

Uniondale Messenger

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

March

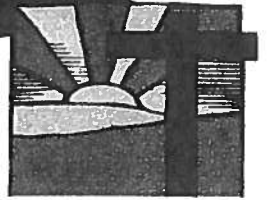
1st- Kim Chaney

19th- Troy Drayer

22nd- Amanda Drayer



God's Accuracy & the Bible



God is both our Creator and Redeemer . . . and do we THINK about it ??? God's accuracy may be observed in the hatching of eggs...

For example:

- the eggs of the potato bug hatch in 7 days;
- those of the canary in 14 days;
- those of the barnyard hen in 21 days;
- The eggs of ducks and geese hatch in 28 days;
- those of the mallard in 35 days;
- The eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in 42 days.

(Notice, they are all divisible by seven, the number of days in a week!)

God's wisdom is seen in the making of an elephant. The four legs of this great beast all bend forward in the same direction. No other quadruped is so made. God planned that this animal would have a huge body, too large to live on two legs. For this reason He gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground easily.

The horse rises from the ground on its two front legs first. A cow rises from the ground with its two hind legs first. How wise the Lord is in all His works of creation!

God's wisdom is revealed in His arrangement of sections and segments, as well as in the number of grains.

- Each watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind.
 - Each orange has an even number of segments.
 - Each ear of corn has an even number of rows.
 - Each stalk of wheat has an even number of grains.
 - Every bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number.
 - The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather.
- All grains are found in even numbers on the stalks, and the Lord specified thirty fold, sixty fold, and a hundred fold all even numbers.

God has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day. Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed!

The lives of each of you may be ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory, if you will only entrust Him with your life. If you try to regulate your own life, it will only be a mess and a failure. Only the One Who made the brain and the heart can successfully guide them to a profitable end.

A man is driving along a highway and sees a rabbit jump out across the middle of the road. He swerves to avoid hitting it, but unfortunately the rabbit jumps right in front of the car. The driver, a sensitive man as well as an animal lover, pulls over and gets out to see what has become of the rabbit. Much to his dismay, the rabbit is the Easter Bunny, and he is DEAD . The driver feels so awful that he begins to cry. A beautiful blonde woman driving down the highway sees a man crying on the side of the road and pulls over. She steps out of the car and asks the man what's wrong.

"I feel terrible," he explains, "I accidentally hit the Easter Bunny with my car and KILLED HIM."

The blonde says, "Don't worry." She runs to her car and pulls out a spray can. She walks over to the limp, dead Easter Bunny , bends down, and sprays the contents onto him.

The Easter Bunny jumps up, waves its paw at the two of them and hops off down the road. Ten feet away he stops, turns around and waves again, he hops down the road another 10 feet, turns and waves, hops another ten feet, turns and waves, and repeats this again and again and again and again, until he hops out of sight.

The man is astonished. He runs over to the woman and demands, "What is in that can? What did you spray on the Easter Bunny?"

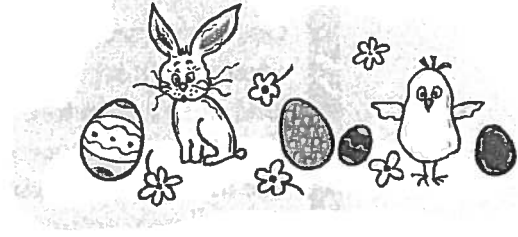
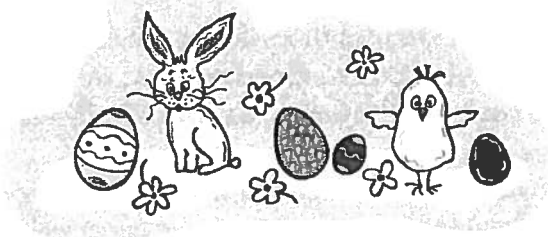
The woman turns the can around so that the man can read the label. It says... (Are you ready for this?)

(Are you sure?)

(Last chance)

(OK, here it is)

IT SAYS, "HAIR SPRAY RESTORES LIFE TO DEAD HAIR, AND ADDS PERMANENT WAVE."



Confessions of a Single Girl, living in a small town

Dare to Hope by Wendy Pope
(31 Proverbs devotional)

Have you ever cried until tears no longer fell and your heart was broken in tiny pieces? Have you uttered, 'Everything I hope for from the Lord is lost?' Yes? Then you, me, and Jeremiah make three. I won't forget those long nights of crying myself to sleep. Some nights, only silent tears trickled; other nights, loud wails accompanied questions and prayers. 'Why Lord? What am I doing wrong? Why won't You fix this?' My prayers ended with, 'If it is Your will,' hoping His will was different than it appeared to be. Many nights I curled up in a ball under my covers hoping for a break-through. Yet, the situation seemed hopeless; I believed everything I had hoped for was lost. Jeremiah, also known as the weeping prophet in the Old Testament, found himself in a hopeless situation too. He watched the Temple of the Lord being burned to the ground by the Babylonians. Jeremiah's heart broke as the elements of the Temple, such as the water basin and lamp snuffers, were stolen, and taken to Babylon to be used to worship false gods. In the midst of the devastation, Jeremiah prophesied God's words to the people of Judah and Jerusalem. Unfortunately, it wasn't good news. The Lord's immediate future for His people was one of discipline and the utter destruction of Jerusalem as well as His holy Temple. Jeremiah was chosen by God to deliver these words to His people. Jeremiah did his job and did it well, but not without punishment, ridicule, insults, and imprisonment by the recipients of the news. Jeremiah shed tears until he said, 'I have cried until the tears no longer come; my heart is broken.' (Lamentations 2:11 NLT) His heart was broken for Jerusalem and for God's people, his people. In anguish Jeremiah lamented, 'Everything I had hoped for from the Lord is lost.' (Lamentations 3:18 NLT) Then, in the midst of his despair, he dared. He dared to hope in what he remembered. Many of us need hope. To find it like Jeremiah did, let's look at what he remembered that gave him the courage to dare to hope again. What Jeremiah remembered was the key to elevating him from the pit of despair to a place of expectancy. It is our key as well. Jeremiah remembered this about the Lord:

● His unfailing love ● His new mercies ● His never-ending faithfulness ● His inheritance

God's Word is just as alive and active today as it was in Jeremiah's day. It is designed to transform us from the inside out. Reading and applying its truths will redirect our perspective. Are you in need of hope today? Will you choose to remember God's faithfulness, love, and mercy, despite the despair and destruction around you? Today, dare to hope.

Ananda

Let's Not Forget...

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Update from Laura Elzey:

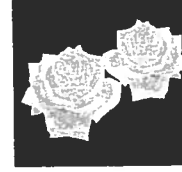
Dear Church Family,

It has been 6 months since I began this adventure in the Dominican Republic. Although at times it feels like years, most days it seems like I was just getting on the plane yesterday. I just recently moved into my own house and adopted a kitten. Before, I was living with a host family down the street. It sure is nice to be able to cook whatever I want and have my own routine. The six month mark in Peace Corps is when we really start to begin working. Before, I was focused on getting to know the people in the community so they will be more participatory in projects (and so they will take care of me, of course!) Now is the hard part. My goal is to form groups of women to train them to become health promoters so when I leave, health education will still be taking place. We focus on nutrition, reproductive health, hygiene, and general ailments. I will also form groups of youth with the goal of training them in sexual health (to decrease rate of teen pregnancy and decrease HIV/AIDS transmission). In addition to these two primary projects, I also plan on learning how to build stoves that will burn less wood (meaning less deforestation) and produce less smoke (meaning less respiratory infections). Just writing this reminds me of the great amount of work that I have before me. Breath in: I am not changing the world. But I hope to at least make a difference for the people I come in contact with daily. Thank you so much for the wonderful Christmas cards and care packages! It is so nice to feel the love coming from Uniondale.

Laura

FAITH CIRCLE UPDATE!!

Faith Circle met on February 16, at the home of Sharon Espich. With the blessing of the Missions Committee it was decided that Faith Circle would be responsible for the Food Bank. Those collections will begin in mid-March. We are to remind others that Prayer Squares are available for individuals or groups. Following the meeting, Sharon provided fun activities and delicious desserts! Our next meeting is at 2:00 p.m., March 16, at Jeanette Gilbert's home. All women are welcome!



To: www.God.com

Dear Lord,

Every single evening
As I'm lying here in bed,
This tiny little Prayer
Keeps running through my
head:

God bless all my family
Wherever they may be,
Keep them warm
and safe from harm
For they're so close to me.

And God, there is one more
thing
I wish that you could do;
Hope you don't mind me ask-
ing,
Please bless my computer too.

Now I know that it's unusual
To Bless a motherboard,

But listen just a second
While I explain it to you, Lord.

You see, that little metal box
Holds more than odds and ends;
Inside those small compart-
ments
Rest so many of my friends.

I know so much about them
By the kindness that they give,
And this little scrap of metal
Takes me in to where they live.

By faith is how I know them
Much the same as you.
We share in what life brings us
And from that our friendships
grew.

Please take an extra minute
From your duties up above,
To bless those in my address
book
That's filled with so much love.

Wherever else this prayer may
reach

To each and every friend,
Bless each e-mail inbox
And each person who hits
'send'.

When you update your Heaven-
ly list
On your own Great CD-ROM,
Bless everyone who says this
prayer
Sent up to GOD.com

Amen



"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

Springtime in the upper Midwest is a very welcome guest. Its arrival is long awaited and much anticipated. We spend the long winter months navigating snow-covered frozen ground, wary of nearly invisible "black" ice and the potential to lose control of our legs or vehicles at any given time. At times, the longing to see green again becomes almost overwhelming. We would lose all hope, except for one truth that we know to be real. Under the frozen blanket of winter snow, the earth is only asleep. Soon, the snow will begin to melt, and the rivers and creeks will flow again. Slowly, signs of life return as the natural world gradually awakens to the light of an ever-warming sun.

Knowing springtime and Easter are intertwined always lifts my heart. Just as the earth is coming back to life, we celebrate the resurrection of our Risen Christ. The earth seems to die during months of freezing temperatures and bone-chilling winds. However, we know the truth: the greenness of the earth will return. And so we wait, resting in the knowledge that springtime always follows the winter.

It is the promise that life will return which we celebrate through the Easter season. The parallels are apparent as we mourn our Savior's brutal death. Three days later we share in joyous celebration at the wonder and promise of the empty tomb and Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

This promise of life returning to us means we are Easter people. We can live the resurrection story at any time in our lives. We are constantly dying little deaths; in our relationships, our grief, and our personal journey carrying our own cross. But there is always the hope of our resurrection, and this can only come through knowing our Savior, Jesus Christ. He is "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6, NIV).

The only way to know peace is to know the truth of our existence. We were made to love God, and to use the gifts He has given us to honor and please Him and to further His Kingdom here on Earth. He has given us the gift of abundant life, if we will only live our lives for Him.

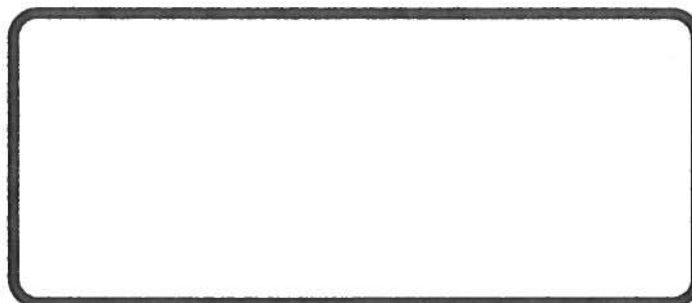
I praise God for Jesus, giver of life everlasting. And I praise God for springtime, for it is the reminder of the promise that all things can be made new in Him, who gives us life.

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We are on the web!!
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**UPCOMING EVENTS!!!
Mark your calendars :)**

- *Saturday, March 2nd at 5pm-Fellowship Fun night in church basement
Sunday, March 3rd- Communion
- *Sunday, March 17th- Fellowship Breakfast Kids "Change the World"--will be collecting change during the Kids Sermon
- *Sunday, March 24th- Palm Sunday
- *Thursday, March 28th- Maunday Thursday Service 7pm at Uniondale UMC
- *Friday, March 29th- Good Friday Service 7pm at Uniondale UMC
- *Saturday, March 30th- Stations of the Cross 8am-4pm in sanctuary Community Easter Egg Hunt (time and place TBD)
- *Sunday, March 31st- Easter Service at 9am Kids "Change the World"--will be collection change during the Kids Sermon