du Dukas

You pull back a tag on a shirt, towel, or toy, and you will often see three words "Made in China." So it seems safe to assume that chopsticks, of all things, are made there too.

Not so, according to the December National Geographic magazine.

So you wonder...where are they made, if not in the country where they are used almost exclusively? In Americus, Georgia . . . a town of about 17,000. A factory there is cranking out ten million sets a week to export to China, Japan, and South Korea.

Why Americus? For one thing, explains Georgia Chopsticks owner and Seoul native, Jae Lee, the area boasts an abundance of poplar and sweet-gum trees, the wood which is ideal for the disposable utensils.

The plant has been open since May and uses mostly scraps from nearby lumber and paper mills, meaning that very few new trees are chopped down to make these chopsticks.

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Phenomenal 2-Letter Word

Sent by June Dukas

There is one word in the English language that can be a noun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition.

This two-letter word in English has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that word is "UP." It is listed in the dictionary as an [adv], [prep], [adj], [n] or [v].

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP, and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report? We call UP our friends, brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver, warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and fix UP the old car.

At other times, this little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses.

To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed UP is special.

And this is confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP.

We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP!

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look UP the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4 of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions.

If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out, we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, it soaks UP the earth. When it does not rain for awhile, things dry UP. One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now . . . my time is UP!

Oh . . . one more thing: What is the first thing you do in the morning and the last thing you do at night? UP!

Did that one crack you UP?

Now I'll shut UP!

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The Twelve Chastisements

By Michael Ford

Jonsquill Ministries Daily Thought

God chastens His children in distinct ways consistently. If you are a Christian and commit willful sin expect to experience one or more forms of God's loving discipline in your life:

1. Loss of Joy—When we turn our backs on the Lord, we lose the joy of our salvation. Remember the cry of David in Psalm 51.
2. Loss of Assurance of Salvation—Living in obedience we feel the assurance. Sin diminishes assurance and causes doubt. Many live most of their lives unsure because of what they allow in their lives. Loss of assurance is designed to draw us back.
3. Loss of The Peace of God—His peace (true shalom) is directly tied to relationship with Him. The soil in turmoil lacks His peace.

See **Chastisement** on page 9

Strange...but true!

sent by Jack Kelsey

♥ Ketchup was sold in the 1830's as a medicine.

♥ Leonardo DA Vinci could write with one hand and draw with the other at the same time.

A Laugh a day. . .

Old Men Can Still think Fast!

sent by Jerry Sanders

In the back of his land in southern Georgia, an elderly farmer had a large pond that was deep, clean and especially suited for swimming. Adjacent to the pond was an orchard that he also owned.

One evening, he grabbed a bucket and headed to the orchard to pick some fruit. As he neared the pond, he heard shouting and laughter. He soon realized that the noise was coming from some young women swimming nude in his pond.

As he made the women aware of his presence, they quickly went to the deep end of the pond. "We're not coming out until you leave!" one of the women shouted to him.

The old farmer frowned and replied, "I didn't come down here to see you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond." Holding up the bucket, he said, "I'm just here to feed the alligators."

The moral: *Old men can still think fast! Yah!*

Church Bloopers...

sent by Sheila Love

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Chastisement—cont from page 8

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|--|--|---|
| <p>4. Loss of Fruitfulness for God—Jesus taught only branches cleansed and purged will bear good fruit. The Spirit does not bless service from an unclean vessel.</p> <p>5. Loss of Interest in Spiritual Things—the biblical condition of “hardening of the heart.” Hearts become hardened because of continuing sin in a life.</p> <p>6. Loss of Sense of God’s Guidance—Remember God must be acknowledged in all our ways for Him to guide our path. Proverbs 3:6.</p> <p>7. Loss of Health - Being sick does</p> | <p>not mean a person has sinned. Scripture makes that clear. But there is a clear connection between a clear conscience and a healthy body. Many maladies are connected by cause or effect to our spiritual heart’s condition.</p> <p>8. Loss of Prosperity—This is a consequence of both national and individual sin. Following Christ does not guarantee riches, but it allows Him to bless rather than blow away what may come our way.</p> <p>9. Family Losses—All families must suffer loss eventually because of Original Sin. But untimely loss</p> | <p>can be connected to grievous sin, such as when David committed adultery and murder, and three of his children died.</p> <p>10. Loss to the Church—Sin in the camp, sinning members tolerated can cause the light of the church to be removed.</p> <p>11. Loss to the Kingdom—The presence of sin can cause national loss as well as for God’s Kingdom to be effected.</p> <p>12. Loss of Life—The sin of a child of God can cause them to lose their life—premature death—The sin concerning The Lord’s Supper is one example. (1 Corinthians 11:30)</p> |
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DEAD LETTER OFFICE

Several Joyous News newsletters were returned to us by the Post Office due to wrong, bad, missing, or undeliverable addresses.

If you are planning to move, please notify us of your new address by sending the information to:
The Crusselle-Freeman Church of the Deaf, P O Box 11286, Atlanta, GA 30310.

Also if anyone complain that they didn’t receive the NL, tell them to send their address to the church to make sure we have their correct address...

We are now sending the Newsletter to email addresses in PDF format.

If you desire this service, email the church or dukesdu@gmail.com.

(Note: If you change to this service, we will remove you from the Post Office address).

Appreciate your help!

EDITOR’S NOTE:

CFCD encourages other groups to let us know about their future events. We will be happy to include these events in our newsletter calendar. Interested organizations wanting to include calendar information and/or flyers in our newsletter, please contact us by mail to CFCD Newsletter Editor, or by e-mail to: crussellefreeman@gmail.com.

We may have included your event. If you object, please call or email the editor and ask that we don’t. We apologize if you object.

Birthdays are still available at our website: www.crusselle-freeman.com.



CHRISTMAS At The Gas Station

(author unknown)

*(Editor's Note:
Christmas is just past, but
memories linger, so here is
a story that will give you
a warm glow.)*

The old man sat in his gas station on a cold Christmas Eve. He hadn't been anywhere in years since his wife had passed away. It was just another day to him. He didn't hate Christmas, just couldn't find a reason to celebrate. He was sitting there looking at the snow that had been falling for the last hour and wondering what it was all about when the door opened and a homeless man stepped through.

Instead of throwing the man out, Old George, as he was known by his customers, told the man to come and sit by the heater and warm up. "Thank you, but I don't mean to intrude," said the stranger. "I see you're busy, I'll just go."

"Not without something hot in your belly." George said.

He turned and opened a wide mouth thermos and handed it to the stranger. "It ain't much, but it's hot and tasty. Stew... made it myself. When you're done, there's coffee and it's fresh."

Just at that moment he heard the "ding" of the driveway bell. "Excuse me, be right back," George said. There in the driveway was an old '53 Chevy. Steam was rolling out of the front. The driver was panicked. "Mister can you help me?" said the driver, with a deep Spanish accent, "my wife is with child and my car is broken."

George opened the hood. It was bad. The block looked cracked from the cold, the car was dead. "You ain't going in this thing," George said as he turned away.

"But Mister, please help ..." The door of the office closed behind George as he went inside. He went to the office wall and got the keys to his old truck, and went back outside. He walked around the building, opened the garage, started the truck and drove it around to where the couple was waiting. "Here, take my truck," he said. "She ain't the best thing you ever looked at, but she runs real good."

George helped put the woman in the truck and watched as it sped off into the night. He turned and walked back inside the office. "Glad I gave 'em the truck, their tires were shot too. That 'ol truck has brand new..." George thought he was talking to the stranger, but the man had gone. The thermos was on the desk, empty, with a used coffee cup beside it. "Well, at least he got something in his belly," George thought.

George went back outside to see if the old Chevy would

start. It cranked slowly, but it started. He pulled it into the garage where the truck had been. He thought he would tinker with it for something to do. Christmas Eve meant no customers. He discovered the block hadn't cracked, it was just the bottom hose on the radiator. "Well, shoot, I can fix this," he said to himself. So he put a new one on.

"Those tires ain't gonna get 'em through the winter either." He took the snow treads off of his wife's old Lincoln. They were like new and he wasn't going to drive the car anyway.

As he was working, he heard shots being fired. He ran outside and beside a police car an officer lay on the cold ground. Bleeding from the left shoulder, the officer moaned, "Please help me."

George helped the officer inside as he remembered the training he had received in the Army as a medic. He knew the wound needed attention "Pressure to stop the bleeding," he thought. The uniform company had been there that morning and had left clean shop towels. He used those and duct tape to bind the wound. "Hey, they say duct tape can fix any thin," he said, trying to make the policeman feel at ease.

"Something for pain," George thought. All he had was the pills he used for his back. "These ought to work." He put some water in a cup and gave the policeman the pills. "You hang in there, I'm going to get you an ambulance."

The phone was dead. "Maybe I can get one of your buddies on that there talk box out in your car." He went out only to find that a bullet had gone into the dashboard destroying the two-way radio.

He went back in to find the policeman sitting up. "Thanks," said the officer. "You could have left me there. The guy that shot me is still in the area."

George sat down beside him, "I would never leave an injured man in the Army and I ain't gonna leave you." George pulled back the bandage to check for bleeding. "Looks worse than what it is. Bullet passed right through yaw. Good thing it missed the important stuff though. I think with time your gonna be right as rain."

George got up and poured a cup of coffee. "How do you take it?" he asked. "None for me," said the officer. "Oh, yer gonna drink this. Best in the city. Too bad I ain't got no donuts." The officer laughed and winced at the same time.

The front door of the office flew open. In burst a young man with a gun. "Give me all your cash! Do it now!" the young man yelled. His hand was shaking and George could tell that he had never done anything like this before.

"That's the guy that shot me!" exclaimed the officer.

"Son, why are you doing this?" asked George, "You need to put the cannon away. Somebody else might get hurt."

The young man was confused. "Shut up old man, or I'll shoot you, too. Now give me the cash!"

The cop was reaching for his gun. "Put that thing away," George said to the cop, "we got one too many in here now."

He turned his attention to the young man. "Son, it's Christmas Eve. If you need money, well then, here. It ain't much but it's all I got. Now put that pee shooter away. "

George pulled \$150 out of his pocket and handed it to the young man, reaching for the barrel of the gun at the same time. The young man released his grip on the gun, fell to his knees and began to cry. "I'm not very good at this, am I? All I wanted was to buy something for my wife and son," he went on. "I've lost my job, my rent is due, my car got repossessed last week..."

George handed the gun to the cop. "Son, we all get in a bit of squeeze now and then. The road gets hard sometimes, but we make it through the best we can."

He got the young man to his feet, and sat him down on a chair across from the cop. "Sometimes we do stupid things." George handed the young man a cup of coffee. "Bein' stupid is one of the things that makes us human. Comin' in here with a gun ain't the answer. Now sit there and get warm and we'll sort this thing out."

The young man had stopped crying. He looked over to the cop. "Sorry, I shot you. It just went off. I'm sorry, officer."

"Shut up and drink your coffee" the cop said.

George could hear the sounds of sirens outside. A police car and an ambulance skidded to a halt. Two cops came through the door, guns drawn. "Chuck! You ok?" one of the cops asked the wounded officer.

"Not bad for a guy who took a bullet. How did you find me?"

"GPS locator in the car. Best thing since sliced bread. Who did this?" the other cop asked as he approached the young man.

Chuck answered him, "I don't know. The guy ran off into the dark. Just dropped his gun and ran."

George and the young man both looked puzzled at each other.

"That guy work here?" the wounded cop continued.

"Yep," George said, "just hired him this morning. Boy lost his job."

The paramedics came in and loaded Chuck onto the stretcher. The young man leaned over the wounded cop and whispered, "Why?"

Chuck just said, "Merry Christmas, boy... and you too, George, and thanks for everything."

"Well, looks like you got one doozy of a break there. That ought to solve some of your problems."

George went into the back room and came out with a box. He pulled out a ring box. "Here you go, something for the little woman. I don't think Martha would mind. She said it would come in handy some day."

The young man looked inside to see the biggest diamond ring he ever saw. "I can't take this," said the young man. "It means something to you."

"And now it means something to you," replied George. "I got my memories. That's all I need."

George reached into the box again. An airplane, a car and a truck appeared next. They were toys that the oil company had left for him to sell. "Here's something for that little man of yours."

The young man began to cry again as he handed back the \$150 that the old man had handed him earlier.

"And what are you supposed to buy Christmas dinner with? You keep that, too," George said, "Now git home to your family."

The young man turned with tears streaming down his face. "I'll be here in the morning for work, if that job offer is still good."

"Nope. I'm closed Christmas day" George said. "See ya the day after."

George turned around to find that the stranger had returned "Where'd you come from? I thought you left?"

"I have been here. I have always been here," said the stranger. "You say you don't celebrate Christmas. Why?"

"Well, after my wife passed away, I just couldn't see what all the bother was. Puttin' up a tree and all seemed a waste of a good pine tree. Bakin' cookies like I used to with Martha just wasn't the same by myself and besides I was gettin' a little chubby."

The stranger put his hand on George's shoulder. "But you do celebrate the holiday, George."

"You gave me food and drink and warmed me when I was cold and hungry."

The woman with child will bear a son and he will become a great doctor.

The policeman you helped will go on to save 19 people from being killed by terrorists.

The young man who tried to rob you will make you a rich man and not take any for himself.

That is the spirit of the season and you keep it as good as any man."

George was taken aback by all this stranger had said. "And how do you know all this?" asked the old man.

"Trust me, George. I have the inside track on this sort of thing. And when your days are done you will be with Martha again."

The stranger moved toward the door. "If you will excuse me, George, I have to go now. I have to go home where there is a big celebration planned."

George watched as the old leather jacket and the torn pants that the stranger was wearing turned into a white robe. A golden light began to fill the room.

"You see, George... it's My birthday. Merry Christmas."

George fell to his knees and replied,

"Happy Birthday, Lord."



Christian Love and Sympathy is extended to the families of:

- | | |
|--|---|
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(Sylvia Hattrich's Uncle) | Ralph Benson |
| Martha White
(Jeanette Lorch's Sister-in-Law) | Lillian
(Jean Ison's Sister) |
| Charlie Moore
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OUR KNOWN SICK

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