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Plan Ahead for a Season of Faith, Fun, and Fellowship



(More info on pg. 16)

Wayside Christian Church Christmas Play

Originally scheduled for December 14 and postponed due to snow, Wayside Christian Church's Christmas play was beautifully presented on January 11. The production offered a faith-based twist on *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, using rhyming verse to highlight the importance of Christ and the power of prayer. Both children and adults delivered a tremendous performance, culminating in Minister Ron Lutes reciting an elaborate poem entirely from memory. A truly brilliant production in Berea. Scan the Q.R. code above to watch a snippet of a scene!



Grinch Stole Christmas, using rhyming verse to highlight the importance of Christ and the power of prayer. Both children and adults delivered a tremendous performance, culminating in Minister Ron Lutes reciting an elaborate poem entirely from memory. A truly brilliant production in Berea. Scan the Q.R. code above to watch a snippet of a scene!

Standing Shoulder to Shoulder with President Trump

ALVARADO FOR CONGRESS



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Ralph Alvarado — a Christian, husband, father and physician running for Congress to represent Kentucky's Sixth District. He's not a career politician — he's a doctor and conservative fighter who will stand up for Kentuckians first in Washington.

Donna Agee is a lifelong public servant, healthcare leader, and proud Madison County resident with over 30 years of experience serving Central Kentucky. A registered nurse and ECU graduate, she has led major healthcare organizations, expanded access to care, and championed the underserved. Raised on a small Kentucky farm and grounded in faith, Donna believes leadership is built on service, integrity, and compassion. Married to her sweetheart, Mike, for 38 years, she's a devoted wife, mother, and grand-mother — and she's ready to lead Madison County with wisdom, humility, and heart this Valentine's Day and beyond.

Don't miss the Campaign Reception: Sat., Feb. 7th, 5-8 pm. Located at the Mule Barn at Arlington-1510 Lexington Rd., Richmond.

REPUBLICAN
DONNA AGEE

ELECTION DAY: MAY 19, 2026

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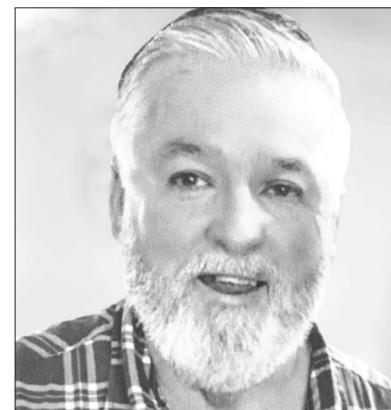
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Judith A. Suder



July 17, 1943-January 14, 2026

Visit davisandpowellfuneralhome.com for full obituary information

Hector D.J. Coria



Dec. 8, 1989 - Nov. 21, 2025

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Rev. Gerald Lee Powell



July 20, 1952 - Nov. 19, 2025

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Lucy Eileen Smith



April 25, 1939 - Jan. 12, 2026

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Events

DONNA AGEE CAMPAIGN RECEPTION

Don't miss it! Sat., Feb. 7th, 5-8 pm. Located at the Mule Barn at Arlington-1510 Lexington Rd., Richmond.

MARY LOU'S BOOKS CHOC-OLATE HOP

Sat. Feb. 7th, Purchase a ticket and visit participating shops to collect chocolates and sweet treats. Shoppers who complete the hop will be entered into a raffle for a prize basket filled with gifts from the participating businesses. 210 N. Broadway, Berea.

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH FRIEND SUNDAY

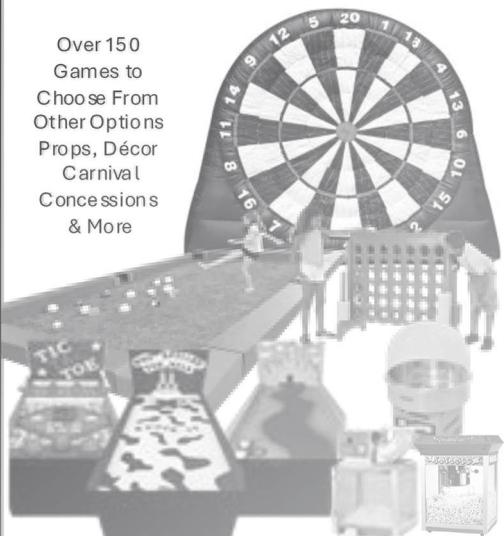
Friend Sunday, February 22nd. Chili and fellowship following the 11 a.m. service. Bring a guest and receive a \$5 GIFT CARD for Dunkin Donuts or Mcdonald's. 3100 Golden Leaf Blvd., Richmond. See Ad on Pg. 12 for more info.

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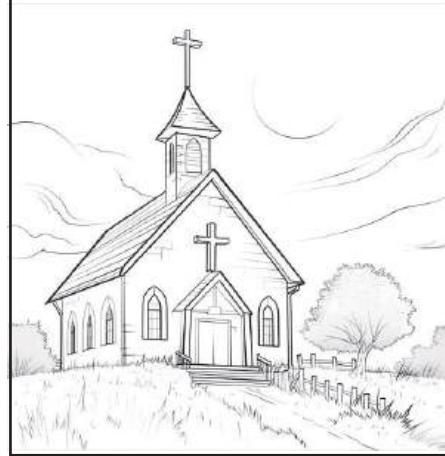


Happy Birthday

Danny Parker, Dr. David O'dell, Julie McEwen, Betty Lynn (Jan) Jeff Horn, Steve Platt, Gina Lindgaard, Rosita Shields, James Allen, Rosalee Langley, and All Fabulous February Birthdays!

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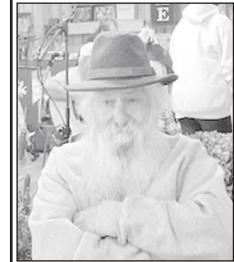
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Happy February!

May your faith outshine the frost.

We invite you to check out the latest *Your Way Yahweh Devotional* at SeekerNews.com, titled "Snowed In and Stirred Up." Inside, you'll find encouraging messages filled with Scripture, music, and more.

Don't forget—our Flip Book is available online, along with extra photos, videos from regional events, and now memorials. Please like, leave kind comments, and share to help spread the encouragement.

Life is a gift, and one wonderful way to enjoy it is by spending an evening with great music and delicious food at Charlie's Pickin' & Grinnin'—see pages 6 and 18 for more.

We also encourage you to worship at the church of your choice. Be sure to visit our Church Directory on page 9 to find a place to connect.

As always, thank you for helping this ministry grow as we celebrate 41 years of service. It is truly an honor and a privilege. Heartfelt thanks to those who submit inspirational articles, photos, and other material; to the businesses that allow us to distribute The Seeker; and to everyone who helps with selling ads, designing layouts, and delivering papers each month. A special thank-you goes to Lewis Settlege, who has faithfully delivered The Seeker for nearly four years. This ministry would not be possible without each of YOU.

If you appreciate The Seeker, we would love to hear from you. Please consider posting a testimonial on our website at SeekerNews.com.

With gratitude and faith,
— The Seeker Team

*A Valentine From the
Heart—Held in
God's Hands*



FROM THE EDITOR

**We Want To Hear From
You. Please Send Any Arti-
cles, Recipes, Jokes, Ads,
or Announcements To:
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CONTACT US AT

**The Seeker Christian News
P.O. Box 302
Berea, KY 40403
Kristi Miller,
Owner/Publisher
859-302-3103
kristimiller1005@gmail.com**

PLEASE NOTE!

The deadline to get material in or out of The Seeker is the 20th of each Month.

All advertisements cancelled after our deadline, which is the 20th of each month, will incur a charge. When advertisements are cancelled on short notice, we do not have ample time to resell the spot(s) and cover our expenses. As always, thank you for your support and consideration.

-The Seeker Christian News

A Valentine Message to Our Seeker Family

This Valentine's season, we want to pause and simply say thank you.

To our faithful readers, generous sponsors, prayer warriors, volunteers, and every friend who supports The Seeker in big ways and small—you are deeply loved and truly appreciated.

At the heart of this ministry is one simple truth: love still matters. Love for God. Love for one another. Love that shows up in encouragement, kindness, generosity, and prayer. Because of you, this love reaches homes, churches, communities, and hearts far beyond what we could ever do alone.

Your support—whether through prayer, partnership, sharing our message, or standing with us month after month—helps make it possible to uplift, inspire, and strengthen faith across our region. Every page turned, every message read, and every story shared is a reflection of God's love working through willing hearts.

This Valentine's Day, we celebrate

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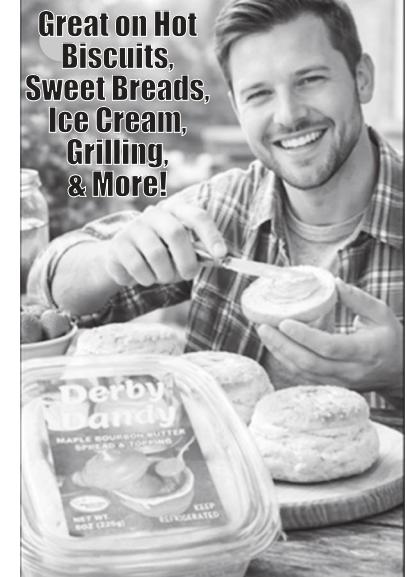
you—the hands and hearts behind this love-centered ministry. May you feel the warmth of God's presence, the joy of His promises, and the assurance that your faithfulness is making a difference.

"Let all that you do be done in love." —
1 Corinthians 16:14

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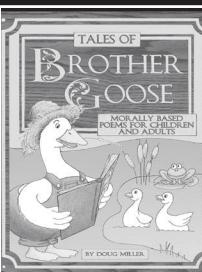
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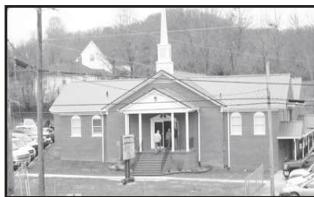
The Seeker 9

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And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

Revelation 21:5 (KJV)

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Berea, KY

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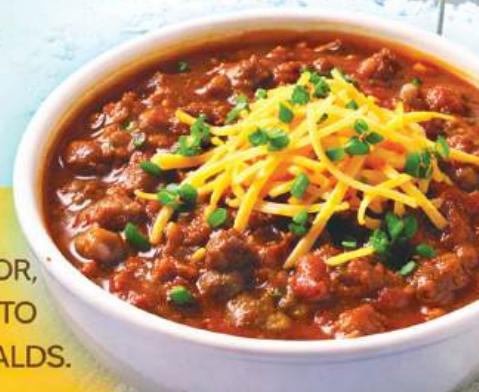


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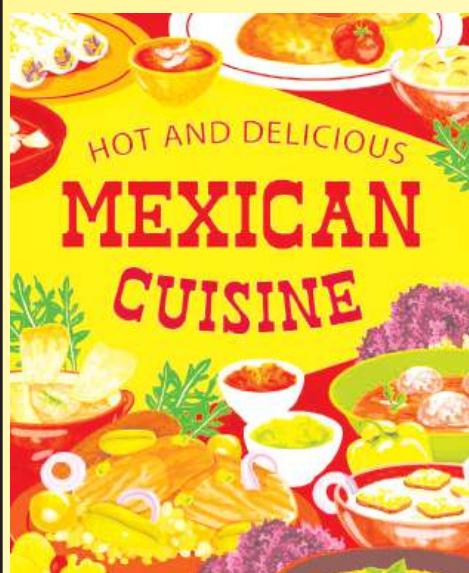


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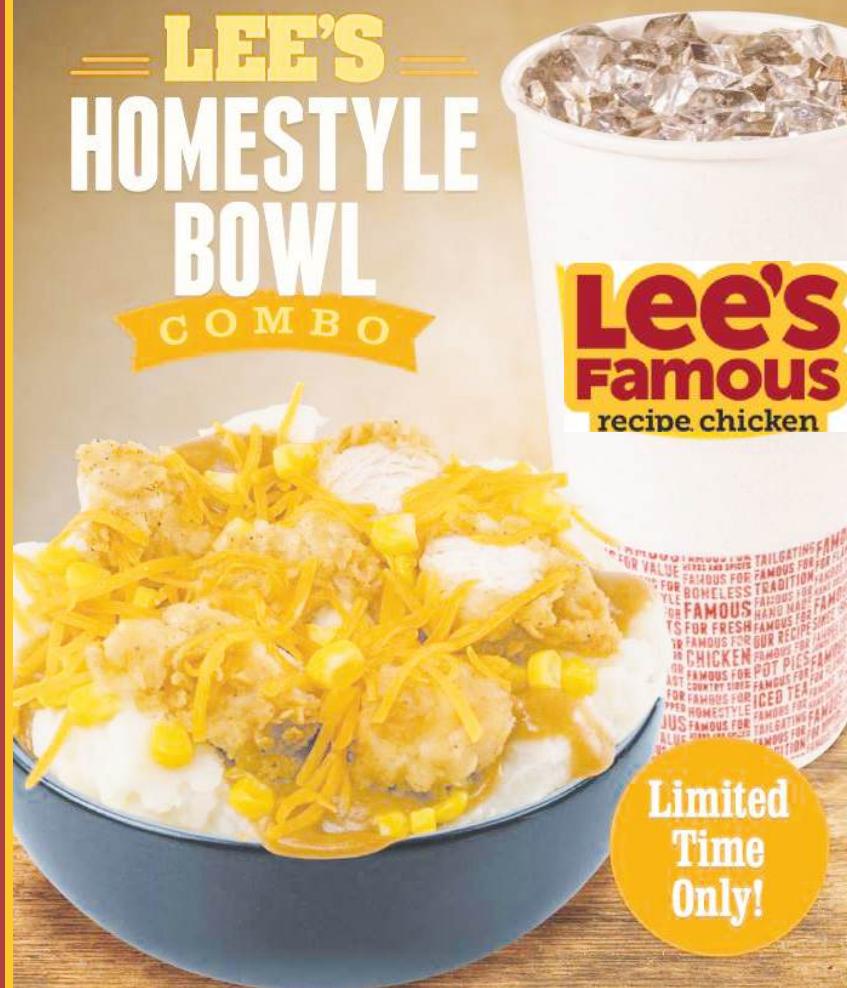
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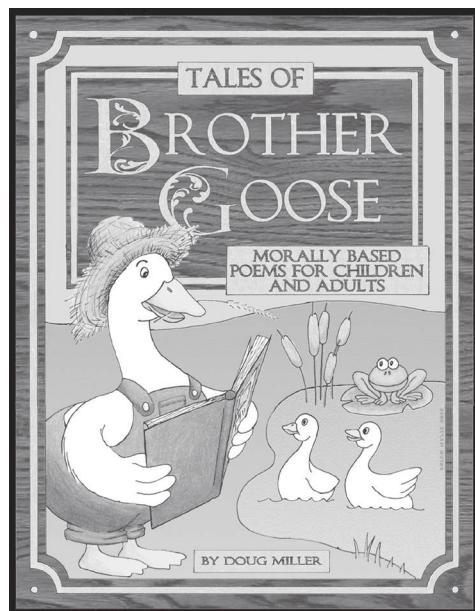
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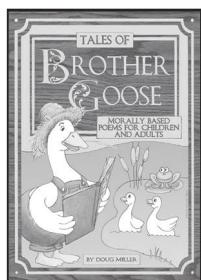
WELCOME TO KIDS CORNER



Who Are These People?

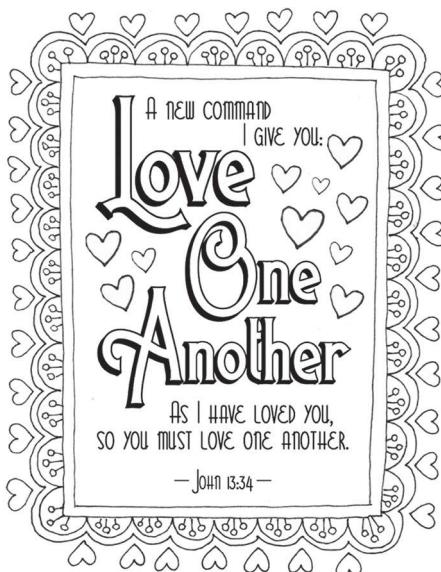
Now hear this and what do you think?
 They come to the well, but they won't drink.
 They're offered bread, but they refuse.
 And sit unmoved there in the pews.
 Offered joy, but they won't take it.
 Offered peace, but they forsake it.
 Given love, but they ignore it
 Given grace, but they're not for it.
 Who are these people that we see?
 They're not that different from you and me.
 Once we wandered off afar.
 Once we were just like they are.
 So we love them and we pray.
 That they'll see the light someday.
 And having faith in our Great Lord,
 That they will gain a good reward.

By Doug Miller,
 Co-founder of The Seeker



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ASK JESUS INTO YOUR HEART

The ABC's of Salvation

A ADMIT that you know you are a sinner and ask God for forgiveness

B BELIEVE in Jesus and that the Bible is true. Pray and ask God into your heart.

C CONFESS that Jesus is your Lord and that you believe he died on the cross for your sins

BIBLE VERSE

1 John 4:8

"Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love" (NIV). This verse highlights that love is the essential nature of God and the defining characteristic of knowing Him, suggesting that a lack of love indicates a lack of relationship with God.



LITTLE LAUGHS

What's a spider's New Year's resolution?
 To spend less time on the web :)

What do you call two birds in love?
 Tweethearts

What did one lightbulb say to the other on Valentine's Day?
 I love you watts and watts.

What did one bee say to the other?
 I love bee-ing with you.



PRESIDENTS DAY

Word Search

P	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E	J	C	K	T	E	E	R	C	O
A	S	I	X	X	U	G	G	S	E	T	F	L	I	V	G	E	I	A
T	J	H	P	Y	N	Y	R	Y	M	K	G	P	R	F	Q	M	J	P
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F	B	E	G	R	M	W	V	R	Q	O	V	A	R	R	Q	C	D	L
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C	C	A	U	U	N	E	B	W	M	C	G	D	G	S	A	K	M	R
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- | | | | |
|------------|------------|---------|-------------|
| AMERICA | FEBRUARY | LEADERS | PARADE |
| BIRTHDAY | FEDERAL | LIBERTY | PATRIOTIC |
| CELEBRATE | FLAG | LINCOLN | REMEMBRANCE |
| CHERRY PIE | FOUR YEARS | MONDAY | TRIBUTE |
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Can be found inside...
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Heres How It Works...

We now will release 3 Lucky Bucks (\$1 dollar bills) into a random location, however we will give you a hint as to where they are spent.

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You have from the 5th of each month when they are released into the public until the 5th day of the following month when the serial numbers expire to turn it into The Seeker. If the dollar is determined to

be a winner, the cash reward will be given at the end of the month. This feature of The Seeker is sponsored by Smith's Tire Center, US 25 North, in Berea, KY. We appreciate their support of this contest. Call (859) 986-2032 or email:

kristimiller1005@gmail.com to make arrangements to meet if you have found the winning number. Three new Lucky Bucks will be released during the first week of each month.

Each month that the Lucky Buck is not retrieved, the cash prize grows by \$100, Thanks to our Sponsor, Smith's Tire Center. (Family and employees of The Seeker Christian News are NOT eligible to win. May take 6 weeks to process. All winners will be photographed and published in the paper)

Fun, Family-Focused Entertainment for Church Events & Community Celebrations



Church events are special moments of fellowship, celebration, and connection. Whether you're hosting a Vacation Bible School kickoff,

church picnic, fall festival, youth group outreach, family fun night, or community block party, you want entertainment that brings people together in wholesome, joyful ways. That's where the Game Guy comes in.

Owned and operated by Scott Keeling — widely known in the community as "the Game Guy" — EventEntertainment.net and Kidspartiesplus.com offer engaging, faith-friendly fun that is delivered to Kentucky, Indiana, and Tennessee. Scott is also a Boom Award nominee for the Jeffersontown Chamber of Commerce.

Entertainment Designed for Families & Faith Communities- Scott Keeling and his team bring nearly three decades of experience helping churches, schools, ministries, and nonprofit organizations host events that are both meaningful and fun. With a passion for encouraging connection, laughter, and shared experiences, Scott makes it easy to plan activities that children, teens, parents, and grandparents can enjoy together.

Games and Activities Everyone Will Love- At Kidspartiesplus.com, the focus is all about interactive and giant games that get people playing together. With over 180 games available — from classic favorites to custom-designed activities — kids and families can enjoy engaging challenges that promote teamwork and friendly competition. Options include:

- Interactive and collaborative games
- Giant versions of favorite classics
- Carnival-style fun that keeps kids laughing
- Custom games tailored to your event



Scott Keeling "Game Guy"

theme event, these games bring joy without ever sacrificing family values.

Your One-Stop Source for Event Entertainment- EventEntertainment.net offers an even broader range of entertainment resources so churches can provide unforgettable experiences. While the site features a full suite of entertainment options, Scott works closely with church leaders and event planners to tailor offerings toward inclusive, family-friendly activities appropriate for all ages.

Scott and his team are known for:

- Fun, uplifting entertainment suited for church environments
- Games and activities that encourage community and fellowship
- Personalized support to help your event run smoothly

What Sets the Game Guy Apart- As both a business owner and someone deeply connected to community and family values, Scott brings more than equipment — he brings heart. Churches rely on his expertise not just for rentals, but for thoughtful planning support and joyful execution. With a reputation for kindness, professionalism, and genuine engagement with children and families, Scott turns ordinary gatherings into memorable celebrations.

Perfect for Every Church Occasion- Whether it's a youth outreach event, harvest festival, family fellowship night, or church fundraiser, Scott Keeling and his team are ready to help you make it special. From giant games and interactive fun to themed activities that delight every generation, your church event will be filled with laughter, connection, and memories that last long after the day is over. **Call "Game Guy," Scott Keeling to schedule a consultation: (270) 696-4386.**



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Robert Johnson Came to a Crossroad... Are You at a Crossroad?

By Bruce Walker ©2025

Before roadmaps, GPS, and well-lit highways, a crossroads was a place of decision. Leaving a medieval village on a familiar path, there were no signs or guideposts. When you reached an intersecting trail with no markers, you waited for someone—anyone—coming from another direction. Which way? Is there danger? Food? Lodging? How far? Those are the same questions we ask as we navigate our lives.

One of the most enduring American stories about crossroads decision-making centers on Robert Johnson, a founding father of the blues and a grandfather of rock and roll. The turning point in Johnson's career is wrapped in legend: a supposed "deal with the devil" at the crossroads of Highways 61 and 49 near Clarksdale, Mississippi, around 1920. Back home near Hazlehurst, Johnson was known as a field hand, not a musician. On Saturday nights, local players gathered to perform. When Robert showed up with his guitar, his playing was so rough that he was asked to quiet down. Yet his desire—his obsession—was to play and sing. After disappearing for several months, he returned one Saturday night, pulled a guitar from a burlap sack, and began to play. From

the first notes, the room went silent. Musicians were riveted. Those who heard him swore there was no way such mastery could be learned so quickly. Rumors spread that it could only be explained by a bargain struck at the crossroads. The legend said that at 61 and 49 you could trade your soul for what you wanted. Stand at the crossing, look east and west, call on Satan—and he would appear. Johnson, the story goes, made a Faustian pact. The phrase describes a bargain where integrity is traded for gain—selling who you are for who you wish to become. Across history and literature, echoes of such moments appear—from Plato to Shakespeare to Robert Frost—where choices at a fork in the road determine a life.

Johnson's career was brief and tragic. He drew large crowds, recorded a small but powerful body of work, and died at 27—poisoned, it is believed, by a jealous husband. His influence, however, was enormous. Bob Dylan, The Rolling Stones, and The Beatles all revered him and learned from his music.

After Johnson's death, a handwritten line was reportedly found in his guitar case by his sister, Carrie H. Thompson:

"Jesus of Nazareth, King of Jerusalem, I know my Redeemer liveth and that He will call me from the grave." Even if he made the wrong choice at the crossroads, he recognized his mistake and turned toward grace. It is never too late to change direction.

Jesus faced the greatest crossroads of all in the Garden of Gethsemane. Praying, "Take this cup from me" (Mark 14:36), He chose obedience over escape—opening the way to eternal life, free from doom, despair, and fear. We all come to crossroads. We can strike a deal that imprisons us—addictions, materialism, racism, narcissism, anything that steals our freedom—or we can turn toward life. As Dylan sang, "You may serve the devil or you may serve the Lord... but you gotta serve somebody."

Robert Johnson reached for the serpent's shiny apple, and it led to his downfall. Thankfully—for Johnson and for us—we serve a God of mercy and grace.

Jeremiah 6:16 (The Message) puts it plainly: "Go stand at the crossroads and look around. Ask for directions to the old road, the tried-and-true road. Then take it. Discover the right route for your souls."

Recognizing Crossroads
Crossroads aren't always obvious. Eve's conversation with the serpent didn't feel momentous—until it was. She listened to another voice instead of remembering what God had said. Adam failed to recognize that a decision stood before him, and the consequences rippled outward—touching families, nations, and generations.

That's why recognizing crossroads matters. The choices you make today rarely stop with you. Every life reaches a fork in the road—what matters is who you ask for directions.

Contact: bruce.walker2@gmail.com

THE SEEKER
KY'S CHRISTIAN NEWS



Proverbs 27:17

MEANINGFUL HUMAN INTERACTION, like iron rubbing against iron to become sharp, helps people improve, grow, and become wiser and stronger in character, faith, and understanding through mutual encouragement refining their spirit and mind. True friendship involves this mutual sharpening, where friends uplift each other, but it also warns that ungodly company can dull your spiritual edge.



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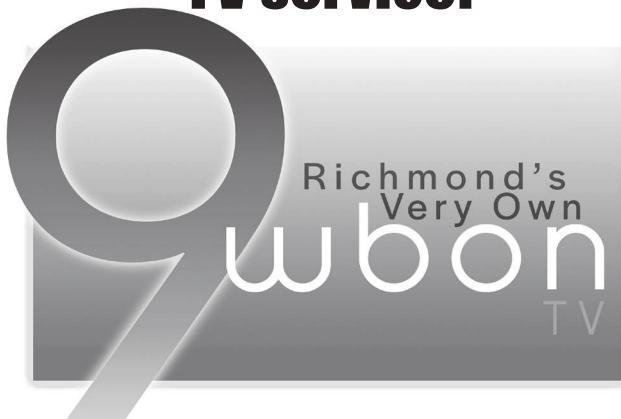


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1. Which legendary gospel artist is often called the "Queen of Gospel Music"?
2. Which Southern Gospel group is famous for the song "He Touched Me," written by Bill Gaither?
3. Which Contemporary Christian band broke into mainstream radio with the hit song "I Can Only Imagine"?
4. What musical style heavily influenced early Black Gospel music—spirituals, blues, and jazz?

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By Seeker Columnist, Dr. Charles Burton, D.D. PHD

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*Large flakes are falling fast and free tonight,
The garden path quite quickly fills with snow.
Surrender all its features to the white,
Hushed silence overtakes me as I go.
Behind, my footprints fill and fade away
Like shadows when the sun has passed them by,
Or smile that comes, but cannot seem to
Or dream you can't recall, though you may try.
All problems of my world are covered now
Wild basking in cold, breathless beauty here,
Full, knowing that it cannot stay somehow
For dawn will make reality more clear
I paused and turn my face into the wind,
A warm hearth, fire awaits brief journeys end.*

**By Jim Shields, Author of the Brand New
Book, Gifts To Share...** a fascinating collection of
sonnets. Now Available at the Kentucky Artisan
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*Thou shalt
not avenge,
nor bear
any grudge
against the
children of
thy people,
but thou
shalt love thy
neighbor as
thyself: I am
the Lord.*

Leviticus 19:19

True Love Displayed

By Charlenea Kay Wirth

I am humbled to witness a beautiful loving kindness that I will never forget. As I was walking up to take a plate at a restaurant buffet, I caught a glimpse of an older gentleman gently placing his left hand over a woman's forehead to keep her head up. She was sitting in a wheelchair, her back facing me and her face in front of his. I watched as I didn't know at first what he was doing and wanted to make sure she was safe. He smiled at her ever so sweetly and with his right hand spoon fed her. He was very gentle and ever so patient. His beautiful smile as he slowly fed her touched my heart so deeply. It was as if a moment in time stopped all my moments as I gazed at his true loving kindness as he shared tenderness with someone he obviously loved. And he loved her with joy! He smiled as he fed her, spoonful by spoonful. And she received his love. I wanted to know more about this couple. Was this his wife, his sister, a friend? But, I didn't want to intrude on this beautiful moment in time where they shared a meal together, in peace, away from the crowd and noise. Isn't this how we are meant to love another? And isn't this how we need to 'receive' love from one another when love is poured on us? I don't believe anyone should ever feel they are a burden nor should anyone cause someone to feel

this way. This man 'loved her with joy,' as he was honored to serve her.

Our Heavenly Father is created with love and desires us to feel His agape (unconditional) love. We show our love to Him by loving Him back, and loving His people, His creations. We love Him because He first loved us.

Jesus (Yeshua) is the only one in history who proved true love by willingly dying for all our sins, rose up from the grave, appeared on Earth again until He rose up in the sky to prepare a place for us to live forever with Him. He proved His love for us over and over and continues daily in our lives.

If we seek His love, we will see His love shown in intimate details, such as this gentleman hand feeding his loved one with joy. I praise God for who He is!

Let us always love others through His strength and humble loving kindness and He will be glorified!

1 John 4:11 "Beloved, if God so loved us we also ought to love one another."

1 John 1:15 "Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in Him and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love and he who abides in love abides in God and God in Him."

Contact Charlenea:
singingheartky@gmail.com

Bethel Baptist Church Revival

Bethel Baptist Church held their winter revival during the holiday season. Pastor Randy McPheron welcomed guest speaker, Dr. Charlie Goodman, President Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. What a dynamite service with this dynamic duo! And what excellent taste they have in reading material. Thank you for the kind endorsement. Bethel Baptist Church is located on Scaffold Cane Rd., Berea.

seeker Snicker



"I prayed for a Valentine...
God answered with YOU
(and a reminder to be patient)."

Why couldn't the computer go out
to dinner on Valentine's Day?
It had a virus.

What did one rabbit say to the other?
"Somebunny loves you."

What did one ant give the other on
Feb. 14?
A Valen-tiny.

How do farmers celebrate Valentine's
Day?
With hogs and kisses.

Why do melons get married in
church?
Because they cantaloupe.

What did the stamp say to the enve-
lope?
"I'm stuck on you."

Did you hear about the shoes that
got engaged?
They're sole-mates.

What did one chemist say to the
other?
"I've got my ion you."

Why did the skeleton call off the
wedding?
His heart wasn't in it.

Did you hear about the two tennis
players that fell in love?
It was a courtship.

What did one drum say to the
other?
"My heart beats for you."

What did one spice say to the other
on Feb. 14?
Will you be my Valen-thyme?

What's the best way to get arrested
on Valentine's Day?
Steal someone's heart.

What did the maple syrup say to the
waffle?
"I'm sweet on you."

What did one cat say to the other
on Valentine's Day?
"You're purr-fect."

What did the painter say to his wife
on Valentine's Day?
I love you with all my art.

What flowers get the most kisses
on Valentine's Day?
Tulips.

What's the one flower you should
never give on Valentine's Day?
Cauliflower.

What's pink, oinks and shoots arrows
on Valentine's Day?
Cu-pig.

What candy never shows up on
time?
Choco-late.

Can February march?
No, but April may!

Breaking Bread



Classic Red Velvet Cake (Moist & Elegant)

Ingredients

2½ cups all-purpose flour	1½ cups vegetable oil
1½ cups sugar	1 cup buttermilk
1 tsp baking soda	2 tbsp red food coloring
1 tsp cocoa powder	1 tsp vanilla extract
1 tsp salt	1 tsp white vinegar
2 eggs	

Directions: Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and flour two 9-inch round pans. In a bowl, mix flour, sugar, baking soda, cocoa, and salt. Add eggs, oil, buttermilk, food coloring, vanilla, and vinegar. Mix until smooth. Pour into pans and bake 30–35 minutes. Cool completely before frosting.

Classic Cream Cheese Frosting

8 oz cream cheese, softened
½ cup butter, softened
4 cups powdered sugar
1 tsp vanilla
Beat until light and fluffy.

No-Bake Raspberry Valentine Cheesecake Cups

Ingredients:

1 cup crushed vanilla wafers or graham crackers
¼ cup melted butter
8 oz cream cheese, softened
½ cup powdered sugar
1 tsp vanilla
1 cup whipped topping
Raspberry or strawberry preserves

Directions:

Mix crumbs and butter; press into small cups or jars. Beat cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla until smooth. Fold in whipped topping. Spoon over crust and top with fruit preserves. Chill 1 hour before serving.

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HOW WE VIEW OTHERS IS SO VERY IMPORTANT

Right Thinking: WILL STOP CHURCH SPLITS AND PROBLEMS.

LOOK AT:

Psalm 119:165

165 Great peace have they which love thy law:

and nothing shall offend them.

Again:

RIGHT THINKING WILL FIX;

#1 CHURCH SQUABBLES #2

CHURCH FIGHTS #3 HEAL HURT

FEELINGS #4 HEAL CHURCH DIS-

AGREEMENTS #5 HEAL PEOPLE

FALLING OUT WITH EACH OTHER

#6 TEACH US HIS WAY AND NOT OURS.

We must get to the place where criticism rolls off our backs like water off a ducks back.

Proverbs 13:10

10 Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

Church problems are man made, and God remedied. If we could just swallow our pride we would live lives that are not so easily offended.

One Preacher said:

For what it's worth, here is what we have learned from this heartbreaking experience:

1. We will always choose conversation over condemnation.

2. We will always seek to maintain the relationship over trying to win an argument.

3. We will always speak with honesty, not hypocrisy.

Philippians 2:5

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

It has occurred to me that many of us actually fight against the mind of Christ having control of our lives. In the past year I have posted several thoughts on the Mind of Christ. I have dealt with many ways He is to have control over our thinking. Nevertheless; there is a problem in letting Him be in control of how we think.

I do not about you but this is always a challenge to me. Most of us have the tendency to want to be the controller of our thought lives. We get a little knowledge (even Bible know-

ledge) and we think we can conquer the World on our own. Not so. It takes the power of the Holy spirit to win any battle in this life.

Now, how is this done? His mind in you in control of your thought process.

Philippians 3:15

Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

The perfectness of what Paul is saying is this:

We are to be totally yielded to Christ. When this happens, we do use His mind in us. At any other point it is our fleshly mind taking over.

Here is the thing.

It is called free will. Nevertheless;

God wills us to do His pleasure.

Psalm 147:11

The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.

Philippians 2:13

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. It is God's intention for you to follow Him and bring Him pleasure.

Proverbs 25:13

As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters.

That ought to be our life's purpose. Doing His will to bring Him pleasure.

Another broken hearted church members story. Our church just went through an awful split. I've heard about the ugliness of church fights but I never dreamed I'd actually be in one. Many of what I'll call, "the old guard," don't like the new direction some of the younger church leaders are taking the church. The pastor was using his position to make the church relevant to today's changing culture. What started as a low rumble between the two factions eventually erupted into war. In a



Dr. Charles Burton

well-orchestrated, pre-planned, maneuver, about a third of the members got up and walked out of church just before the sermon. Unbeknownst to the old guard, the departing group had rented space in a local high school to start their own church. The old guard is grieving. The departing group seems excited, but already cracks are showing in their fellowship. I am hurt and disillusioned. I've decided not to attend either church. I've been so hurt that I haven't gone to church for over a month. So sad that this happens in God's House

But there is the reality of FREE WILL. I have seen it in my life and over 52 years of ministry ... Seen it in many other lives. The truth is we will do whatever we want to do. Sad but true. It is called Free Will. This is where right thinking comes in. When we are able to put things in the light of His thinking, we become more like Him. As you know, this is a life process. 2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

This is an all life process. We work to become New Thinkers. It is not instantaneously it is PROGRESSIVE. Again, a life work. That is where we must give Him our minds. It is only by our surrender and His control that we become Christ thinkers. How? Because we are BECOMING new creatures.

Acts 9:5

And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou

2 Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. Let's try to overcome our rebellion against His will. Just try to live and let Him DIRECT your thoughts (easier said than done).

Cont'd in month's edition, or visit Seekernews.com for full article.

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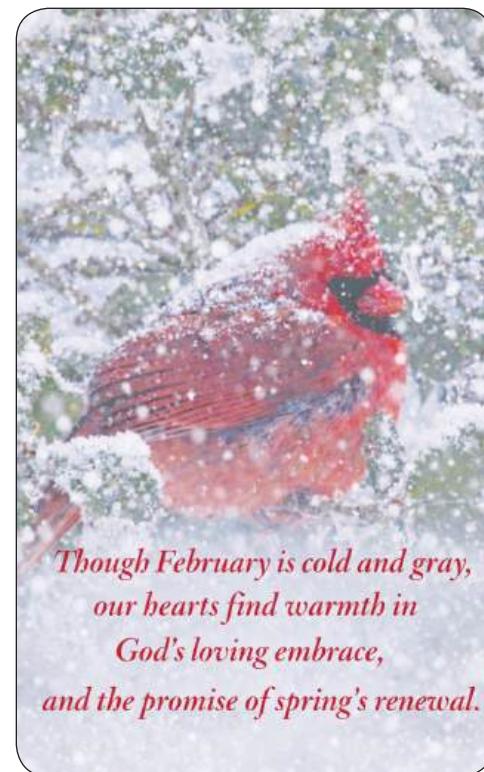


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*Though February is cold and gray,
 our hearts find warmth in
 God's loving embrace,
 and the promise of spring's renewal.*

Photo Submitted by David Short- Berea

Here's a Sample of Our Seekernews.com Devotional:

YOUR WAY, YAHWEH

Snowed in and Stirred Up:

Why Silence Isn't an Option for Believers

By Kristi Miller

Praying for safety and warmth for the entire state of Kentucky—in Jesus' name.

While we're snowed in on these cold, cozy days, I'd love for you to take a moment to read this devotional.

Recently, a well-known and highly favored celebrity was quoted for what many considered "words of wisdom." Within that statement was a very common saying: "Don't talk politics and don't talk religion." While this diplomatic approach may seem ethical or well-intentioned, we must ask ourselves—does it line up with Scripture?

If we never discuss politics or support strong leaders, we may miss opportunities to lovingly enlighten others who are genuinely undecided—people whose votes affect the future of our towns, our state, and our country. Many voters are well-meaning and sincerely want to contribute. Some would welcome a fresh perspective and the benefit of being better informed, especially when moral issues and godly values are at stake.

I realize we are not called to provoke riots or get ourselves fired from work. But with God's leading and the gentleness of the Holy Spirit, we are not required to remain silent either. Innocent lives being aborted deserve our courage and our willingness to speak up for them.

This brings me to the subject of religion. Prayer and even the mention of God are more and more commonly persecuted—often openly and in published ways. In Mark 16:15, Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Personally, I will take this command over the suggestion of society. I'm not judging anyone for saying otherwise—I've probably said it myself.

But the last time I heard it, I felt God's leading with this message on my heart.

He did not give us His Holy Word—our daily instruction manual for life—so that we could keep it quiet or suppress it. The school system and much of the workforce often treat the name of Jesus as though it were profanity. Doesn't that sound like a tactic of Satan? Of course he doesn't want the name of Jesus spoken—there is power in His name. Power that defeats evil, changes lives, and saves souls.

Think of it this way: imagine sitting at your desk at school or work when you notice something has caught fire, but the alarm hasn't sounded yet. Would you calmly stay quiet for fear of offending someone—or would you urgently shout, "Get out! There's a fire!" In an emergency, we don't worry about being offensive—we worry about saving lives.

If we believe what the Word of God tells us—that judgment is real and eternity matters—then isn't this an emergency? Don't we need to say, with urgency and boldness, "Fire is coming—get to safety! Turn to Jesus!" I may not be politically correct, but I would much rather offend someone now for saying too much than face them later knowing I said too little while eternity was at stake.

Luke 9:26 tells us, "If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels." These are the guidelines that truly matter in our daily lives.

The Holy Spirit is a gentleman. Boldness does not mean bickering. Courage does not mean conflict. When we follow His leading, we can change hearts and minds, advance His Kingdom, and walk forward preceded by peace and covered in His favor.



Debbie's Music Theater hosted a special performance on Saturday, Jan. 3, rescheduled due to weather from its original Dec. 12 date. The evening featured Johnathan Rader and Kristi Miller, performing both as themselves and in tribute roles. Rader paid homage to Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash, while Miller brought classic flair in her tributes to Marilyn Monroe and Dolly Parton as The Dolly Mama. The band included Ken Fisher, Randall Conn, and Tyler Conn, with Nathan Rader serving as emcee. Salt Lick, KY.

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