

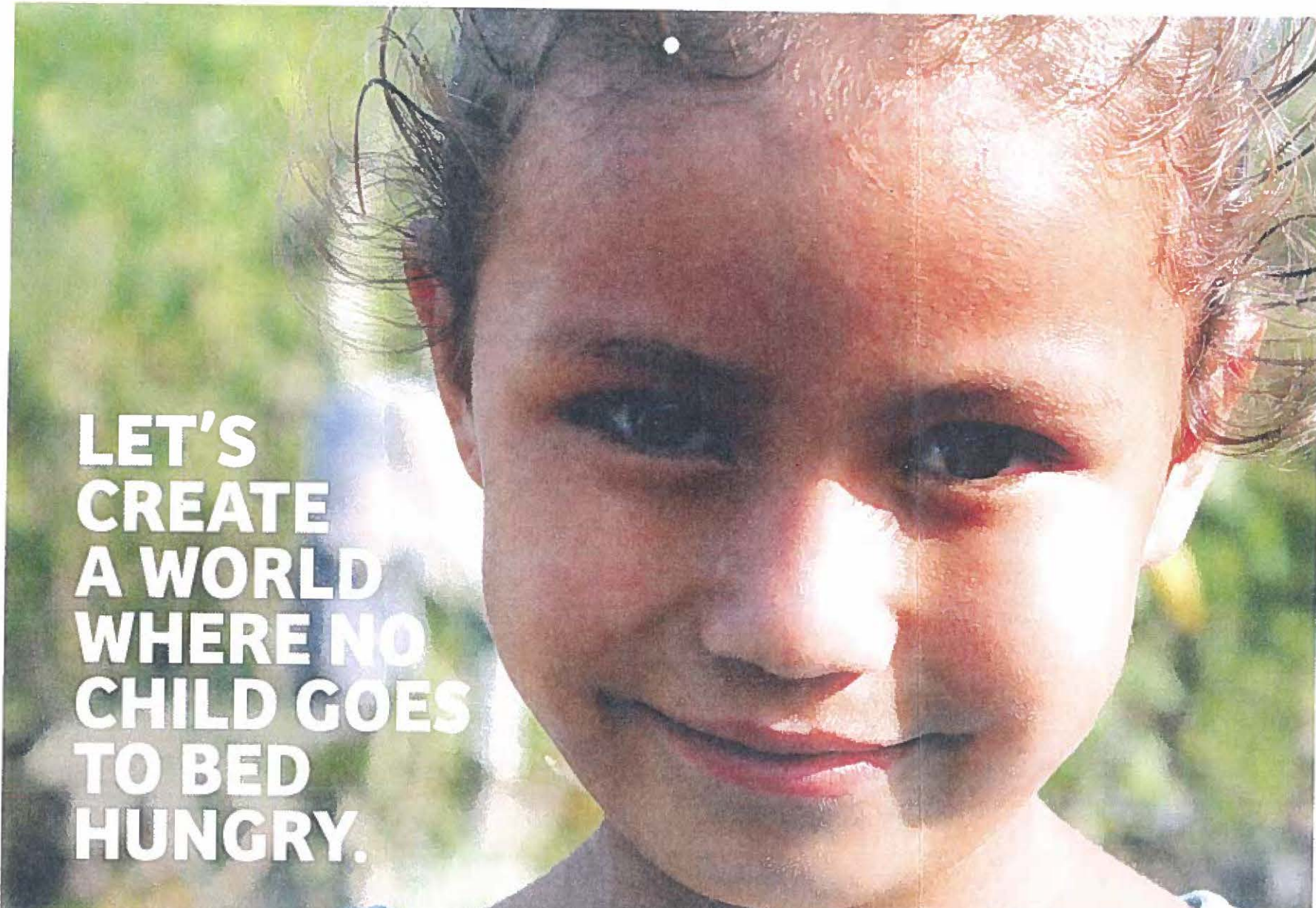
CHRISTIAN HERALD

WASHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 2016 Number 799

Rev. Laddie J. Benton, Pastor

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



**LET'S
CREATE
A WORLD
WHERE NO
CHILD GOES
TO BED
HUNGRY.**

From the Pastor's Desk
Teaching Elder, Rev. Laddie J. Benton

LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER, BECAUSE LOVE IS FROM GOD

*Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them;
for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.
(Matthew 6: 1 – New Revised Standard Version)*

THREE CHRISTIAN DUTIES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Dear members and friends of Washington Presbyterian Church (USA):

It is always a joy to welcome new members into the church of Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Whenever new members come into the “fold” of the Good Shepherd; they are instructed on the beliefs, doctrines, and disciplines of a particular denomination/congregation. There are also three duties that believers are expected to adhere to: making an offering, prayer, and fasting. Jesus teaches these three duties in Matthew 6: 1-18.

By making an offering, it is the believers way to share what God has given to them. It is a blessing from God when the offering is given freely. The apostle Paul put it this way...”Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9: 7).

Prayer is essentially for the “soul” – either a personal or community conversation with God. 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18 teaches the following...”Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

Fasting is basically giving up something that the body craves (food, water, etc), but the fasting that God wants is that those who are fasting do not commit violent acts, and must be charitable and giving freely and cheerfully to the poor and needy (i.e. Isaiah 58: 9-10).

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

Your Brother in Christ,


Laddie J. Benton, Pastor

***STAND UP FOR JESUS!
STAND UP FOR WPC!***

SICK, SHUT-INS AND BEREAVED FAMILIES

Margie Walker, Joan Marshall, Teondré Morrison-Cooper, Claudette Carter, Justin Johnson, Kevin Herring, Joyce Beckett, Ethel Kinkaid, Linda Hobbs (Pastor's sister), Marjorie McNeil, Daisy Patience, Marie (Flood) Rhodes, Monica (Joan Reppert's granddaughter), Hannah Matthews (Will's mother), Robert Nelson, Sharon Lanning (Donna's sister), Maurice Alexander, the Ebling family, the Eberly family, LaKeshia Green & Family, Viola Jefferson, Tammy Marshall, Aimy McKnight, George Ravel (Penny's co-workers), Will Kinkaid (Tremont Rehab.), Diana Flood, Maria Mootarim (Barbara's co-worker), Cherie Spillane, Sue Powers, Agnes Snead, Mrs. Thelma Winfrey, Patricia Lanning (Donna's mother), Jeffrey Godboldte, Derric Burden, Rosalie Moore, John and Damarcus (sons of Penny's co-worker), Joseph Harmon, Valerie Phelps, Patricia & Shirley Wilson (mother & daughter), Shania Hunter (Janice's niece), John Haynes, Mike Aten, Vickie Bowers (Pennside), Connie Lantz (Vickie's mother), Shannon Hutchinson (Vickie's daughter), Emelie Socha (2 yrs.old), Patricia Stupp and Arlene Speaks (Penny's co-workers), Kiara Delgado (Penny's granddaughter), Katrina Boykin, Eric George, Henry Johnson, Tomishia Johnson, Melba Stamm, Dale Brown, Valerie Phelps, Kenneth Randall, Bonnie Dennis, Sabrina (Alex's friend), Irene Roy and Sandy (Renwick) Martin.

PRAY FOR THE BEREAVED

The families of: Joyce Spencer-Boykins; Geraldine Jackson-Miller; Sue Powers; Michael Aten and William Stewart.

SCRIPTURES

September 4	Jeremiah 18:1-11	Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18	Philemon: 1-21
September 11	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28	Psalms 14	I Timothy 1:12-17
September 18	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1	Psalms 79:1-9	I Timothy 2:1-7
September 25	Jeremiah 32:1-3a 6-15	Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16	I Timothy 6:6-19

STANDING COMMITTEES

Christian Concerns – April Coleman
Christian Education – Alexis Green
Evangelism – Yvonne Lewis
Finance – Toni A. Brooks
Property – Stephen Greer
Stewardship – Sharon Davis/Yvonne Lewis
Worship Committee-Pauline Johnson/Alexis Green

BIBLE STUDY – Wednesday 9:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.

LECTIONARY READINGS

Luke 14:25-33
Luke 15:1-10
Luke 16:1-13
Luke 16:19-31

SESSION

Pastor – Rev. Laddie J. Benton
Clerk of Session – Barbara Davis
Church Treasurer – Toni A. Brooks
Benevolence Treasurer – Sharon Davis
Club Fund Treasurer – Winnie J. Burden
Sunday School – Sharon Davis

ORGANIZATION

Men's Fellowship – Oliver Carter
Pastor's Aid – Toni A. Brooks/Winnie Burden
Personnel – Stephen Greer
Presbyterian Women – Alexis Green/LaKeshia Green

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Senior Choir – Thursday 1:00 PM – Director - Mrs. Janet Arms

WASHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WILL ACCEPT DONATIONS FROM ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH OUR MISSIONS.

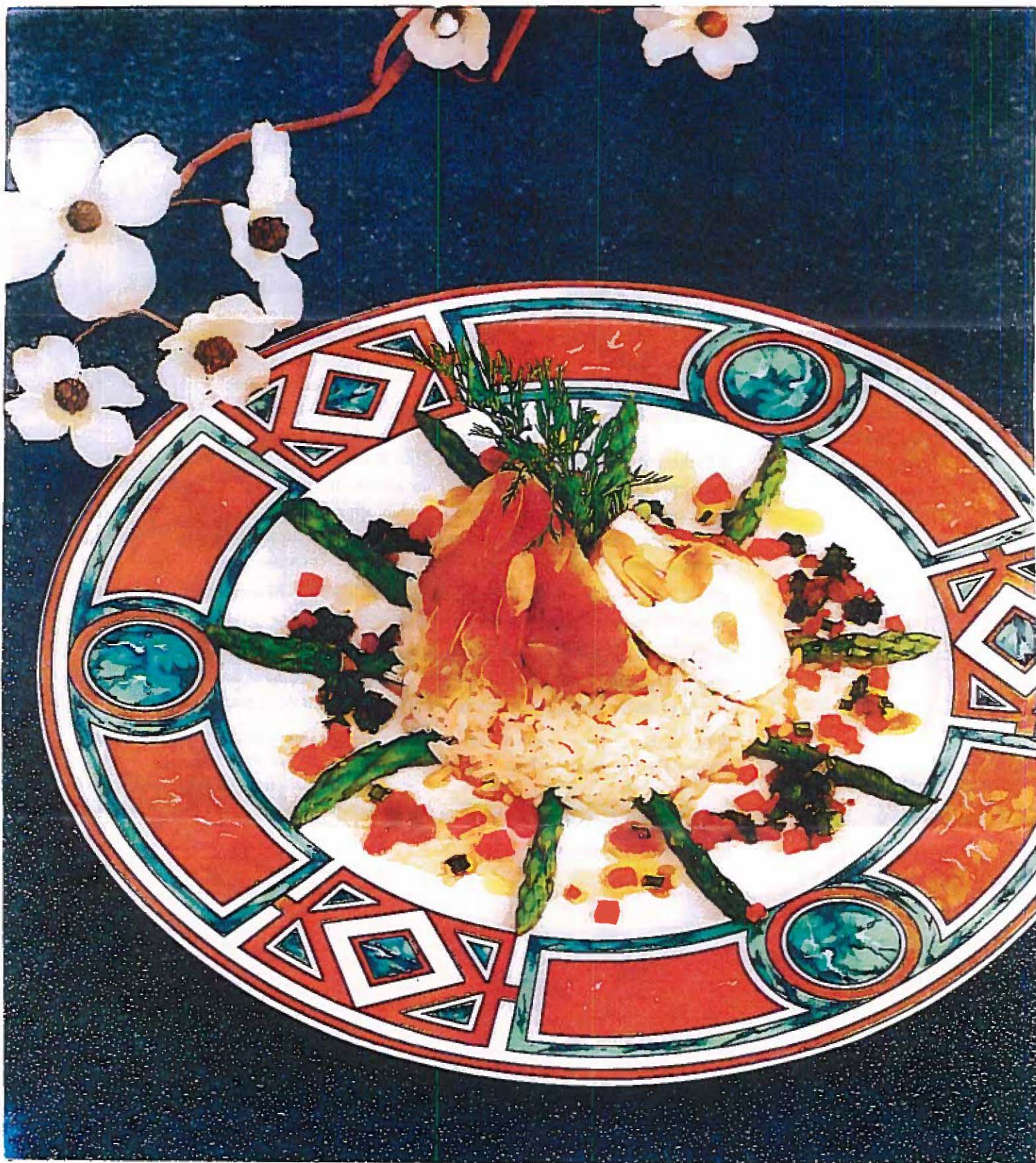
WPC WEB PAGE: WPC1823.COM

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)

September 2016

* Denotes Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				September 1 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	2 Alana Bangura * Ceani Beaden * Monique Haupt *	3 Brooklyn Whitlock *
4 Season of Peace Begins Communion 10:00 AM Sunday Service	5 Labor Day	6	7 Bible Study – 9:30 AM Bible Study – 6:30 PM	8 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	9 Shaka Benton *	10 Ava Marie Johnson *
11 Patriot Day Grandparents Day Christian Educa. Week Alexander Jefferson * Yvonne Lewis * Communion 10:00 AM Sunday Service	12	13 Worship Committee Meets – 9:00 AM	14 Bible Study – 9:30 AM Bible Study – 6:30 PM	15 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM Sylvia Finn *	16 Freida Carter * POW/MIA Recognition Day	17
18 Theological Education/Seminaries 10:00 AM Sunday Service Joash Chest	19 Session meets 6:30PM	20	21 Bible Study – 9:30 AM Bible Study – 6:30 PM International Day of Peace	22 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM Gail Scott * First Day of Autumn Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence	23 Stephanie Mitchell * Native American Day	24
25 Amanda Davis * Onya (Jones) Tanis * Evangelism Sunday/ Gifts of New Immigrants 10:00 AM Sunday Service	26	27	28 Bible Study – 9:30 AM Bible Study – 6:30 PM	29 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	30	



Chinese-Style Asparagus Chicken

SERVES 6

For a beautiful presentation, remember to slice the chicken breasts on the bias and fan them out on the plate. If asparagus is not in season, try substituting string beans.

Flour, for dredging	4 tablespoons green onions, green parts only, chopped
6 (4-ounce) boneless and skinless chicken breast halves	1 1/2 pounds asparagus, trimmed and cut into 2-inch pieces
2 tablespoons vegetable oil	1/2 cup chicken stock (homemade or low-sodium canned)
1/2 cup sliced almonds	2 tablespoons soy sauce
3 cloves garlic, minced, plus 1/3 teaspoon oil, or 1 1/2 teaspoons prepared minced garlic (see page 17)	1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes or hot bean paste (available in Asian markets)
1/2 tablespoon chopped ginger or 1/2 teaspoon powdered ginger	1 tablespoon vinegar, preferably rice wine

* Preheat the oven to 350° F. Place the flour in a shallow bowl, dredge the chicken in flour, coating both sides, and shake off any excess. In a large sauté pan over medium-high heat, sauté the chicken in oil until golden, approximately 3 to 4 minutes on each side. Transfer the chicken from pan to a baking sheet and finish cooking in the oven for approximately 10 minutes, or until cooked through. Set aside.

* While the oven is still on, place the almonds on a baking sheet and toast for approximately 10 minutes, or until golden and aromatic. Set aside.

* Add the garlic, ginger, and 3 tablespoons of scallions to the sauté pan and cook over medium heat for 1 minute, or until they release their aroma. Add the asparagus and 1/4 cup of stock, cover, and steam for 2 minutes, or until done but still firm.

* Stir in the soy sauce, pepper flakes, vinegar, and remaining stock, bring to boil, and remove the pan from the heat.

* To serve, slice each chicken breast on the bias into 3 or 4 medallions and fan them across each plate. Drizzle the sauce on top and garnish with the reserved green scallions and toasted almonds.

LATE NIGHT MEETING

Late hours and fast pace frequently made Nancy's profession increasingly stressful and troublesome. This night was more exhausting than most. Nancy glanced at the clock. One hour to go until she could finally return home. In the back of her mind, she knew where she wanted to be. Nancy looked forward to her time alone with God. Just Him, herself, and the calm.

Nancy wheeled into the driveway. Home at last. Her throbbing feet stumbled to the door. While she turned the key in the lock, Nancy became aware of a silvery moon's reflection. She turned and stared. How it shone in all its white splendor, as though it was lighting her way.

Nancy crept in silently, so she wouldn't wake her family. Her body ached for sleep, but she was too filled with strain to even try. She paused for a moment and listened to the soft, even breathing coming from the bedrooms. Even the dog lay quietly. He knew it was Nancy. No bother.

She sank into a chair near the window and carefully pulled open the curtain. Faint morning shadows played across the yard. By now the birds twittered from nearby trees. A wild rabbit gingerly bounced from bush to bush. It glanced up at the window, paid Nancy no heed, and went on with its morning rounds.

Silence. Pure tranquility. Nancy pushed the window open and felt the chilly air caress her face. She could feel God's presence as though He had been waiting up for her like a faithful friend.

Little by little she shared her experiences with God. She complained and worried, laughed and cried, telling Him of each circumstance, asking for guidance. Finally, she thanked Him for carrying her through another night and keeping her safe.

Nancy leaned back and began reading her Bible. She listened while God tended her needs and advised her through His word.

She brought her family and friends to His late-night throne, thanking and praising Him for past answers to prayers. She placed each of her loved ones' needs before God and released them to His care.

Her body relaxed, her eyelids grew heavy. "Rest, my beloved", she felt Him say.

Nancy creaked to her feet, gently closed the window, and shuffled toward a comfortable, welcoming bed.

"Thank You for meeting me here, Lord", she whispered back.

THE FORUM

REGISTER TO VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

Before the writer settles into the main subject of the column, politics of course, I would like to just state a few points about the direction this world we live is headed to or leaning into - - a wrong alignment. It seems as though the world and the United States of America is bursting at the seams or coming apart by degrees.

The news media is full of civil war, genocide, border wars, hatred and a free flow of terrorism throughout the Middle East and Europe. It seems as though civilization itself is under attack. WHAT IS WRONG WITH US, as a people, particularly in the United States? Mud-slinging and name calling is par for the course. It seems the politicians are free to label each other as bigoted, biased and prejudiced toward certain groups of people, particularly African-Americans and other minority groups. What does the future hold for us all if this type of nonsense continues? What does the future hold for our children who are listening? We talk so much about leaving a lasting impression and a safe place for the younger generation, yet we seem to wantonly destroy the planet earth. So let's see if we can all become more civil to one another.

Register to vote!! Please. Yes, sometimes you may wonder if it is worthwhile. Definitely. In some states of the good ole USA governmental legislators have established roadblocks to make it hard to register. In Pennsylvania they tried desperately to hinder minorities to do so. Now you can register ONLINE. You have until October 4, 2016 to register on the internet or at your County Registration Office. The online registration has been a great success throughout the state. So tell friends, peers and neighbors to "get moving" in order to vote in the "Presidential" election November 8, 2016.

It is high time we all begin to unleash kind acts of civility toward one another. As the Presidential election grows more and more contentious it does not seem to be pointing in that direction as the candidates continue to blow each other out of the water. It makes one wonder which candidate is best suited to serve our country, lead the free world and meet the needs of everyday people in the USA. Maybe this election is a choice between "the lesser of two evils", but we have to select one. The two major political parties are the only way to go! One candidate is an antagonist who sees no value in his opponent and that things are so bad in this country, he plans to 'make it better'. The other states options of working together as a country and getting things done TOGETHER.

Although two other candidates are in the mix, a Libertarian and a Green Party Aspirant, do not waste your vote on these two as they do not have a chance to win. MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT. As for the writer and his friends, peers and neighbors we are voting Democratic all the way. Stick with a winner!

If you see something suspicious, say something. Call 911 – Code 2040.

That's all folks!

Credits: NY Times, Reading Eagle, Time Magazine

THOUGHT TO PONDER

Verse of the Month

Walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every work,
and increasing in the knowledge of God. Colossians 1:10

Scriptures are in red letters, footnotes are in black letters

THE CALLING OF THE FIRST DISCIPLES Luke 5:1-11

1:1-2 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake Gennesaret, with the people crowding around him and listening to the word of God, 2 he saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets.

5:1-2 The Lake of Gennesaret was also known as the Sea of Galilee or the Sea of Tiberias. 2 Fishermen on the Sea of Galilee used nets, often bell-shaped nets with lead weights around the edges. A net would be thrown flat onto the water, and the lead weights would cause it to sink around the fish. Then the fishermen would pull on a cord, drawing the net around the fish. Nets had to be kept in good condition, so they were washed to remove weeds and then mended. NIVLASB NIV Life Application Study Bible

5:3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

5:4-5 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

5:6 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. (But because you say so), I will let down the nets."

5:6-11 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. 7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. 8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" 9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, 10 and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men." 11 So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

5:8 Simon (Peter) was awestruck at the miracle, and his first response was to feel his own insignificance in comparison to this man's (Jesus') greatness. Peter knew that Jesus had healed the sick and driven out demons, but he was amazed that Jesus cared about his day-to-day routine and understood his needs. God is interested not only in saving us, but also in helping us in our daily activities.

5:11 There are two requirements for coming to God. Like Peter, we must recognize our own sinfulness. Then, like these fishermen, we must realize that we can't save ourselves. If we know that we need help, and if we know that Jesus is the only one who can help us, we will be ready to leave everything and follow him.

5:11 This was the disciples' second call. After the first call (Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20), Peter, Andrew, James, and John had gone back to fishing. They continued to watch Jesus, however, as he established his authority in the synagogue, healed the sick, and drove out demons. Here he also established his authority in their lives—he met them on their level and helped them in their work. From this point on, they left their nets and remained with Jesus. For us, following Jesus means more than just acknowledging him as Savior. We must leave our past behind and commit our future to him. NIVLASV

DEEPER WATER

[Jesus] said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch. Luke 5:4

Jesus' suggestion to the men who were to become his disciples was much more than a favor done to repay them for the use of their boat or a hint about catching fish after an otherwise unproductive day. The fishermen were tired, aching for rest. Can't you just imagine them saying, "Go out again? And into deep water?" The miracle that day wasn't only the glut of fish they caught; it was also the willingness of Peter and the others to heed Jesus' /*/command. Their readiness foreshadowed the devotion to him that would characterize the rest of their lives.

When we Christians concern ourselves only with the contentment we find in our own salvation, we are like unproductive anglers fishing too near the bank. To truly follow Jesus may require us to launch out into "deeper water," to get in over our heads. Whether by an act of kindness, a word of witness, or a whispered prayer, our lives and actions each day can model the active Christianity to which we, like those first disciples, have been called.

*(From the)
UPPER ROOM

TO BE FIT FOR GOD

THOU MAKER AND SUSTAINER OF ALL THINGS ,

Day and night are thine,
heaven and earth declare thy glory;
but I, a creature of thy power and bounty,
have sinned against thee

by resisting the dictates of conscience,
the demands of thy law,
the calls of thy gospel;

yet I live under the dispensation of a given hope.

Deliver me from worldly dispositions
for I am born from above and bound for glory.

May I view and long after holiness
as the beauty and dignity of the soul.

Let me never slumber, never lose my assurance,
never fail to wear armour when passing through enemy land.

Fit me for every scene and circumstance;
Stay my mind upon thee and turn my trials to blessings,
that they may draw out my gratitude and praise
as I see their design and effects.

Render my obedience to thy will holy, natural, and delightful.

Rectify all my principles by clear, consistent,
and influential views of divine truth.

Let me never undervalue or neglect any part of thy revealed will.

May I duly regard the doctrine and practice of the gospel,
prizing its commands as well as its promises.

Sanctify me in every relation, office, transaction
and condition of life,
that if I prosper I may not be unduly exalted,
if I suffer I may not be over-sorrowful.

Balance my mind in all varying circumstances
and help me to cultivate a disposition
that renders every duty a spiritual privilege.

Thus may I be content, be a glory to thee
and an example to others. Amen.