

## “Can’t Steal My Joy!”

Ever get to the front of the line only to find they just sold the last “widget” you had waited hours to purchase? Or maybe you ran through the airport to board your connecting flight only to be informed it left 5 minutes ago? Many people react harshly towards the sales clerk or promise to never use that company’s services again. A motivational speaker once challenged his audience to respond to such situations by saying “Can’t steal my joy!” As Christians, we are going to be challenged daily with various temptations; our attitude about these events will determine how we will address them. How might we respond in these circumstances? **“Can’t steal my joy!”** when...

1) ...bad stuff starts to happen. Armando Galaragga, Detroit Tigers pitcher, was denied a perfect game when the umpire missed a call at first base. Instead of criticizing the umpire, he handled this extremely disappointing situation with class and dignity. God’s servant Job faced many more difficulties than just a lost ball game; he lost his possessions, his family, and his health. Job 1:22, 23 records that he never blamed God for these tragedies and instead stated “blessed be the name of the Lord.”

2) ...friends just don’t get it. People who don’t have the same commitment to a spiritual life as we Christians do don’t understand why we make some of our decisions. There are many examples in the Bible of friends and family members who didn’t understand these faithful individuals. Potiphar’s wife didn’t understand when Joseph couldn’t be with her (Gen. 39). Peter, James, and John wanted to build tabernacles for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah on the mountain to honor each of these men not understanding Jesus’ place above these great men (Mark 9). Just before Jesus’ ascension to heaven, his disciples asked Him if He would “at this time restore again the kingdom of Israel?” (Acts 1:6)

3) ...hard choices have to be made. Satan constantly tries to get us to make selfish, ungodly decisions that would draw us away from God. The friends we choose, the places we go, the job we accept can all affect the direction of our spiritual lives. Joshua was determined to do right no matter what others did (Josh. 24:14-16). Jesus made the hardest choice of all when He left heaven, took on the form of a servant, and gave His life for sinful man (Phil. 2:5-9).

Christians have many reasons to find joy and happiness in our lives: our sins are forgiven, we have the promise of a heavenly home with God, and we enjoy peace of mind because of these two blessings. When the trials and difficulties of life come upon us, may we each reflect upon all that God does for us and not let anyone or anything **“steal our joy!”**

-the Elders

## Happy Birthday this week:



Ed Mickens Sept 25

Lyn Shrader Sept 25

## Happy Anniversary This Month to:

Paul & Yvette Mays Sept. 25

David & Hazel McFalls Sept. 26



### **Gospel Meeting with Steve Hall**

It's not too early to begin sending cards and notes to **Steve Hall** as encouragement for our gospel meeting **October 16-19**. Address labels are on the table in the foyer.

## Turn Turn Turn

### **October 8th (26 years)**

Ladies who plan to attend TTT on October 8 please sign up on the website or on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.



## Sunshine Basket

**Cameron Starnes** had surgery on his broken leg. He had pins and rods inserted and is improving. Look for a **Sunshine Basket** for him in the foyer. Cameron is a junior at Hidden Valley High. Ben or Bradford can give suggestions for items he might enjoy. Send cards to:

The new 2012 calendars are on the table beside the bulletins. Pick up a handful to give out or enclose with a bill payment!!!

## West Side Youth

October 30—Young Men conduct evening services

November 5 -Bonfire at the Edwards 6PM

November 13—TBS at Teen Center 7PM

November 19—Youth Rally 9am-1pm

## **Nine Good Minutes 2 weeks !!**

### **\*\*\*Ladies' Night Out \*\*\***

There's a sign up sheet on the hall board for hosting the Ladies' Nights Out for future months. Please sign up for whatever month you would be willing to host.

**SEPTEMBER ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:**  
"Snack pack" 100 calorie snacks (Cheetos and Ritz Mix);  
sliced pepperoni

Give these items to Jeanny to be shipped out.

## **Exciting Update**

Our spring gospel meeting with Dr. Billy Smith is set for April 22-25, 2012. Brother Billy is Dean of the Bible Department at FHU and nephew of Garland Elkins. He also directed the Horizons Program for our youth for over 25 years.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!!**

Danny and Charlene Guard are going to be grandparents. Caleb and Carrie are expecting a new family member in May.

Excited also are the great-grandparents

Patti and Chachi Gwaltney



Send cards to Garrett Durham at:

## TUESDAY NIGHT TALENTS

Tuesday Night Talents continues on October 4th. The **Barnabus Project** will pick another "family of focus". Plan to meet at 6:00 pm for dinner and then stay to help as this new work begins.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT WEST SIDE

October 8—TTT Ladies' Day at West Side

October 16-19—Gospel Meeting with Steve Hall

November 12—Men's w/s planning breakfast

### AREA EVENTS:

- ◇ **WEST VIRGINIA CHRISTIAN LECTURESHIP** (12th Annual)  
September 25-28. Hosted by Pennsboro Church of Christ.  
See flyer on event board for details.
- ◇ **COLD HARBOR Ladies Day**-October 1st. Details are posted on the bulletin board.
- ◇ **LAKE DRIVE Gospel Meeting with Tim Shoulders**, Oct.9-13.
- ◇ **DALE RIDGE KID'S DAY** October 29, 3:00—5:00. RSVP now.
- ◇ **COLD HARBOR ROAD LECTURESHIP** (15th Annual),  
November 3-6 Theme: **Balance**.
- ◇ **Rocky Mount Ladies' Day is November 5th.**
- ◇ **GREAT SMOKEY MOUNTAIN MARRIAGE RETREAT**  
February 15-18, 2012. "A Match Made in Heaven" Pigeon Forge Holiday Inn Conference Center. \*\* 2 tracks \*\*

### Speak to Folks About Heaven in Two-Thousand Eleven

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Last week's attendance 9/18/11 & 9/21/11

Bible Class-181 Worship Service-227 (F&FD)  
Sunday PM-142 Wednesday PM-151  
Contribution- \$ 4897

## Senior Servants

Lynn Anderson	Norma Biller
Betty Buckner	Jim Dorsett
Margaret Kratz	Miriam Majors
Jo Musgrove	Evelyn Scott
Elsie Smith	Ruth Stanton
Evelyn White	WJ Wood
Grace Myers	Al Furrow



- ⇒ Celeste Baaken, Marc Laplante's sister, has a daughter (2lbs 15oz.) who seems to be doing well.
- ⇒ Susan Stinnet, daughter of **John Black**, had back surgery Tuesday.
- ⇒ Robert Young, father of **Brandi Beavers**, had pacemaker surgery.
- ⇒ **Glenn Gabbard** will have knee surgery October 6th.
- ⇒ **Sandy Garby's** parents are both having health issues.
- ⇒ **Micha Stowers**, sister of Kim Brown, had surgery Tues. and is having some minor complications.

### Continue in Prayer:

Ruth & Glenn Hartman, Sr.  
Sandra Speir  
Dale Janosik  
Corey Ryan  
David Hayes  
Mary Valentine  
Ron White  
Willard Campbell  
Naola McCormick  
Mary Halling  
Mickie Janney  
Kevin Barnard  
Jerry and Jennifer Ogden  
Mason & Cole Anderson  
Ethal Kent (LD)  
Rob Kinney (D.R.-Shingles)  
Jim Dorsett—Severe Cold  
Ashley Lakes

<b>Announcements:</b>	<b>Fred Altizer</b>
<b>Song Leader (AM):</b>	<b>Paul Mays</b>
<b>Opening Prayer (AM)</b>	
10/02/2011	<b>Glenn Gabbard</b>
10/09/2011	<b>Charlie Gwaltney</b>
10/16/2011	<b>Glenn Hartman</b>
10/23/2011	<b>Jeff Durham</b>
10/30/2011	<b>Bob Garby</b>
<b>Preside at Communion:</b>	<b>Charles Maness</b>
<b>Serve Table</b>	<b>Mitch Jearls</b>
	<b>Walter Jenkins</b>
	<b>Danny Guard</b>
	<b>Jeff Guilliams</b>
<b>Closing Prayer (AM):</b>	
10/02/2011	<b>Jim Bush</b>
10/09/2011	<b>Gene Benefield</b>
10/16/2011	<b>John Black</b>
10/23/2011	<b>Jim Harrington</b>
10/30/2011	<b>Barry White</b>
<b>Song Leader (PM):</b>	<b>Charlie Gwaltney</b>
<b>Opening Prayer (PM)</b>	
10/02/2011	<b>Wayne Dixon</b>
10/09/2011	<b>Jim Cooke</b>
10/16/2011	<b>Mike Durham</b>
10/23/2011	<b>Bradford Durham</b>
10/30/2011	<b>Greg Edwards</b>
<b>Scripture Reader:</b>	<b>Jimmy Harrington</b>
<b>Closing Prayer (PM)</b>	
10/02/2011	<b>Fred Altizer</b>
10/09/2011	<b>Jerry Anderson</b>
10/16/2011	<b>Wesley White</b>
10/23/2011	<b>Josh Whitlow</b>
10/30/2011	<b>Tom Rogers</b>
<b>Serve Table (PM)</b>	<b>Noah Laplante</b>
	<b>Mark Brooks</b>
	<b>Josh Whitlow</b>
<b>Song Leader (Wed):</b>	
<b>Prayer (Wed)</b>	
10/05/2011	<b>Don Pettit</b>
10/12/2011	<b>Ben Munsey</b>
10/19/2011	<b>George Mellon</b>
10/26/2011	<b>Mark Laplante</b>
<b>Open/Close Bldg:</b>	<b>Squeaky Valentine</b>
<b>Greeters:</b>	<b>Jearls; Valentines</b>
<b>Nursery Attend:</b>	<b>Paula Gibson</b>
	<b>Sydney Durham</b>
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>Curtis Oakes,</b>
	<b>Norris Gearhart</b>
<b>Handouts:</b>	<b>Garrett Laplante</b>
	<b>Chandler Jearls</b>
<b>Prepare communion:</b>	<b>Jean Argabright</b>
	<b>Marsha Cooke</b>
<b>Baptismal Garments:</b>	<b>Jeanny Gilpin</b>
<b>Cards/Pencils:</b>	<b>Noah Laplante</b>
	<b>Connor Jearls</b>

Although there are certainly abuses of it, the internet has enriched men's lives and forever changed the way we gather information. And, while there are some disgraceful, ungodly and sinful matters found on it, there are many great uses for it as well. One of the interesting things one can do is look up historical matters on any given date. For example, Wednesday (Sept. 21), the day on which this article was penned, was the date in 1780 that General Benedict Arnold met with British Major John Andre to discuss handing over West Point to the British in exchange for a large sum of money and a high-ranking position in the British Army. Fortunately, the plot was foiled and the once heralded Benedict Arnold was found to be a traitor to his country, and his name forevermore synonymous with disloyalty.

It is interesting to note that you will search in vain to find a website that will say "On this date in history, nothing of significance happened." It is simply not there. Why? Because something of significance to someone happened somewhere on any given date. It might not have been of significance to our hemisphere, our culture, our country, ourselves personally, or even to our generation. But, something of significance happened on every date on the calendar.

Individually, each of us can point to dates of significance in our lives. We know the date in which we were born. We know the birthdates of those closest to us. We know wedding anniversaries and the dates of other milestones in our lives. We also recall dates that are significant because of the bad that occurred on them- bad news we received, the death of a loved one, etc.

Can you recall the day you accepted the Lord's command and put Him on in baptism (Rom. 6:3, 4; Acts 2:38)? That was, for all who have experienced it, the greatest date of significance in your life. But, what if you have not obeyed the gospel? Today could be the most significant day in the history of your life. No, it won't make the record books or be looked up on the internet as a day of significance by some future generation, but it will be the most significant day of your "history." Why not make it such, not only because of the great blessing it will be to you now, but because of the hope that it offers you for eternity. And, also, because one day a book will be opened (Rev. 20:12) that will record this most significant day in the history of your life. Will your name be there when that book is opened and "On this day in history" is revealed?

-Eddy