

APRIL '26

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REPUBLICAN

## DONNA AGEE

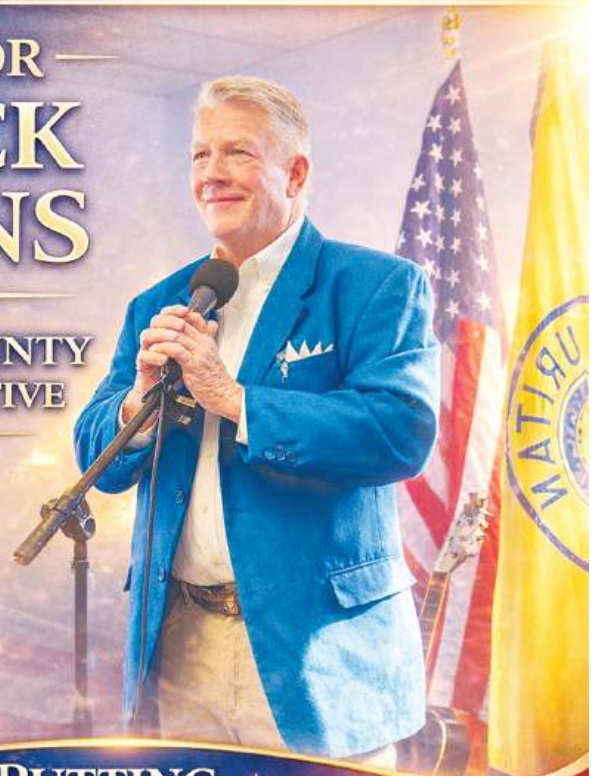
MADISON COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION DAY: **MAY 19TH**

"Our community deserves leadership that shows up, listens and delivers. We need someone who understands our challenges and is committed every single day to keep Madison County moving forward in a transparent and responsible way"



## — VOTE FOR — CHUCK GIVENS — FOR — MADISON COUNTY JUDGE EXECUTIVE



### — ★ ★ PUTTING ★ ★ — MADISON COUNTY FIRST

As your next *County Judge Executive*, my goal is to be a tireless advocate for Madison County, working towards a brighter future for all of us. I believe in investing in our local economy by attracting new businesses, supporting our existing ones, and creating jobs that will keep our families thriving. I am dedicated to ensuring that our schools have the resources they need to provide our children with the best education possible, and I will prioritize public safety, making sure our first responders have the tools necessary to protect and serve our community effectively.

  
**ANDY BARR**  
U.S. SENATE



**U.S. SENATE**

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- ✓ Setting clear standards and expectations
- ✓ Ensuring excessive force is not tolerated
- ✓ Improving how we respond to inmates struggling with mental health

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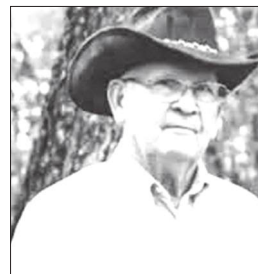
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**Shirley Ann Cheek**



February 13, 1942 - February 6, 2026  
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**Vernon "Mouse" Roy Ward**



June 16, 1943 - March 28, 2026  
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**Ronnie L. Rollins**



July 14, 1961 - March 25, 2026  
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information

# IN HEARTFELT HONOR OF BEAUTIFUL LIVES

## Emotional Triggers When Grieving

By Marian Abbott

When we look at someone who has experienced the loss of a loved one, that person often appears normal. In the early days, there may be obvious signs of grief—sadness, tears, withdrawing from activities with friends and family, weight loss, or being preoccupied with the loss.

However, months or even years later, certain things can trigger grief unexpectedly, often without us consciously realizing why. Many experiences can bring those emotions back to the surface.

Special dates are often powerful reminders—wedding anniversaries, the birth date of the deceased, the survivor's birthday, or the anniversary of the death. Holidays such as Valentine's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas can also stir emotions. Even family events like reunions or the birth of a grandchild may awaken memories.

Other triggers might include attending church, eating at a favorite restaurant, illness, or the loss of another friend or loved one.

Each person experiences these triggers differently because we are all unique in our personalities and in the way we grieve.

So what should we do when these moments arise? A simple answer might be to "go with the flow," but simple answers are not always what we want or need.

The dates and occasions will

still appear on the calendar. It can be helpful to acknowledge them in a way that fits your personality and comfort level. Some widows and widowers have told me they do not remember special dates or never celebrated them. That may work well for them, but it may not be right for everyone.

Allow yourself the freedom to remember a special date or occasion in a way that feels meaningful to you. Sometimes family may be included, and sometimes those moments may be more personal. Grief—and the way we express it—is deeply individual.

Do not be alarmed if the tears come, and do not worry if they do not. Do not be surprised if a date passes quietly, or if the day simply feels like another ordinary day.

There is no need to suppress emotions that come naturally, nor should you try to force emotions that are not there.

Think about everyday life. What triggers a cold? What triggers the desire for another piece of pie? What triggers emotions in general?

God created us as emotional beings, yet each of us is uniquely wired.

Psalm 139:14 reminds us, "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Each of us has our own emotional nature, and we can be thankful for the emotions the Lord has given us and for the freedom to express them.



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# Events

## Shelbyville Dogwood Festival

Saturday, April 18th, 10 am-5 pm. FREE to public, Vender Booths, Food Trucks 16 Bands, featuring Berea's

**Kristi Miller and Three Men and a Banjo Band Line Up:**

Taylor Hughes, Night Flyer, Dad's Mad, Saxony, Kyra Waits, Jimmy McKnight Magic, Celtucky, Jordan Bently, Augie Hale, Conner Loveless, Vanessa Davis, Joybutter, James Bears, Conversations With June. Proceeds go to support students and teachers of Shelby County public schools.-1155 Main St., Shelbyville

## Chuck Givens Campaign/ Derby Event

Madison County Judge Executive Candidate, Chuck Givens to host a campaign reception: Friday, May 1st, at 5 p.m. Food, Live Music. Location: Dreaming Creek Farms in Union City.

## Richmond Area Arts Council's Derby Brunch

Saturday, May 2, 2026 - 11 am-2pm  
**Live Music with: Kristi Miller and Parker Hastings. Meal by Thompson's Catering**

Tickets: \$60 in advance, no tickets at door. Lynwood Estate, 1615 Lexington Rd., Richmond-859-624-1212



**Happy 1st Birthday to Silus Hartman, brand new to Brandon and Lori Hartman on Easter Sunday, April 5th-Congratulations! Also, Les Stewart, Charlie Adkins, Happy Heavenly Birthday to Margaret Lindgaard, Mike Friend, and All Awesome April Birthdays!**

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**Also Featuring:**  
**Kristi Miller**  
**AKA The Dolly Mama**

## A Little Kindness Blooms in Berea

**Local flower shop spread joy through "petals and perks"!**

My name is Jordan Jennings, and I manage **Foley's Florist and Gifts** here in Berea, KY. We're just a small-town flower shop, but our hearts are big — and about a year ago, we started something that's turned into one of the most special parts of what we do.

We call it "Petals & Perks." A few days a week, we pick a random first name and invite anyone and everyone with that name to stop by and get a free flower — just because. No strings attached, no purchase necessary. It started as a simple idea to give back to the community that's always supported us, and it's grown into something truly beautiful. It's become something people look forward to, and it's helped us form genuine connections that go beyond business.

You never know who's having a hard day. We've had people come in with tears in their eyes, saying that small gesture meant the world to them. Others bring their kids, stop to chat, and before we know it, we're all

laughing and making new friends. Many had never stepped foot in our shop before — now they've become part of our little flower family.

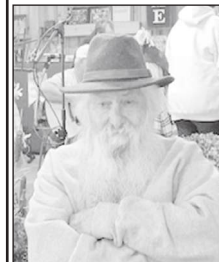
Recently, a local coffee shop joined in on the fun! On our Petals & Perks days, the lucky name of the day also receives a free drink token (we offer five each day) to enjoy a coffee or tea at the shop down the street. It's been such a joy collaborating and lifting each other up — it really does take a village.

We'd be so honored if you considered sharing our story. It's been a reminder that kindness doesn't have to be grand or expensive to make an impact. Sometimes, it's just a flower and a smile that can change someone's day.

Thank you so much for your time, and for all the ways you highlight the good happening in our community.

Warmly,  
Jordan Jennings  
Manager, **Foley's Florist and Gifts**  
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Kristina Miller

Happy Easter!

As spring arrives, we're reminded that this season is a beautiful picture of renewal, hope, and new beginnings. The message of Easter continues to shine as a powerful reminder that light always overcomes darkness. In this issue, we celebrate faith, community, and the many ways God is moving in the lives of people across our region.

Don't forget—our Flip Book is available online at seekernews.com, 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.

With gratitude and faith,  
— The Seeker Team

*In every bloom of  
spring, we see the  
beauty of  
God's  
creation*



## FROM THE EDITOR

**We Want To Hear From  
You. Please Send Any Arti-  
cles, Recipes, Jokes, Ads,  
or Announcements To:  
kristimiller1005@gmail.com**

**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



Spotlight Theater in Berea presented The Tomb, transporting guests to 1999 Egypt for an unforgettable mystery experience. Guests enjoyed dinner while the drama unfolded, joining in to uncover clues and solve the crime.



The delicious meal that wowed the crowd was catered by Lee's Famous Recipe in Berea. For catering information, call Manager Jacob Carter (see page 13).

## Williams Memorial Baptist Church

*Pastor, Chris Winkler, 402 Poplar St,  
Ravenna (606) 723-5429  
or (606) 643-5603*

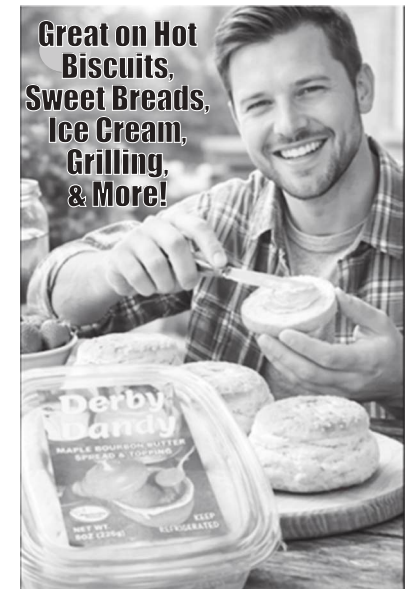


[Williamsmemorialbaptist.com](http://Williamsmemorialbaptist.com)

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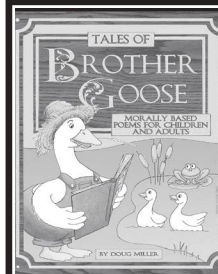
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NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES TOGETHER, AS THE MANNER OF SOME IS; BUT EXHORTING ONE ANOTHER... HEBREWS 10:25

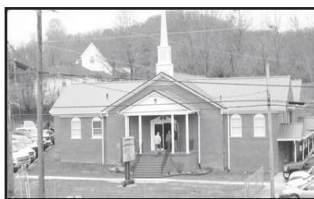
The Seeker 9

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847 Scaffold Cane Road, Berea  
For Transportation Call 859-986-7341  
Leave Message and Phone Number

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Pastor, Jeff Osborne 859-985-8491 - 859-986-3181



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Pastor John Doss

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Sun. Worship- 11am  
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Pastor, Mark Sarver



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Pastor, Randy Calico

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We invite you to visit any of the area's local churches.



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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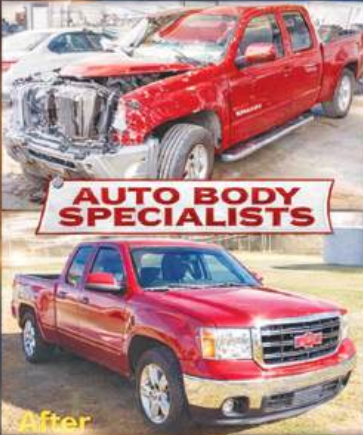
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Philippians 4:7

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## COLOR THIS EASTER PICTURE FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL



## BIBLE VERSE

John 11:25-26

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'"



## LITTLE LAUGHS

Q. What kind of shoes do frogs wear?  
A. Open-toad sandals.

Q. Did I ever tell you about the time I went mushroom foraging?  
A. It's a story with a morel at the end.

Q. What happened when two slices of bread went on a date?  
A. It was loaf at first sight.

Q. Why do crabs never volunteer?  
A. Because they're shell-fish.

I just built an ATM that only gives out coins. I don't know why no one's thought of it before: it just makes cents!

## ENJOY THE FUN-

For Kids of All Ages

## Spring Word Search

Find all the spring words hidden in the puzzle! Words may be forward, backward, up, down, or diagonal.



B	P	R	I	N	G	D	T	E	E
L	O	W	E	R	O	T	Y	U	R
B	U	N	I	I	N	R	B	R	O
R	I	A	D	U	D	U	K	I	F
S	R	D	Y	F	R	O	S	A	
N	J	O	Y	S	E	G	O	R	Z
N	N	J	O	S	E	G	O	L	F
D	O	L	G	O	O	L	G	S	D
S	P	R	I	N	G	T	R	O	Y
O	O	L	G	O	O	L	E	E	S
C	H	R	P	V	L	I	M	R	S

SPRING	SUNSHINE	SEEDS	CHIRP
FLOWERS	BIRD	BREEZE	BUTTERFLY
BIRD	BUNNY	BLOOM	HOP
GOD	JOY	EASTER	GRASS

## Good Times

Soda pops and gum drops,  
Summer tan, the ice cream man,  
Going to the beach to swim,  
Or a picnic on a whim.

Celebrations and vacations,  
Laughing, walking, sitting, talking,  
Goin' fishin', hopin', wishin',  
Time to spend with your best friend.

These are good times that we love,  
And all good gifts are from above.  
Acknowledge Him in all you do,  
He made the good times just for you.

By Doug Miller,  
Co-founder of The Seeker

## ASK JESUS INTO Your Heart

### The ABC's of Salvation

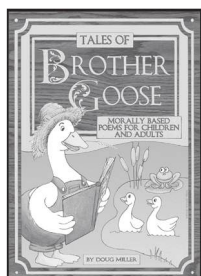
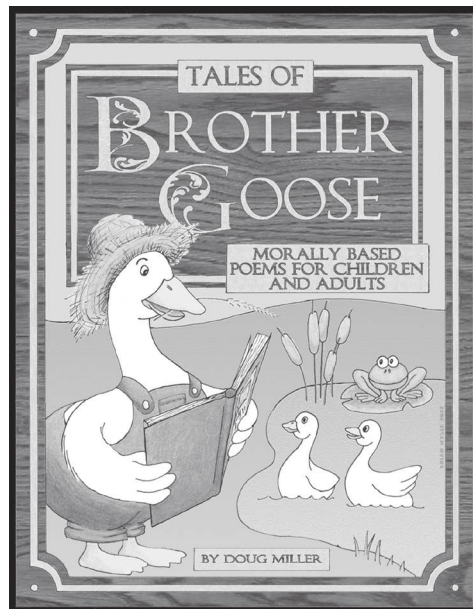
**A** ADMIT that you know you are a sinner and ask God for forgiveness

**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

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## The 3 LUCKY BUCK NUMBERS

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.

Now here's where you come in: You need to make sure you check all your \$1 bills. Even ask for change in ones so you can increase your odds. You are not asked to buy anything. THIS IS NOT A GAME OF CHANCE. You simply have to retrieve one of the \$1 bills with one of the matching serial numbers that we have listed in The Seeker for the month.

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)



The Fourth Annual Easter Eggstravaganza was held at Gethsemane Baptist Church on Saturday, March 21. The youth of Gethsemane partnered with Berea Family Fellowship Church and welcomed the largest turnout yet for this growing community celebration.

The day was filled with music, an encouraging message, a delicious home-cooked spaghetti meal, and plenty of fun activities for the kids. Games, door prizes for every child, and special Easter baskets ensured that every young guest left with a smile.

Scott Keeling, the "Game Guy" of Kids Parties Plus in Shelbyville, transformed the church yard into a lively carnival atmosphere with games and activities designed especially for faith communities.

With the help of Keeling, volunteers from Berea Family Fellowship and Gethsemane, and of course the beautiful children whose excitement, laughter, and joyful smiles filled the air, the day was truly unforgettable.



Gina McClenney, of Berea Family Fellowship with her grandson, Harley Lanford, holding his door prize.



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Author Jim Shields held a book signing at the Kentucky Artisan Center on Saturday, March 28. Jim is the author of the newly released books of sonnets, Gifts To Share, Volumes 1 and 2. His inspirational sonnets and verses are also featured regularly in The Seeker. Be sure to take a moment to read them—you'll be glad you did.

## Standing in the Checkout Line

By Bruce Walker ©2026

Stories are swirling all around us—if we will slow down long enough to hear them. Triumph and tragedy. Drama and comedy. Hope and heartbreak. Some of the best stories are not told from a stage or printed in a book. They're heard standing in the checkout line.

I was last in line at our local big-box hardware store. You know the kind of place—concrete floors, lumber stacked high, carts rattling toward the exit. The cashier greeted me with the familiar, automatic question, "How are you?"

"Fine," I answered, automatically. Then, for reasons I can't quite explain, I returned the question. "And how are you?" I expected the same rehearsed response. Instead, with a tear glistening in her eye and a smile lighting her face, she said, "Fine? No—great. I just got the word that my husband is going to make a complete recovery."

I paused. "Wonderful," I replied, though I didn't yet understand the weight behind her words.

"This is my story," she said softly, as if inviting me behind the counter into something sacred.

"For more than six months," she began, "a customer came in several nights a

week just before closing. He would pile his cart high with remodeling materials and head straight for my register. By the time I finished ringing him up and closed out, I was thirty minutes late getting home."

She smiled at the memory.

"The first time, I just did my job. The second time, I tried to hide my annoyance. But after that, I decided I could either be irritated—or I could be kind. So whenever he came barreling through those doors at closing time with that overflowing buggy, I would just smile and motion him over."

Then her expression shifted.

"I was standing right here when I got the call from the state troopers. 'Your husband has been in a serious automobile accident. Don't come to the crash site. Go straight to the hospital. He's being med-flighted.'"

In an instant, the ordinary became catastrophic.

"I walked into the emergency room under bright lights and into a storm of activity. Nurses and technicians surrounded me. Before I could even process what was happening, papers were thrust in my hands. I was asked questions I never imagined answering. 'Does he have a health directive? A do-

not-resuscitate order? Will you consent to surgery? Do you understand he may die if we operate—and he may die if we don't?'"

She swallowed.

"Thirty-five years of marriage—and suddenly I felt helpless. I couldn't think. I couldn't breathe."

Then something unexpected happened.

"I looked up, and I saw a familiar face coming down the hallway. The crowd parted as he stepped into the circle. He recognized me as the lady at the home remodeling store. And I recognized him as my problem customer."

She smiled again.

"He was the head of the ER department."

The man who had tested her patience night after night was now the physician stepping into her crisis.

"He took charge. He explained what I could not process. He made decisions I wasn't emotionally able to make. He stayed with me and my family through the night. And over the next several weeks, he made sure my husband received the care he needed."

She paused, letting it settle.

"When you asked me how I was doing," she said, "I had just gotten the call. My husband is going to be OK."

And then, as if nothing extraordinary had just been shared, she smiled brightly and asked, "How may I help you?"

I walked out of that store changed. We move through our days surrounded by people whose stories we do not know. The cashier. The mechanic. The waitress. The tired man ahead of us in line tapping his foot. The woman who seems distracted. The customer who always shows up at the worst possible time. We assign roles. We create labels. "Problem customer." "Slow clerk." "Annoying coworker." But we rarely see the whole story.

What if kindness is never wasted? What if the extra smile, the withheld irritation, the decision to be patient instead of sharp—what if those moments are seeds planted in soil we cannot yet see?

That cashier could have rolled her eyes and rushed him through. She

could have let her frustration show. Instead, she chose grace.

Months later, that grace returned to her in the most unexpected way—wearing a white coat and stepping into an emergency room.

We don't know who people are becoming. We don't know what hallway they may one day walk down toward us. We don't know which small courtesies today may echo loudly tomorrow. The checkout line is not just a place to pay for lumber and light bulbs. It is a crossroads of stories. It is where ordinary lives intersect in quiet, unseen ways.

And sometimes, if you ask one simple question and truly mean it—"How are you?"—you just might hear a story that reminds you the world is smaller, kinder, and more connected than you thought.

You never know when the person testing your patience today may be the answer to your prayer tomorrow.

Contact: Bruce.Walker2@gmail.com

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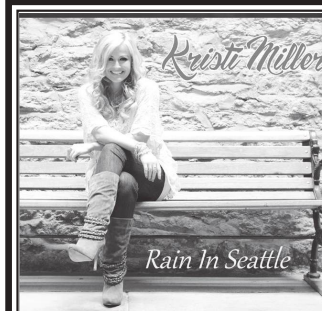


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1. What beloved Easter hymn begins with the triumphant line, "Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!"?
2. Who wrote the famous hymn, "Because He lives?"
3. What contemporary worship song by Phil Wickham celebrates the Resurrection with the powerful chorus declaring, "Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free"?
4. Which classic hymn proclaims the Resurrection with the joyful opening line, "Up from the grave He arose"?

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

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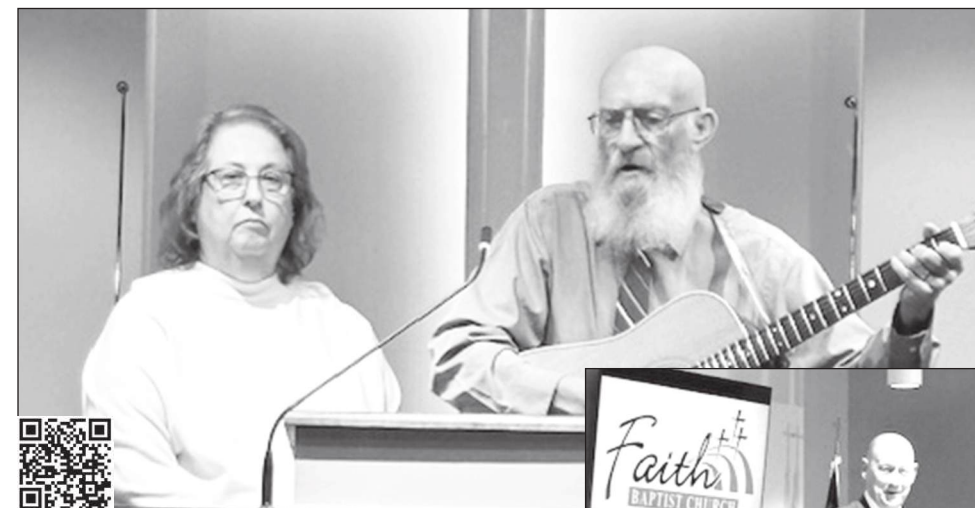
## Mary Lou's Books' Highlights of Winter...



Highlights of Winter: Guests enjoyed one of Berea's sweetest seasonal traditions during the Chocolate Hop, sampling delicious treats while visiting local shops. Mary Lou's Books on N. Broadway welcomed a steady crowd of chocolate lovers, and owner Mary Lou was delighted with the wonderful turnout.

Berea United Methodist Church hosted a series of Lent Luncheons each Wednesday during the Lenten season, bringing the community together for fellowship, reflection, and a shared meal. One luncheon opened with special music from Seeker columnist Charlenea K. Wirth, who shared her beautiful song, "Let My People Go." Guests enjoyed great food, uplifting music, and wonderful fellowship.

Scan the code to hear a snippet of Charlenea's inspiring song.



Faith Baptist's Spring Revival, Friday, March 27, featured Pastor Dewayne Walker, and special music by James & Edith Blanton. Pastor John and Laura Doss cordially invite you to visit. 3100 Golden Leaf Blvd., Richmond.



Supporters gathered by the hundreds for Chuck Givens, candidate for Madison County Judge Executive, at a campaign meet-and-greet held at Union City General Store, followed by a fish fry at the Union City Ruritan Department. Givens will also host a Derby event on Saturday, May 1, at 5 p.m. at Dreaming Creek Farms in Union City.



Hundreds gathered for campaign receptions hosted by Donna Agee, candidate for Madison County Judge Executive, at The Mule Barn at Arlington in Richmond and One Eyed Jacks in Berea.

Donna also celebrated her retirement from Dominion Senior Living on Tuesday, March 24.



# Seeker Snicker



After ringing the doorbell the pastor was sure that he saw movement inside the house. He rang the doorbell again, and the pastor noticed someone moving quickly from one room to another. The pastor whipped out a "Several Steps to Becoming a Christian" pamphlet, and quickly scrawled on it 'Revelation 3:20, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock," left it wedged in the door, and left.

When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that the pamphlet was on the plate. Under what the pastor wrote was written 'Genesis 3:10: "I heard your voice and I was afraid for I was naked, and I hid myself".'

At 83 years old, George went for his annual physical. All of his tests came back with normal results. Dr. Smith said, "George, everything looks great. How's everything with your wife?"

George replied, "Yeah, my wife and I are doing very well. She's even made it easier for me during my trips to the bathroom in the middle of the night. Somehow she's fixed something up so that when I open the bathroom door – poof– the light goes on and when I'm done and I close the door – poof – the light goes off."

"Wow!" Commented Dr. Smith. "That that's incredible! She must be very inventive."

A little later in the day, Dr. Smith called George's wife. "Ethel," he said, "George is doing fine. Physically he's great. But I had to call because I'm impressed with what you've set up for him. Is it true that he gets up during the night and – poof – the light goes on in the bathroom, and when he is through – poof – the light goes off?"

"Oh, no," Ethel exclaimed. "He's peeing in the refrigerator again!"

If you convince your tightwad old friend to finally spend some money and go visit a massage parlor, would that be considered contributing to the delinquency of a miser?

## BOARD GAMES FOR SENIORS

- Monopoly of the conversation by talking about my grandkids
- Lack of Concentration
- Sugar-free Candy Land
- Cottage Cheesi
- Shoots – my bladder
- Talk about my Operation
- I'll give you something to be Sorry about
- The game of Life? Let me tell you about life.
- Bladder-dash (Balderdash)

**What a Wonderful Life I've Had! I Only Wish I'd Realized It Sooner!**

**WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR JOKES & STORIES SEND US YOUR FUNNIES!**  
**The Seeker Christian News**  
**P.O. Box 302**

# Breaking Bread



## Cheesy Chicken Crescent Bake



### Ingredients

- 2 cups cooked shredded chicken
- 1 (8 oz) can refrigerated crescent rolls
- 1 (8 oz) block cream cheese, softened
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- ½ cup milk
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- Salt & pepper to taste

### Instructions

- Preheat oven to 375°F.
- Mix chicken, cream cheese, salt & pepper.
- Roll chicken mixture inside crescent rolls and place in a greased baking dish.
- Whisk soup and milk; pour over rolls.
- Sprinkle cheese on top.
- Bake 20–25 minutes until golden and bubbly.

### Easy Add-Ons

- Serve with a bagged salad
- Add frozen peas or broccoli to the filling
- Swap cheddar for pepper jack for a little kick

## Apple Barn Crunch



**Get protein, healthy fats, fiber, and natural sweetness all in one.**

Cut 1 Apple, in half, and top with peanut butter, roasted salted pumpkin seeds, peanuts, and chopped dates. Paired with apple, zucchini, or banana nut bread is a delicious snack!

**SEEKER RECIPES ARE SO GOOD, THEY'LL MAKE YOUR CLOTHES SHRINK!**

# FIVE GREAT TRUTHS CONCERNING EASTER

JOHN 14:6

John 14:6

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Churchill said:

Men occasionally stumble over the truth but most pick themselves up and hurry off, as if nothing happened. STOP. Do not be like most. Why?

Because He is Alive. His life brings to all Believers, New Hope and New Life.

TRUTH #1 HE WAS BORN TO DIE.

TRUTH #2 HE LIVED 33 YEARS ON THE EARTH.

TRUTH #3 CRUCIFIED BY ROMAN LAW AND JEW HATRED

TRUTH #4 HE GOT UP OUT OF THE GRAVE.

TRUTH # 5 HE IS COMING AGAIN.

Matthew 28:6

He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

This has not changed in over 2,000 years. He is alive and well and intercedes for us daily to the Father.

Hebrews 7:25

25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Take your eyes off DEATH.. He is alive. 1 Corinthians 15:57-58

57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

15 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 by which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the

scriptures:

The Gospel is our TICKET TO Heaven.

They came to the tomb and he was gone. So, what is a tomb? A tomb (Greek: τύμβος tumbos[1]) is a repository for the remains of the dead. It is generally any structurally enclosed interment space or burial chamber, of varying sizes. Placing a corpse into a tomb can be called immurement, although this word mainly means entombing people alive, and is a method of final disposition, as an alternative to cremation or burial. It is a place of no escape. Yet Christ arose from the tomb and finalized man's salvation.

Many have tried to discredit this fact such as:

**The Swoon Theory**

or Resuscitation Theory

Jesus did not really die, He only swooned, therefore the disciples saw only a revived or resuscitated Christ. Christ was nailed to a cross and suffered from shock, pain and loss of blood. But instead of actually dying, He only fainted (swooned) from exhaustion. When He was placed in the tomb, He was still alive and the disciples, mistaking Him for dead, buried Him alive. After several hours, He revived in the coolness of the tomb, arose, and departed.

People can be real STUPID.

Look at this theory: The Spiritual Resurrection Theory

This is the view that Christ's resurrection was not a real physical resurrection. Proponents of this theory assert that Christ's body remained in the grave and His real resurrection was spiritual in nature. It was only told this way to illustrate the truth of spiritual resurrection.

The best yet.

The Hallucination Theory

This theory says all of Christ's post-resurrection appearances were really only supposed appearances because actually the people only had hallucinations. In this way, all the post-resurrection appearances can be dismissed.

HERE IS THE TRUTH:



**Dr. Charles Burton**

Matthew 28:1-8

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. 2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: 4 and for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. 5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. 6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you. 8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

Yes, dear reader HE IS ALIVE. He arose from the dead. (Cont'd on pg 23)

Charles L. Burton

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# Five Truths...By Charles Burton, Cont'd.

Try as they may the World always fails to discredit our Lord's Resurrection.

Always.

Get this: Not only has he come back to life but He is coming back to get His children. All who have been Born Again wait for this wonderful EVENT.

I Thessalonians 4:16-18

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Revelation 22:12

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

He is coming back and He told us to be ready and to see the SIGNS of the times.

Matthew 24:1-14

24 And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. 2 And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.

3 And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? 4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5 For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. 6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then shall they deliver you up to be

afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

I love this story.

Several years back, our Daughter gave birth to a baby girl. Her name is Lily. Lily left this world in only a few hours. Heartbroken we all turned to our Lord. Comfort was given and hope restored. Now the story.

A young Mother was talking to a friend. She said to her, "I am so grieved at the LOSS of my daughter". Her young Daughter was listening and asked her Mom this question. Momma, is someone really lost if you know where they are? Her mother replied, Of course not. So, how can a Baby be lost when they are with Jesus?

They cannot.

What a great reunion many of wait for. Those taken to Jesus so young in the flesh. Here is the most important question.

Have you been Born Again?

Tell Jesus you believe He died for you... You are sorry to have been born a sinner... ask Him to forgive all your Sin... Open your Heart and just let Him in. That is the Gospel.

Romans 10:13

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Real 2,000 years ago...

Real today.

This Easter, remember, the Real truth about why we celebrate this occasion. He AROSE.

Happy Easter...

Doc

## AN ENCOURAGING WORD:

# AWAKE TO THE DAWN

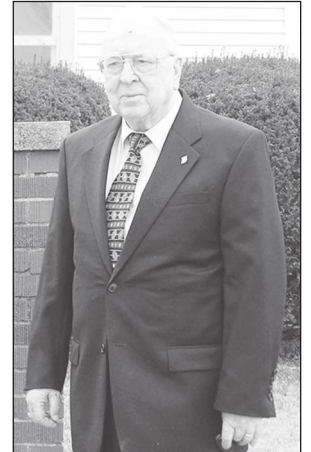
By Howard Coop

One beautiful morning in my early childhood is deeply etched upon my mind. For some reason, I rose early that morning, had breakfast, went out into the yard, and looked toward the east. The day was just beginning; it was still a little dark. Then, the day began to become brighter, and, like half of a big red ball, the sun began to appear on the eastern horizon, and darkness began to give way to light. I watched as the sun rose above the horizon, became round and bright yellow, and the day became light. That morning I eagerly watched the dawn of a new day, and unlimited possibilities, unknown to me, were ahead.

There is more to dawn than daybreak or the beginning of daylight in the morning. It can mean "to come forth" or "to begin to appear," and it can denote "to begin to be understood." So we talk about "the dawn of history," "the dawn of a new age," or "the dawn of something big." Sometimes, to say that we understand something, we say, "It dawned upon me."

Since I was in high school, Henry David Thoreau, the New England transcendentalist, has been one of my favorite American poets. At one time, Thoreau wrote, "Only that day dawns to which we are awake. There is more day to dawn."

A new day dawns regularly, something important begins to come forth frequently, and something big is about to happen almost every moment. That's just the way life is, but the more important question is: Did a new day dawn for you and did a new opportunity present itself to you?



A new day may dawn bright and beautiful, but, if you choose, you can sleep through the dawn and inertness may rob you of an opportunity. Did you ever face the moment when, missing something, you reacted, "Well, it never dawned on me?" You must be awake and alert to experience the dawn whatever that dawn is.

## *Decisions*

A lifetime of decisions,

But it all comes down to one  
Did you receive Jesus Christ,  
God's one and only Son?

**By Doug Miller, Co-founder of  
The Seeker Christian News**

## *Half-Truths*

Shallow Promises, loaves

Made of stone  
Offer fulfillment 'til  
Merits are known.

Did we not learn from  
Adam's great fall,  
A half-truth is not really truth at all.

**By Jim Shields, Author of Knot-hole Reflections on Live's Parade**

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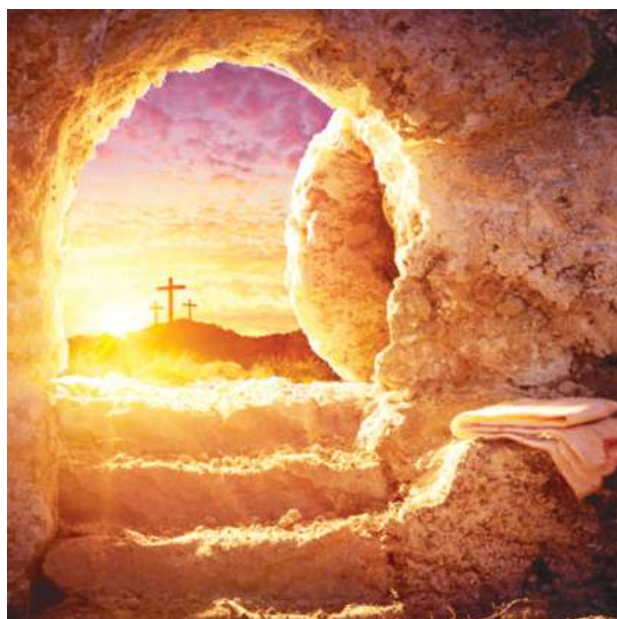
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