

THE HUNGRY CHILD

A fourth grader was experiencing his first week-long field trip with his class at a nature camp. Soon he sent his mother a text, "Mom! Send lots of food. I'm starved! All they serve here is breakfast, lunch and dinner."



FIGHTING FIRE



The fire department was called to the scene of a large fire. One truck arrived well ahead of the others, with the driver speeding through the streets. On arrival he quickly doused the flames.

At a dinner given in the fireman's honour, the mayor gave a speech about how he had saved the building, as well as those around it, by getting there so quickly, and extinguishing the fire.

"What can we give to show our gratitude for your work?" asked the mayor. "Brakes!" replied the fireman.

MOTHER KNOWS

A small boy sat with his mother in church, listening to a sermon entitled, "What Is a Christian?" The minister punctuated his message at several intervals, asking, "What is a Christian?"



He jumped and raised his hands in query, then pounded his fist on the pulpit for emphasis. At one point the little boy whispered to his mother, "Momma, do you know what a Christian is?" "Yes dear," the mother replied, "Now try to sit still and listen." As the minister was wrapping up the sermon, once again he thundered, "What is a Christian?" pounding especially hard on the pulpit. At that the boy jumped up and cried, "Tell him Momma, tell him!"

FAITHFUL WARRIOR

Reuben (Bud) Robinson, a well-loved holiness evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene until his death in 1942, is said to have prayed the following prayer each day: "O Lord, give me a backbone as big as a saw log and ribs like the sleepers under the church floor. Put iron shoes on my feet and galvanized breeches on my body. Give me a rhinoceros hide for skin and hang up a wagon-load of determination in the gable-end of my soul. Help me to sign a contract to fight the devil as long as I've got a tooth – and then gum him until I die."



SPRING BREAK

No wonder you're tired when April finally comes. You've just finished a thirty-one-day March!



First Baptist Church Strathroy

Where Christ is cherished, family is loved and everyone is family!



GETTING CONNECTED

Publication of...

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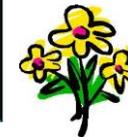
April 2024



"How precious is your steadfast love, O God!" (Psalms 36:7)

God Speaks

When I looked at the flowers,
I was looking at God,
For they bloomed in His sun
and grew in His sod,
and each lovely flower
was a voice from above
that whispered a message
of kindness and love.



I felt in my heart,
and I know you do, too,
that God speaks to us all
through the kind things we do,
and when I looked at those flowers,
I couldn't help but feel
That they brought heaven nearer
And made God O so real.
~ Helen Steiner Rice

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**Why not share the joy of Spring -
invite a friend to join you this Sunday!**



Where Christ is cherished, family is
loved & everyone is family!



Sunday, 11 a.m. Services

20 Centre Street W., Strathroy, Ontario

Thot: "The promises of the Bible are nothing more than God's covenant to be faithful to His people. It is His character that makes these promises valid.

~ Jerry Bridges

THE YOUNG GET NO RESPECT

The police were called to the local nursing home to help restore order after a week-long revolt by its residents. Three octogenarians were arrested being identified as the ring leaders of the activist group.

When arrested, all three gave the reason for the protest as “We’ve a bunch of young whippersnappers running things around here. What is the sense of living to a ripe-old-age if some fifty-something-year-old kid gets to tell you what to do?”



Something to Think About...

“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” (Lamentations 3:22-23)

April has arrived. We look to the longer days and warmer temperatures and feel assured that spring is coming as more than a date on the calendar. But our trust in God goes way beyond our hope in warmer weather and sunny days. The faithfulness of God is shown as we’ve just celebrated Good Friday and Easter, remembering that the gift of life itself came through His own Son, Jesus, who died on the cross, rose from the grave and lives with the Father, working all things for our good and the Father’s glory. The faithfulness we find in God comes because He’s unchanging in His nature, true to His Word, and has promised those who accept Jesus as their Saviour that He will be their God, and they will be His people. God always keeps His promises despite how unlikely His promises may seem to our limited understanding. This reliability of God brings us comfort and strength. Because the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, nothing can prevent Him from accomplishing all that He has promised His people through Jesus Christ. Though we may repeatedly fail and go through trials and suffering, God is faithful, His mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning just as assuredly as Spring follows winter.

If God weren’t faithful, that would mean He either lied or changed his mind. But we know that *“every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow to change”* (James 1:17). When you place your trust in the steadfast love of the Lord, He won’t tell you one thing and then change His mind. Numbers 23:19 says, *“God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a human being, that He should change His mind. Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it happen?”* God confirms His faithfulness through the empty grave, the risen Saviour. God is faithful; you can trust Him and trust what He says in His Word.

When we turn from contemplating our misery and misfortune and instead remember God’s mercy that never comes to an end, calling to mind the faithfulness of God, we find our lives are motivated through hope – not the “pathological belief in the occurrence of the impossible” as some refer to hope, but, as A.W. Tozer puts it, hope is “The divine alchemy that transmutes the base metal of adversity into gold”. The Apostle Peter tells us, in part, *“In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials...so that the tested genuineness of your faith – more precious than gold that perishes...may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ”* (1 Peter 1:6-8). Do you trust God, or do you think He is prone to lie? Ask yourself which promises of God you doubt, and then ask God to give you faith. Take time to read His promises, delight in His Word and discover for yourself that God is faithful, His mercies never cease, He loves you with a steadfast love. Here are some scriptures to encourage you as you face life’s journey...

- *“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in Him”* (Lamentations 3:24).
- *“God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord”* (1 Corinthians 1:9).
- *“No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it”* (1 Corinthians 10:13).
- *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”* (1 John 1:9).
- *“The Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one”* (2 Thessalonians 3:3).
- *“Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful”* (Hebrews 10:23).

Martin Luther said, “I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I placed in God’s hands, that still I possess.” God is holy, perfect, and set above and apart from humankind so he can be trusted to always be faithful. Who do you know who needs to know a Father who can’t not be faithful? Tell them about Jesus!

Mark Your Calendar!

April 2nd – Women’s Mission Encounter Group (1:30 p.m.)

April 7th – Communion

April 13th – Men’s Breakfast (8:30 a.m.)

Wednesdays 1:30 p.m.

Weekly Prayer (FBCS Godwinks’ Café)

Message Series

Pursuing God’s Wisdom

Being Wise as Christ’s

Body – the Church

