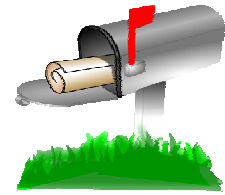




# Senior Connection



Articles, News and Activities Calendar  
For Senior Members at Netherwood Park Church of Christ  
May 2012 Vol 8 Issue 5 MLB

*Theme for 2012: "United in spirit, intent on one purpose."  
Philippians 2:2*

**SENIOR FELLOWSHIP THIS FRIDAY May 18TH**

## ***Sharing Our Love***

May Senior Luncheon

**Catered by Whole Hog Barbeque**

\$7.00 per person, payable at the door

- 11:30 Catered lunch by Whole Hog Barbeque
- 12:25 ANNOUNCEMENTS: Louise Pitts
- 12:35 DEVOTIONAL: Gary McGlasson
- 12:50 ENTERTAINMENT: Bob McNicol- Metal Detecting

Hosts: Billie Rice, Glenda Gray, Willie Mae Caddell  
Decorations: Nancy Clements, Jean Sims, Ina Hughes, Carol Vincent

**COME ENJOY GREAT FELLOWSHIP**

**We Are Family**



*Theme for 2012: "United in spirit, intent on one purpose."  
Philippians 2:2*

# What's Going On

By Penelope McCashland

## April Happenings

- ❖ Fifty-four seniors fellowshiped and enjoyed our April Luncheon. Twenty-one moviegoers enjoyed our senior cinema.
- ❖ We know there are many wonderful personal stories, which all would like to hear. If you would like to share a story or a poem with us please submit your story or poem to Penelope McCashland at [p.mccashland@comcast.net](mailto:p.mccashland@comcast.net) by June 12th for our next issue of the "Connection".

## *COMING SOON!*

## May Happenings

- |        |         |  |
|--------|---------|--|
| May 17 | 6:30pm  | Ladies "Pokeno" in the Library (last until Fall)   |
| May 18 | 11:30am | Senior Potluck   |
| May 20 |         | Graduation Sunday with potluck following Bible Class in the gym- see bulletin for what food to bring |
| May 25 | 6pm     | "42" game night @ Nancy Clements house – RSVP if you can come and bring favorite snack               |
| May 28 |         | <b>Office Closed for Memorial Day Holiday</b>  |

## June Happenings

- |            |                |  |
|------------|----------------|--|
| June 1     | 1:15pm         | Senior Cinema – "Courageous"   |
|            | 6:30pm         | Book Club – meet in Library – "Rooms" by James Rubart  |
| June 3     |                | Aluminum Recycling – bring cans and scraps to southwest corner by office and leave by fence or throw over the fence.     |
| June 9     | 9:45am-3:30Ppm | Vacation Bible School – church & gym   |
| June 10    | 5pm            | Annual Summer Area wide at Netherwood, followed by a Taco Dinner fundraiser for the Christian Student Center in the gym. |
| June 11    | 7:45pm         | Ladies Coffee at the Flying Star Restaurant on Paseo del Norte.  |
| June 16    |                | Wedding Shower for Makenzie Moss at the home of Susie Alcon  |
| June 23-27 |                | Red River Family Encampment  |
| June 23    | 2-4pm          | Wedding Shower for Heather Nestor – commons area   |
| June 25    | 7:45pm         | Ladies Coffee at Flying Star on Paseo del Norte.   |
| June 29    | 6pm            | "42" game night @ Nancy Clements house – RSVP if you can come and bring favorite snack                                   |

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**May Birthdays**

Sheila Banks	05/20
Dwight Marpel	05/22
Billie Rice	05/25
Angie Carder	05/31

**June Birthdays**

Margaret Owens	06/01
Prebble Alcon	06/01
Carol Buckhave	06/11
Bill Rogers	06/16 (91 years of age)
June Barber	06/17
Carolyn Thompson	06/18
Lewis Granados	06/21
David Wilkins	06/27

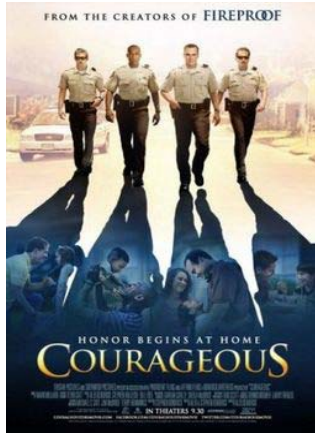
# Happy Anniversary

**May Anniversaries**

Scot & Paula Ruska	May 19, 1984	28 years
George & Billie Rice	May 24, 1969	43 years
David & LaNell Wilkins	May 26, 1967	45 years

**June Anniversaries**

Duane & Jackie Miller	June 5, 1948	64 years
Ross & Chrystine Hinshaw	June 7, 1942	70 years
Arthur & Peggy Conard	June 12, 1972	40 years
Dwight & LuAnn Marpel	June 17, 1972	40 years
John & Sheryl Arvey	June 19, 1964	48 years
Jim & Mary Guthrie	June 25, 1960	52 years



## Courageous

“Courageous” is a challenge to “men of courage,” to fathers to measure up to the Biblical definition of the word. It follows four Albany, Georgia sheriff’s deputies who are tested by the small city’s gang and drug problems, something the sheriff identifies, through statistics, as being the product of kids growing up in fatherless homes. The deputies — Adam (Alex Kendrick), Nathan (Ken Bevel), Shane (Kevin Downes) and David (Ben Davies) — are close enough friends to talk about their personal lives, with Adam and Nathan pointing to God and the Bible as their guideposts for how to live those lives.

Adam frets over the father he wants to be to his young daughter and aspiring track star teenage son. Nathan is trying to keep his 15 year-old daughter beyond the reach of “saggy pants” older teens who are nothing but trouble to girls that age. Shane and David have different backgrounds and just listen, patiently, to their proselytizing colleagues.

Nathan wonders “where all the good fathers went to,” and demonstrates a good father’s vigilance when he asks a would-be gang banger (Donald Howze) to “explain the purpose of the relationship” the kid wants with his daughter, Jade. Derrick has just asked her to go “hang out,” and is seriously put out. That’s Nathan’s teachable moment with Jade (Taylor Hutcherson).

“If he shows no respect for us, he won’t respect you.”

The story drags in a hard-working immigrant, Javier (Robert Amaya), whose complaints to God about losing his job are met in a “The Lord will provide” instant by a mistaken identity hire that brings him into the orbit of the deputies.

“Courageous” is often a soapy melodrama, but that doesn’t mean there aren’t moving moments — a eulogy, a father’s desperate efforts to stop a carjacking. And there’s more humor, toying with stereotypes, playing around with miscommunication.

The message delivered isn’t subtle, with Kendrick delivering toss-away lines that suggest he doesn’t even tolerate “the option” of divorce. But the bigger message might be that the Kendricks haven’t sold out, “gone Hollywood” or watered down their Baptist beliefs based on efforts to reach an audience beyond the faithful. It’s interesting to track the growing cinematic sophistication of those preaching/filmmaking brothers from “Facing the Giants” to their breakout hit “Fireproof” to their latest film. Come join us and see this powerful movie.

Submitted by Laura Riehl

**Friday, June 1, 2012**





## On the Front Porch

Last month I took you down memory lane with a visit to 1959 when I graduated from high school. There was a poem I wanted to include but there was not enough space. So I would like to share it this month. It was in our reunion book but no author was given.

Long ago and far away, in a land that time forgot,  
Before the days of Dylan or the dawn of Camelot,  
There lived a race of innocents, and they were you and me.

For FDR was in the White House in that land where we were born,  
Where navels were for oranges and Peyton Place was porn.  
We learned to gut a muffler, we washed our hair at dawn,  
We spread our crinolines to dry in circles on the lawn.

We longed for love and romance, and waited for our Prince,  
And Eddie Fisher married Liz, and no one's seen him since.  
We danced to 'Little Darlin', and sang to 'Stagger Lee'.  
And cried for Buddy Holly in the land that made me, me.

Only girls wore earrings, and 3 was one too many,  
And only boys wore flat-top cuts, except for Jean McKinney.  
And only in our wildest dreams did we expect to see a boy named George with lipstick,  
In the land that made me, me.

We fell for Frankie Avalon, Annette was oh, so nice,  
and when they made a movie, they never made it twice.  
We didn't have Star Trek Five, or Psycho Two and Three,  
Or Rocky-Rambo twenty in the land that made me, me

Miss Kitty had a heart of gold and Chester had a limp,  
Reagan was a Democrat whose co-star was a chimp.  
We had a Mr. Wizard, but not a Mr. T, and Oprah couldn't talk yet,  
in the land that made me, me.

We had our share of heroes, we never thought they'd go,  
At least not Bobby Darin or Marilyn Monroe.  
For youth was still eternal and life was yet to be  
And Elvis was forever in the land that made me, me.

We'd never seen the rock band that was Grateful to be Dead,  
And Airplanes weren't named Jefferson and Zeppelins were not Led.

And Beatles lived in the gardens then and Monkees lived in trees,  
and Madonna was Mary in the land that made me, me.

We'd never heard of microwaves or telephones in cars,  
And babies might be bottle-fed but they weren't grown in jars,  
And pumping iron got wrinkles out and 'gay' meant fancy-free,  
And dorms were never co-ed in the land that made me, me.

We hadn't seen enough jets to talk about lag,  
and microchips were what were left in the bottom of the bag,  
And hardware was a box of nails, and bytes came from a flea,  
And rocket ships were fiction in the land that made me, me.

Buicks came with portholes and side shows came with freaks,  
and bathing suits came big enough to cover both your cheeks.  
And Coke came just in bottles, and skirts below the knee,  
And Castro came to power near the land that made me, me.

We had no Crest with Fluoride, we had no Hill Street Blues,  
We had not patterned pantyhose or Lipton herbal tea,  
Or prime time ads for those dysfunctions in the land that made me, me.

There were no Golden Arches, no Perrier to chill,  
and fish were not called Wanda and cats were not called Bill.  
And middle-age was thirty-five and old was forty-three,  
And ancient were our parents in the land that made me, me.

But all things have a reason, or so we've heard them say,  
And not instead of Maybelline we swear by Retin-A  
They send us invitations to join AARP, we've come a long way, Baby,  
From the land that made me, me.

So now we face a brave new world in slightly larger jeans,  
and wonder why they're using smaller print in magazines.  
And we tell our children's children of the way it used to be,  
Long ago and far away in the land that made me, me.

Leta Bassham

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## “Mother”

When I was a small child and pain sorrow  
would come my way,  
I would climb onto the lap and into the  
Loving arms of a dear mother,  
who would kiss away the tear, and with words so soft  
they were almost a whisper.  
She would tell me stories of God’s Love for me,  
and there in the arms of that dear Loving mother  
was the safest place in the world.  
As a teen and young adult, when the cares seemed so  
great and unable to bear she would hold me close at her  
side, in her loving arms, and with words so soft  
they were almost a whisper she would remind me of  
God’s Love for me and of the gift of grace  
that could erase all tears and pain.  
There in the arms of that dear Loving Mother and in Jesus  
Christ is the safest place in the world.

Bill Williams



## The Promise of Comfort

By Dave Wilkins



Separate thoughts converged recently about comfort. In a recent sermon David quoted someone with a statement about “comforts of a non-conformist”. I then thought of Hobo Jack on the show American Pickers. This bearded long-haired old man lives amid his junk. It is piled into sheds that one has to crawl into, his driveway and paths are lined with junk covered with moisture dripping plastic. He doesn’t seem to care about money. He has plans for most of his treasures even though we normal people see that he cannot possibly sort all of the junk let alone use it. My definition of comfort is to be at ease. The Macmillan dictionary defines comfort as [a physically relaxed state, without any pain or other unpleasant feelings](#). Hobo Jack seems perfectly content and comfortable as Hobo Jack. When we hear the word comfort most of us probably think of the physical aspect of the comfort. Scripturally there are several aspects beyond the physical, all good things.

In our time and space we expect physical comfort, it is almost a given and if we don’t have it we expect it soon from the medical field, from the government, or from our families. We are looking at sources that can help us but they do not provide the ultimate in physical comfort. 2 Co 1:3-4 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God” tells us we can expect physical comfort from God and Christ and in turn we can comfort others. Heb. 10:32-34 gives us an example of those that received comfort in affliction and also gave comfort ”But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, sometimes being publicly exposed to abuse and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. For you had compassion on the prisoners, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one.”

Mental comfort is something most of us do not think about very often but is definitely a part of life and well-being. Paul tells about his mental comfort and that of Titus’ because of actions of the Colossians. 2 Col 7: 13 “Therefore we are comforted. And besides our own comfort we rejoiced still more at the joy of Titus, because his mind has been set at rest by you all.” How many times do we do a deed with the idea that it provides mental comfort to the recipient or to someone who is aware of what we did? Even though we seldom evaluate our actions relative to how it will influence the mental comfort of others it is a comforting thought to



know that actions throughout our lives may provide that mental comfort directly and indirectly to others.

Spiritual comfort can only come from the mercy of God; 2 Co 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort”. Because of God’s plan and Christ’s sacrifice we have spiritual comfort. Because we know (have the hope of) salvation (spiritual comfort) our spiritual comfort should never be diminished. With the promise in Ephesians 1:3-4 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him” we need to allow ourselves spiritual comfort.

2 Th 2:16 “Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace”. This verse tells we have eternal comfort. The word eternal has the connotation of forever, that is, we are now in eternal life so we have eternal comfort now and forever. What more can we ask or expect for our frail lives on this earth? We cannot draw any conclusions about Hobo Jack’s physical or spiritual comfort level. It does appear that he has mental comfort. We cannot draw any conclusions about his eternal comfort, we can however, be at ease that we Christians have every assurance of eternal comfort because of “God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort.”



## My Love Affair with Birds

By: Penelope McCashland



When I was about 3 years old, a picture was snapped of me sneaking up on a robin in my Grandparent’s lawn, under the watchful eyes of my beloved Grandfather. Thus began my love of birds.

As I grew up in Fairbanks, Alaska, where the winters are long, and the summers short, we watched for the first Robin of Spring with great anticipation. Then we knew that the long, cold winter was coming to an end.

The Chickadees, who remained all winter long, were very special to us. My mother called me Chickadee, which I think had more to do with W.C. Fields, than the little black and grey birds.

For as long as I can remember while I was growing up, my Mother had canaries in our home. They were called “Roller Canaries”, because they had a warbling song that was called “rolling”. When I was a teenager, I got a blue parakeet, a very clever bird that learned to sing like the canaries.

After my marriage, I got a parakeet which became very tame. He was so fearless that he would ride around on my shoulder as I vacuumed. His curiosity was so great that he dived into the dishwasher while I was doing dishes, and luckily, he survived, but did not repeat, this adventure.

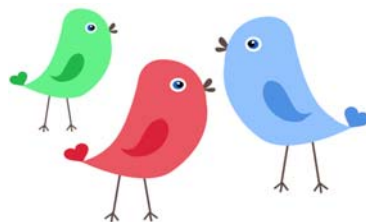
While in Alaska, a friend and I joined a bird watching expedition in Anchorage, Alaska, where we observed nesting birds in the great swamps outside of town. We walked on wooden walkways built into the swamps, and watch through binoculars as the birds built their nests and sometimes even witnessed nests full of eggs, being attended by the parents.

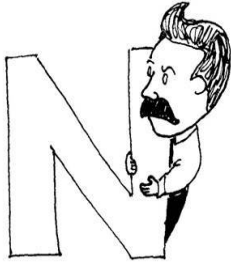
On a cruise out of Seward, Alaska, we saw many birds, from the playful puffins who “fly” above and below the water, to falcons, kittiwakes, and most wonderful of all, an eagle who caught a fish, and flew up to its nest to feed the hungry babies waiting there.

As you may know, the mosquitoes in Alaska are large and many. So Swallow houses are put up in many yards, and the little tuxedo-clad birds swoop and dive, scooping up the mosquitoes in their flight. It is a lovely and natural form of pest control.

Here in Albuquerque, I enjoy the birds who visit my feeders, when I am fortunate enough to be outside when they feed. I’ve seen many doves, who visit regularly, but I am not yet familiar with the names of the smaller birds who occasionally visit. I now have a guide to the local birds, and will be working to identify the feathered friends who reside here in Albuquerque.

To me, of all God’s wonderful and amazing creatures, the birds are by far my favorite. I love their freedom, and their adaptability. No matter what we, as humans do, to destroy a certain habitat, the birds seem to find a place to nest and continue their species. They fill our lives with beauty and song. I thank God for these lovely winged friends.





**Ask David.....**

***“Do the ‘dead’ sleep? Is the soul conscious after death?”***

One thing to keep in mind on answering this question is that sometimes the word “sleep” (whichever of the two Greek words are used) can be used either literally or figuratively. In other words, sometimes it means “sleep” and sometimes it means “death”, depending on the context involved. John 11 and the situation with Lazarus is a good illustration of that teaching. Jesus kept trying to tell them Lazarus was “asleep” to take away from the harsh reality of death, and finally just had to plainly say that Lazarus had died.

Another thing to keep in mind is that the biblical contexts (particularly in the New Testament) will use the terms interchangeably to draw our attention to God’s perspective and God’s power. He treats death as though it is a mere sleep. Jesus, in Mark 5, does that with the daughter of Jairus. His daughter actually was dead, but Jesus has the power over that enemy. So, the context helps determine how the word is being used.

There is a teaching that purports that the “soul” sleeps in depicting the death of a person, even though the body is under consideration. There is no New Testament passage to support that idea.

When one sees the word “sleep” and understands that in the contexts it is God’s point of view and our view of His power over death, it’s easier and impressive to just call death a “sleep”. It becomes a very encouraging figure of speech for our faith. Throughout the Bible, especially the New Testament, that is what you see as you study.

The Bible does teach that the soul is conscious after death. Stories like the Rich Man and Lazarus (different one, and which I believe is a true story, even if it is in parable form) in Luke 16, or the scene on the Mount of Transfiguration in Luke 9 and Matthew 17, and the vision in Revelation 6:9-11 reflect that truth. Deeper teachings of death being a mere “sleep” are found in 1 Thessalonians 4 and 1 Corinthians 15.

This is just another reminder for us to study the Bible for ourselves because (1) no one person has all the answers, and (2) be careful of accepting any new and strange teaching that comes along. (DN)

*Senior Potluck Luncheon  
May 18, 2012  
This Friday At 11:30 AM*

*Articles for the June "Connection"  
Are due June 12, 2012*

*Netherwood Park Church of Christ  
5101 Indian School Road NE  
(I-40 at San Mateo exit south)  
Albuquerque, NM 87110*

*May 2012*

***SENIOR CONNECTION***