



## The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:3-17

- I Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- II Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.
- III Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.
- IV Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- V Honor thy father and thy mother.
- VI Thou shalt not murder.
- VII Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- VIII Thou shalt not steal.
- IX Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
- X Thou shalt not covet.

## Written in Stone

God took the time to write the Ten Commandments in granite with his own finger. As Christians, is this something that we should think about today? In Roman 6:14, we can read that we are no longer under the law but under grace.

Does that mean that Christians no longer have an obligation to keep the Ten Commandments? In the story of Daniel and the lion's den in chapter six it may help us to understand the Biblical relationship between salvation and the Law of God and how it all fits together.

After the Babylonian kingdom fell to the Persians, the new king, Darius, was very impressed with Daniel's ability and his high spirit, and he was thinking about making him the Prime Minister of his new kingdom.

But this was not going over very well with the members of Darius' cabinet. Because Daniel was a former servant of Nebuchadnezzar, who was their enemy, and because Daniel was a former captive among the Israelites, they could not understand why the king wanted to promote somebody that was a foreigner to be the new Prime Minister.

So they came up with a plot and went to Darius and said, "Your Highness, a new kingdom is now being formed now that we have conquered several other empires, and the best way to get everyone all together will be through common worship. So in order for you to get this new kingdom all together, you will need to make a new law.

*Continued on Page 8*

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## Being there is why I'm here.

## Our Fight For Freedom: The American Revolution

By Karen McBride

*Bob Wilson and his granddaughters Amy and Amanda at the Old North Bridge.*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote the Concord Hymn:  
By the rude bridge that arched the flood  
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled.  
Here once the embattled farmer stood,  
And fired the shot heard round the world.*

The poem pays homage to the brave militia men who lost their lives during the American Revolution with the Battle of Concord being widely acknowledged as the event that started the American Revolution.

Growing up in the area, I never appreciated the rich history that surrounded us. However, as a child, I vividly recall the class assignment to memorize its opening paragraph, and I can still recite it today. Since then, I have been back to Massachusetts many times and brought my children to teach them the history of our country.

The field where this pivotal moment took place appears as a serene yellow field of tall grass surrounded by an age-old stone wall. Passersby may never suspect the historical importance of this small plot of land.

The brave Minutemen, predominantly farmers, courageously fought for independence from England. Their spirit resonates even today as Americans continue to uphold and defend our cherished freedoms.

If you have the opportunity to visit Massachusetts, spend some time learning about the embattled farmers at North Bridge. Park rangers provide guided tours. Visitors will see the Minute Man statue created by Daniel Chester French in 1875 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the battle. Civil war cannons were melted down to create the cast bronze statue.

Historic buildings on the site include:  
The Old Manse, built in 1769: home to revolutionaries and to writers such as Ralph Waldo Emerson and Nathaniel Hawthorne.  
The North Bridge Visitor Center: a brick mansion built in 1911 by Major John Buttrick's descendants. After the British fired the first shot, Buttricks, a colonial officer, ordered his militia to fire back at the British soldiers. The ruins of two 17th century homes, owned by his brothers Ephraim and Willard Buttrick, remain at the site.

Historic trades demonstrations and re-enactments are held throughout the year. Upcoming events include:  
A Declaration of Independence reading will be held on July 4, 2024.  
Patriots Day Celebrations will be held April, 2025. Check here for more details <https://www.nps.gov/mima/planyour-visit/patriots-day.htm>  
As we celebrate the country's independence day, remember it started with the shot heard round the world. To read more about the Battle of Concord or to plan your visit to the North Bridge, go to <https://www.nps.gov/mima/north-bridge-questions.htm>



## Unity North Tampa to Host "Christmas in July" Silent Auction for Community Support

Unity North Tampa (UNT) is excited to announce its upcoming "Christmas in July" themed Silent Auction, a special event dedicated to supporting their ministry. The auction will take place on July 13th from 3:00pm to 6:00pm, at the Unity North Tampa facility located at 19520 Holly Ln, Lutz, FL 33558.

This Silent Auction promises an array of unique and valuable items up for bid, generously donated by local businesses and community members. Attendees will have the opportunity to bid on a wide range of items, including jewelry, artwork, gift certificates, vacation packages, and exclusive experiences. All proceeds from the event will go directly towards supporting UNT's programs and initiatives.

• **Date and Time:** Saturday, July 13th, 2024 | 3:00pm - 6:00pm

• **Location:** Unity North Tampa, 19520 Holly Ln., Lutz, FL 33558

• **Admission:** Free entry

• **Bidding:** Begins at 3:00pm and closing times will be staggered

• **Special Items:** Featured items include a beautiful diamond necklace appraised at over \$1800.00, original artwork, a brand new 4-wheel medical scooter and more!

"We are thrilled to host this Silent Auction as a way to bring our community together and support the various programs we offer," said Cynthia Alice Anderson, Senior Minister of Unity North Tampa. "The generosity of our donors and the enthusiasm of our attendees make events like this possible, and we look forward to a successful and enjoyable afternoon."

Unity North Tampa is committed to fostering a sense of inclusive community and providing resources that support spiritual growth, personal development, and overall well-being. The funds raised from the Silent Auction will be used to enhance our community outreach programs, support local families in need, and continue offering valuable services and events to the Tampa area.

### How to Participate:

• **Donations:** Donations for auction items are being accepted and can be dropped off to the church Sundays from 9am-1pm, Tuesdays from 11am-1pm and Thursdays from 7:00pm-8:00pm through June 30th.

• **Bidding:** Join us Saturday July 13th at 3:00pm

For more information about the Silent Auction or to learn more about Unity North Tampa, please visit [unitynorthtampa.org](http://unitynorthtampa.org)

**About Unity North Tampa:** Unity North Tampa is a spiritual community where all are welcome, dedicated to inspiring and empowering individuals to lead fulfilling lives through spiritual principles and practices. We offer a variety of programs and services designed to support personal growth, community involvement, and spiritual enrichment.

**"Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."**  
— Ephesians 5:1-2

## The Summer Heat is On But It Won't Stop Free Food Pantry From Serving The Community

By Karen McBride



Father & Son Love Free Food Pantry has been serving the community for the past 7 years, distributing and serving over 4.8 million meals to veterans, seniors, first responders, homeless and families in need.

The heat won't slow them down this summer as they have many events planned for families in need:

Free Summer Lunch Program for school age children. Meals are provided on Tuesdays from 3-6 pm and Fridays from 12-3pm. Children must be accompanied by a parent, and the parent is invited to shop as well.

Free Mobile Doctor's Clinic for those that do not have any health insurance. Referrals are provided to those that need additional healthcare. Appointments must be made in advance. Check the website for upcoming dates/times.

Blood Drive. Clients coming in can donate blood helping community members overcome health issues and then shop for their families. Father & Son feeds the body and the soul. Volunteers are needed to provide the support to the community. Recently, a group of volunteers from the local Neurological Center in Pasco were trained at the pantry. These are people who are survivors of sub-acute and post-acute brain injuries.

"These folks are so efficient and dedicated to the tasks assigned," said Pastor CJ.

To find out more about the pantry, visit <https://www.facebook.com/freefoodpantries> or <https://fatherandsonloveministries.com> or call (813) 846-9993. To make a donation, go to [https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted\\_button\\_id=5BZ15F5HONUCN](https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=5BZ15F5HONUCN)

I heard about this elderly man and he was close to death. He sent for two of his church members, a minister and a lawyer, to come to his house. Upon arrival he motioned for them to sit on each side of the bed. The men were very moved that they could be with the him in his final moments. One pointed to the lawyer and asks very sincerely, "Sir, why did you choose both of us?" The minister mustered up enough strength and said, "Jesus died between two sinners. That's the way I want to go."

Say it like you mean it. Joel Osteen

## The Great Florida Outdoors: Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)

Dr. Robert Norman, Clinical Professor, Dermatology, Nova Southeastern University

In 1936, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) began restoring the buildings at the fort in 1936 with impetus from the New Deal proclamation of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The action put thousands of Americans back to work refurbishing the nation's parks and resources amidst the stagnation of the Great Depression. I have been to many of the CCC restored parks and marvel at the workmanship and united efforts of those who participated.

I have written in these pages before about the CCC in articles about Fort Clinch State Park, Hillsborough River State Park, and O'Leno State Park. I stayed in a CCC-built cabin at Myakka River State Park and became fascinated with the history.



"In Florida, 50,000 young men from poverty-stricken families earned \$30 a month while receiving food and housing as they worked (\$25 was to be sent home). Each had to sign up for at least six months.

The speed with which this program took shape is breath-taking. FDR was inaugurated as president on March 4, 1933. He proposed the CCC on March 9. Congress authorized it March 27. On April 7, the first men were enrolled and began serving. Eventually, more than 3 million

men ages 17 to 28 served in the CCC." (from the Floridambler.com)

In Highlands County, at mostly what is Highlands Hammock State Park, they used 3.4 million man-hours and worked from June 1934-December 1941 building 30 structures including houses, bridges, workshops, a greenhouse, restrooms, pavilions, recreation hall, mess hall, water towers and water lines. They also constructed drainage ditches, roads, cattleguards, fences, a sawmill including a kiln, and trails and ponds. In addition, they fought fires and potted, grew and planted 2500 varieties of plants. Enrollees reforested wastelands, developed new recreational facilities, aided in the control of erosion of farms and improved conditions for wildlife. More than 49,000 men from the state were enrolled in 73 camps for an operation with a total financial obligation within the state of Florida of more than \$34 million.

As you travel Florida and explore its award-winning state parks, take special note of the buildings, trails, and other amenities we still enjoy because of the work of the CCC. There are CCC projects in nine state parks, and one, Highland Hammocks in Sebring, has a fascinating museum devoted to the history of the CCC in Florida.

The CCC developed state parks in all 50 states and established 800 state parks. Many of the illiterate enrollees were taught to read and write.

The Civilian Conservation Corps was one of the most successful New Deal programs of the Great Depression. This social employment program existed for fewer than 10 years, but left a legacy of strong, handsome roads, bridges, and



buildings throughout the United States, and untold memories, stories and pictures among its participants. Between 1933 and 1941, more than 3,000,000 men served in the CCC.

Could we consider a project like this today? Where can you see these marvels of Florida? the species in the world." Where can you find these wonderful patterns in nature?

### Get out into The Great Florida Outdoors!

Dr. Norman's focus is on ecology, conservation, nature writing and photography, and natural history. He is a graduate of the Advanced Master Naturalist program from the University of Florida and has written the book Ocala National Forest (Arcadia Publishing). He writes a monthly newspaper column called "The Great Florida Outdoors" that goes to over 100,000 households. In December of 2015 he helped with the founding of the Silver Springs Forest. Dr. Norman has created films about the Hillsborough River and other nature subjects that are used in outdoors education and schools and a new film that is a companion to his book *Reading the Florida Landscape*.

Dr. Robert Norman, Clinical Professor of Dermatology  
Director, Center for Geriatric Dermatology, Integrative Dermatology and Neuro-Dermatology  
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## How to Adjust and Respond to Circumstances in Life

Samantha Taylor



One of the hardest parts about life is that it can be very difficult sometimes. Things don't always work out as you have planned. Crisis can happen, you can lose loved ones, dreams that you've been working on for 25 years can end. It's a common thing that many people have gone through these last four years.

The one thing I have learned about life is the ability to adjust in any environment that you find yourself in totally impacts your experience. We can't always control what happens to us but what we can control is how we respond to it. Even though things can be difficult, it's different when we take responsibility for the fact that we do have a part in our experience of that circumstance, based on how we respond and how we perceive it.

I have also had to learn this the hard way. Going through losing my health and fitness company that I invested 30 years of my life into and then in the middle of that, my husband and best friend of 29 years dying and going to heaven. If I wasn't grounded in God and focused on the fact that He is still good and I can still trust Him no matter what happens in life, my response to those things would've been completely different.

It doesn't mean it wasn't difficult and there weren't deep moments of intense pain and sorrow that almost felt unbearable. But what it does mean is that you learn to pick up the pieces whatever is left, even though you would've never wanted it to happen. And you choose to figure out how those pieces tie into your future. It really is a learned skill to have the ability to adjust, it's like an art form really. But when you trust God and you know that His long term and short term plan is what matters more than ours, then there is a different level of experience in the difficulties.

And as I have had to climb my way through the deepest valleys I've ever walked through in my life, I have learned that they are not an end. They are actually a channel that you walk through that is a part of getting you to the next journey that you are supposed to be on. Not that you asked for the valley or even wanted it but when it happened and know there was nothing you could do about it, then the key is adjusting and asking God, "What do You want me to do with my life now?"

Because of the amount of difficult things I've walked through in my life, I knew that it was my heart's passion to share with others the power of how to apply the Bible to change our lives and how amazing it is having a deep relationship with God. Those two things impacted my entire life and they are the two things that I love talking about the most!

So in this adjustment phase of figuring out what I'm doing with my life since it's completely different in all areas, God has opened the door for me to have my own TV show!!! It is very humbling and exciting at the same time. It just went live on national television last month to millions of people weekly! AND God has opened the door for me to be on another TV show going to 250 million homes in the fall...it is all so astounding what is happening!!! It's such a testament to me about perseverance and persistence even through difficulties. I inspire you to keep pressing through because you have no idea what's waiting on the other side of you making it through your tough times too.

My new TV show is called "Divine Life Transformation". God has combined my passion for sharing powerful principles of the Bible with my love for God's nature. The show is designed around sharing life transforming principles while I take you hiking in epic scenery from California, New Zealand, Utah, Mexico, Nevada to Fiji!

To check it out, I put my TV episodes on my YouTube channel every Saturday morning, so you can find them without cable. Go to my website [www.DivineLifeTransformation.com](http://www.DivineLifeTransformation.com) to get the place to view the TV show. I encourage you to set a goal to watch at least one episode this week, you're going to love it! I am excited for you to join me on the journey of YOUR divine life transformation too. I will see you there!

## It's Time For Fun In The Sun, But Keep In Mind The Importance Of Summer Safety!

By Karen McBride

Summertime is here! It's time for picnics, days at the beach, cooling off in the swimming pool, and enjoying time with your family and friends.

Unfortunately, it can also be the time of summer accidents. The euphoria of free time in the summer can result in slip and fall accidents around the pool, bicycling calamities, and illness caused by dehydration from not drinking enough water during playtime.

We hope that your child remains safe and healthy throughout the summer, but rest assured if your child should suffer a mishap, Dr. Michele Johnson-Towson and her staff at Pediatric Place of Tampa are available to help you. She and her team are dedicated to keeping patients both healthy and educated on changes in children's health care. They take the time to answer any questions parents may have. They treat your child's overall health, including immunizations, allergies, asthma, and ADHD (Attention-Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder).

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Do you have trouble focusing? Feel tired all the time? Have constipation or diarrhea? Have numbness in your extremities? All of these are common symptoms of mineral deficiencies. So, what do people do when they think they have a deficiency of a mineral? Hopefully, it would be to change their diet, but it is so much easier to take a supplement. We pop Vitamin D for our immune system, magnesium to relax our muscles, calcium for our bones, Vitamin B12 for plantar fasciitis, etc. Sometimes it is difficult to get enough nutrients from our food alone, and there is nothing wrong with taking supplements.

What we often fail to do is look at the interaction between various minerals and vitamins. In our effort to improve our health by increasing specific nutrients we may inadvertently interfere with the absorption of other nutrients. Especially when we add large doses of a specific vitamin or mineral.

Vitamin D works better with balanced amounts of calcium and magnesium. Balance being key as an excess of calcium or magnesium can be counterproductive to each other.

High levels of Vitamin A can decrease absorption of Vitamin D by up to 30%. High levels of Vitamin E can also affect the absorption of Vitamin D.

High levels of calcium can decrease zinc absorption. Some people have increased their intake of zinc as a preventive measure against colds, flu, etc. But if you are taking high levels of calcium to improve your bone health, you may be reducing the effectiveness of both minerals.

It is ideal to eat a balanced diet that covers all the colors of the rainbow so you can get as many nutrients as you can directly from food. When you need to take supplements, do your own research. More is not always better. Even supplements are better in moderation.

Work with a doctor to have blood tests done to check your level of vitamins and minerals. Then, work with a nutritionist to learn about interactions. Are some better taken in the am or pm? With or without food? Most people are not getting all the nutrients they need through food. Dealing with stress and illness requires higher levels of nutrients. Educate yourself to get the most out of the supplements you take and to be sure you are not spending money unnecessarily.

And remember, regular reflexology sessions can also help you get your body functions back into balance. Ask about my money-saving package deal to get the most for your money. Stay safe, and I wish you blessings galore!

Yours in Health,  
Louise Richardson, Certified Reflexologist



### What Is Your Purpose?

Amy Peterson Office Manager, River of Life Church

Have you ever wondered why you are here floating around on this giant rock? Is it just to work and make money to survive and to have nice things? There has to be more, right?

I can tell you the answer is yes, there is so much more. It's even better than you can imagine. You were made for so much more! God, the creator of heaven and earth, made you, crafted you, designed, and created YOU to be made in His exact image. Not something like Him, not something that resembles Him, but made in His image. If fact, it says that you are His mirror image. Which means when you look in the mirror you can see Jesus. Now before you write this off as heresy, let me explain.

In Psalm 8:4-6, it says, "What are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them? Yet you made them only a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor. You gave them charge of everything you made, putting all things under their authority."

As you make Him Lord of your life; God then gives you His power and authority to rule on this earth. Causing His will to be done here on earth as it is done in heaven. His will is not automatically done as some think. Yes, He is God, but not God of this world. He wants you to rule and reign with Him. He has put sickness, disease, poverty, depression, anxiety, lack, and fear under your feet.

In Colossians 1:18a, it says, "Christ is also the head of the church, which is his body."

If you make Him Lord of your life, you become His body, which means all those things that are against you, are now under your feet. You no longer have to bow to them. You bow to them by giving them place to continue to operate in your life.

Choose to believe today that all that Jesus paid for on the cross, which is freedom, forgiveness, righteousness, and healing is yours now. You don't have to wait until you get to heaven to enjoy these things. You can walk in these things here on earth. That is why Jesus crowned you with glory and honor and put all things under your authority.

We would love for you to join us at River of Life Church, located at 410 E. Chapman Rd. in Lutz, every Sunday at 10:30am and every Wednesday at 7:00pm. Lutz, FL. For more information, you can visit [www.rloftampa.org](http://www.rloftampa.org).

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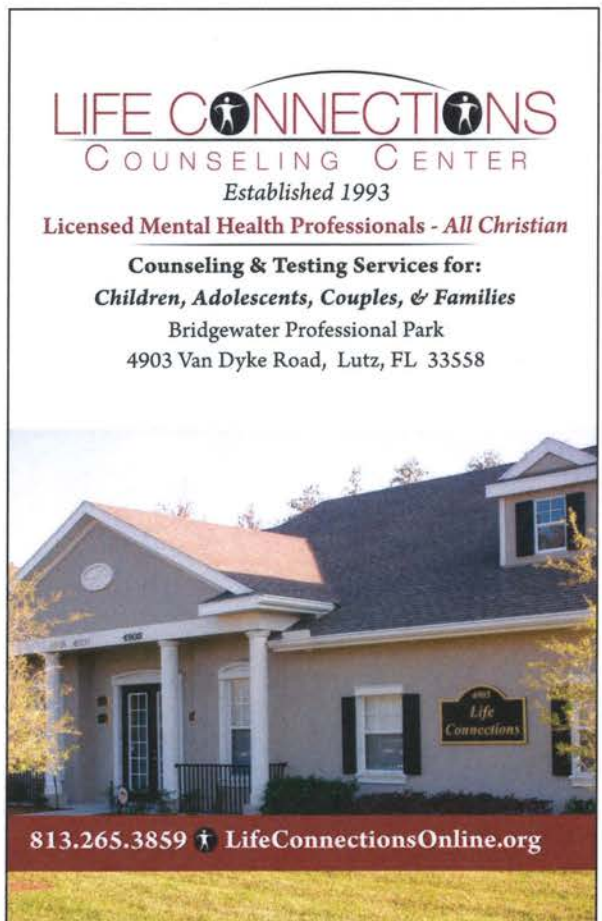


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Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1



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## Kidz Korner: Camp Deep Waters

Hi there! My name is Harley, writer of the monthly KIKI! I'm Harley, writer of the monthly Kidz Korner newspaper article. Summer is in full swing! Although there is some debate as to the official and actual start of the season, many children - including myself - have already been at camps for weeks.



If you've read the Kidz Korner before, you might know what American Heritage Girls is. AHG is a Christ-centered scouting program for girls ages 5-18. There are different Levels for all the ages, but we'll get to that in a moment.

Camp Deep Waters, the only AHG summer camp in Florida, has a different theme every year. My first year, 2022, was Shipwrecked. Last year was Game On! This year was Polar Expedition, where we had an Animal Encounter each day and earned the Zoology badge. Camp Deep Waters (CDW) was from June 2-8. However, I had also attended my Middle School church camp at Lake Placid the weekend before, so I was already losing my voice (LOL).

I am now a Pioneer (age 12-14)! Ever since I joined AHG in late 2022, I have been an Explorer (9-12), so this is a very exciting change! Therefore, I'm a newb at Crew Leading. But that's okay, because my co-leader was an experienced Patriot (14-18) named Bella. We decided to call our crew of eight campers the Loyal Least Weasels. All the campers had different "Skill Sessions," but this is what my schedule looked like:

*Flag Ceremony*  
**BREAKFAST!**

*Celebration Time*, where all the campers took part in our Animal Encounter. According to the camp director, it was called Celebration Time because a celebration is the name of a group of polar bears. It could also have been called the name of a group of crows, which is a murder, but that's not what it was, and that is that.

My first Skill Session of the day was the Book Adventurer badge (Skill A). It was led by a Stars & Stripes (AHG's equivalent of an Eagle Scout) Recipient, so it was pretty much guaranteed to be a blast! From interviewing author Anna Travis (if you like Christian fantasy, check out annatravis.com) via Zoom to making bookmarks and discussing *The Princess Bride*, the requirements we covered were a great success.

*B - Wild Card*: This class truly was a wild card, with scavenger hunts, getting to paint narwhals made out of gourds, and a new surprise every day, all led by Stars & Stripes Recipient Shannon Meuter.

Then came a picnic lunch, separated by crews, in a different location every day. This was a great time to get to know your crew and, of course, memorize/recite Bible verses.

*C - Canoe 2*: It was called Canoe 2 because there was a Canoe 1 available for girls who had not earned the Canoeing badge before. Our advanced techniques included Canoe Battleship, long-distance paddling, rough conditions, and obstacle courses.

*BOB (Body on Bunk) Time and then Free Time!*

*D - Chapel*: Learning about how God used animals to make a difference, like Balaam blessing Israel

*E - Archery*: The main highlight was getting to shoot watermelons!

*DINNER*, where the best meal was eating spaghetti with chopsticks

*Service Areas* (cleaning up the camp)

*Crew Time* - We got to make crafts, like bee hotels (aka AirBnBEE)

Some extra activities included the well-planned but sadly short-lived sloth stuffies wedding - aka my first-ever Pioneer-Patriot Private Party - and a fun tradition, Friday night skits (my cabin's was Animal-erican Idol).

All in all, CDW was a fun camp! Since Camp Deep Waters, I've been on my first international mission trip with my youth group, and up next this summer we'll be traveling to New York. I'm sure you'll hear all about that next month! :) See you later this summer!

*"When you go through deep waters, I will be with you." Isaiah 43:2*

Harley Isabel Smith

<https://harleyisabelsmith.com>

*Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*

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Although many people are unaware of it, Satan has a plan for America. He wants us to forget our godly heritage and slowly erase our rich, biblical foundation. We see the signs everywhere, God and prayer have been removed from schools and history books. God has been removed from our government except during times of emergency like September 11.

Our Constitution has also been reinterpreted and re-written to change our Founders' original intent. To take our moral temperature, all you have to do is turn on the television. Our society celebrates doing whatever they think is right, and sin is no longer called sin.

The good news is God also has a plan—and His plan is always greater. What is it?

#### God's Four-Step Recovery Plan

In 2 Chronicles 7:14, the Lord says, "If My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves, pray, seek, crave, and require of necessity My face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land."

God gives us four specific things to do: humble, pray, seek, and turn. This is our part of the process. As we do these things, then God will do His part to hear, forgive, and heal.

But until we do our part, God will not do His part. The key word in this entire verse is "then." It makes it clear that our part must be fulfilled before God's part can be initiated.

But until we do our part, God will not do His part. The key word in this entire verse is "then." It makes it clear that our part must be fulfilled before God's part can be initiated.

Our part involves true humility and repentance. We can pray for restoration. However, restoration can't come until there is revival. Revival can't come until there is responsibility, responsibility can't come until there is repentance, and repentance can't come until we remember.

We must remember who we are, where we come from, and why it's important to be accountable for what God's given us through our Founding Fathers. We must discover things like:

- How was our government formed?
- What price was paid for our liberty, and who paid it?
- What role did God play in the lives of our Founding Fathers?
- What responsibilities did our Founders give us?

The Bible says wisdom comes from two sources: the Word of God and life's experiences (his-

tory). If we choose to forget the past, then we lose the wisdom of the past—wisdom that came at a great price. If we forget, then history will inevitably repeat itself, and we'll once again pay a tremendous price. God wants to use our nation as a beacon of light to shine brightly for Jesus Christ all around the world.

#### Revival or Rescue?

I believe a lot of people simply want God to rescue this nation—to solve our problems without requiring any action on our part. However, revival for America includes taking responsibility to do what God shows us to help preserve what our forefathers obtained.

In 1787, as Benjamin Franklin exited the Constitutional Convention, a woman shouted from the crowd, "Sir, what have you given us?" Franklin famously responded, "A republic, ma'am, if you can keep it."

What did he mean? A republic means "rule of law" (our Constitution). This form of government offers the very greatest liberties and freedom—but it also requires the most responsibility, moral virtue, and maintenance to keep it intact.

America has gone from a strong, godly nation, ready to fight for our liberties and moral principles to one that's complacent, allowing ungodliness to creep in little by little.

Evil doesn't just happen overnight, it happens slowly over time as we fail to fulfill our responsibilities. Not doing what needs to be done in the face of evil encourages its existence and growth. Evil is only denied existence by wise action, and wise action is our responsibility!

As Christians, the choice is up to us. We can either stand up and fight or lay down entirely. But we can't stay the same and expect the direction of our country to change.

#### Worth Fighting For

God is waiting for the body of Christ in America to become a courageous body—a group who will stand up and do what He is asking us to do. This is the true meaning of a "patriot." It involves becoming educated about our past, then taking action for our future.

The Lord wants to use our nation, our resources, and our people to once again become a beacon of light to shine brightly for Jesus Christ all around the world.

On May 27, Memorial Day, we celebrated those who have allowed our light to shine in years past, an honor all of the servicemen and women who fought for this nation and made the ultimate sacrifice. Today, we continue the fight. However, it's a battle against misinformation, passivity, and what I refer to as "historical amnesia."

These battles are just as important as any we've ever fought. Our generation has the responsibility to protect the precious liberties that brave men and women have sacrificed to protect.

Friends, with your help, we can protect them—God has given us the plan. One by one, we can do our part to take a stand for America.

As we are faithful to do what we can do, the Lord will be faithful to do what we can't, and bring healing to our land.

[joycemeyer.org](http://joycemeyer.org)  
(800) 727-9673  
The Future of America,  
Dave Meyer  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWOiGY-ikbo>



## Passion for Prison Ministry is Helping to Break the Chains of Sin

By Karen McBride



Life behind bars can be a scary, lonely time. Inmates often feel overlooked by family and friends. Scotty, Jessica, and Carla began Passion for Prison ("PFP") ministry as a way to reach out to people incarcerated so they would know they are not forgotten.

At a very young age, Jessica had a history of breaking the law and knew what life was like behind bars. It wasn't until she accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior that He showed her how she could use her testimony to help others.

As she began her new Christian life, she felt a calling to go on a mission's trip. While collecting donations for the trip to the Dominican Republic, someone gave her a check along with an application for a prison ministry. He recommended that while Jessica was waiting on the upcoming mission's trip, she should consider volunteering at the prison ministry.

She completed her application to go to the Orange County Jail and waited for the first day of volunteering. As a self-proclaimed "tomboy" she always felt more comfortable around men, but this particular ministry only allowed women to go to the women's jail. To her amazement, she found the women in the jail were just like her, and she could easily relate to them.

She experienced another surprise when she heard the pastor playing the electric guitar in the courtyard. He started with Lynrd Skynrd and switched to praise and worship. She thought that was such a unique way to reach the people in prison. God had planted the seed in her heart for a unique prison ministry.

She served on the medical mission's trip but felt completely unequipped as she had no medical skills. Yet, God had plan for her. As she was arriving in the Dominican Republic, she met a group of young people from Cocoa Beach. In the short conversation, she was sharing her experience at the prison ministry and found out that their pastor was the man playing the electric guitar.

It was at this moment that she knew this was her sign from God saying, "Yes this is the path I have for you." She didn't need to travel to other countries to help people, she could minister right here in her own community.

To find her way in this new calling on her life, she began volunteering at the Hernando Correctional Institution on a regular basis. During this time, the chaplain was deployed to Iraq. Jessica continued to volunteer and was now in charge of unlocking the chapel door. He was deployed for a year, and she was concerned about who would continue to unlock the chapel door each week. She was told the curriculum was only 8 weeks long, so she would need to produce her own ministry if she wished to continue serving. As she was discussing it with her friend, Carla said, "Since you have started in prison ministry, I found that I have a passion for prison." And so, the ministry found its name.



PIP travels across Florida and the U.S. to Puerto Rico, Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi, and even Hawaii.

At least once a month they do a yard event in the prisons across Florida, having up to 80% of the population in attendance. Scotty and Jessica minister at both men and women's units.

They bring their motorcycles, and curiosity draws inmates into the main yard. Once they have engaged the prisoners, they can begin spreading the hope found in God's word.

*Psalm 119:114 NLT: "You are my refuge and my shield; your word is my source of hope."*

This past year over 24,000 people were released in sixty-seven counties. "Would you rather a released criminal who is going to commit more crimes be in your neighborhood or a released Christian who's living for Jesus?" asked Jessica. "This is why it is so important to reach them before they are released." A warden recently reminded her, "We are not making better inmates, we are making better neighbors."

Many released prisoners are now volunteers at PFP. "There's no higher moment than to stand next to people in free world clothes that say, 'I was serving a life sentence when I met Scotty and Jessica and accepted Jesus as my Savior.'"

"The freedom they gained came from Jesus. Prison does not change a person for the better. If you don't change a man's heart, you don't change anything, and only Jesus can," said Scotty.

A letter from Amanda, a former inmate, read, "I hadn't had a hug from anyone in two years, but I haven't had a hug with love behind it you gave in my whole life."

They have ministered to over 17,000 families (not just prisoners as they are reconciling families and making a difference in their lives as well as the inmates).

"There's nothing better than to go to a restaurant and have a waitress say, 'I saw you when I was in prison' or you run into a mom in Walmart that has been reconciled with her kids."

How can you help? Funding is needed in order for the ministry to travel (for hotels, food, and gas), as well as monthly support to include postage for letters sent to inmates on a regular basis. They need help with public relations, social media, and spreading the word about their ministry. They are looking for younger volunteers to keep the ministry going. Younger people are in prison too and can more easily relate to volunteers their own age.

One prisoner that stands out to them is Charles, a triple lifer.

He stood up in chapel one day and said, "If I had the opportunity to leave today with Scotty and Jess but I had to leave Jesus here, I would stay."

For more information and to see how you can help or volunteer, visit <https://www.passionforprison.com>.





### GFWC Member Awards



(L to R): President Peggy Andrews, Elayne Bassinger, Barbara Bird, Liz Cota, Debby Erdahl, Pat Evans and Karen Phillips



(L to R): Pam Blumenthal, Deb Cardona, Darlene Choe & Jeannie Sheets



(L to R): Edna Gordon & Gail Howard

GFWC Lutz-Land o' Lakes Woman's Club members enjoyed a lovely spring-themed luncheon where butterflies prevailed. Four new members were installed: Debby Erdahl, Pat Evans, Elizabeth Cota and Barbara Bird. Felicity Wallner, another new member was unable to attend. Elayne Bassinger installed the new members with a candlelight service and President Peggy Andrews and Elayne Bassinger presented them with gift bags. Welcome to our new members!

During the luncheon, Anniversary pins were awarded: 5 years - Pam Blumenthal, Deb Cardona, Darlene Choe, Jeannie Sheets. 10 years - Edna Gordon, Gail Howard. 15 years - Annette Bellingar, Marsha Gibson, Maureen Robak. 20 years - Helen Fornino. These dedicated ladies have generously supported GFWC for a 105 combined years of volunteer service to our community and beyond.

For more information on this community service organization and membership opportunities, please visit [gfwlutzlandolakeswomansclub.org](http://gfwlutzlandolakeswomansclub.org) or its Facebook page.



(L to R): Annette Bellingar, Marsha Gibson & Maureen Robak



Helen Fornino

I heard about a minister that died and was standing in line at the pearly gates. The man in front of him was dressed in a loud T-shirt, sunglasses, and blue jeans. Saint Peter asked him his name. He said, "I'm Joe Cohen, taxi cab driver, NYC." St. Peter checked his list, handed him a gold staff and a silk robe, and said, "Welcome to heaven." Then the minister stepped up and said, "I'm Reverend Joseph Snow, pastor of Saint Mary's Cathedra Church." St. Peter checked the list and handed him a wooden staff and cotton robe. He said, "Wait a minute, that can't be right. The taxi cab driver got a gold staff." St. Peter said, "Sir, up here we work by results. When you preached, people left, but when he drove, people prayed." *Say it like you mean it. Joel Osteen*



### Will You Pray For Our Nation?

In the face of widespread insecurity, fear, and hopelessness, our nation desperately needs your prayers.

Today we are surrounded by the effects of forgetting—even forsaking—God, both as a nation and as individuals. The problem is too big for human effort. Our nation has a heart problem, and only God can fix it. Will you join us in prayer as we ask God to heal our land?

We have a promise from the Lord: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14, NIV)

What price are you willing to pay?  
One Nation Under God  
With Liberty & Justice For All



Are you a follower or just a fan?

### GFWC Scholarships



GFWC - Lutz-Land o' Lakes Woman's Club - Elayne Bassinger, club member and Scholarship Chair is honored to announce the 2024 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS and recognize each of the following high school students.

#### Siena Pena

Scholarship amount \$2000 from Lutz-Land O'Lakes Woman's Club Sunlake High School; University of South FL  
Major - Nursing

#### Tyler Montgomery Tyson

Scholarship amount \$5000 from the Fireman's Fund Jesuit High School; University of Florida—Honors Program  
Major - Computer Science

#### Aelxys Carley

Scholarship amount \$2000 from Lutz-Land O' Lakes Woman's Club Land O' Lakes High School; St. Thomas University  
Major - Biology/Bio-Chemistry

#### Rohil Agarwal

Scholarship amount \$2000 from Lutz-Land O' Lakes Woman's Club Land O' Lakes High School; University of California—Berkeley  
Major - Computer Science

#### Caitlin Conrad

Scholarship amount \$5000 from the Fireman's Fund Steinbrenner High School; University of South Florida

Congratulations to each of these accomplished students! We wish them the best as they pursue their college education and degrees. For more information on this community service organization and membership opportunities, please visit [gfwlutzlandolakeswomansclub.org](http://gfwlutzlandolakeswomansclub.org) or its Facebook page.

### Tax Collector Sponsors Donation Drive for the Pasco School District's ABC Program



Tax Collector Mike Fasano's five offices will be collecting donations in July for the Pasco County School District's ABC (Assist, Believe & Care) Program. The program was created to provide financial assistance to students and their families who are experiencing economic hardship, especially when those needs interfere with the student's ability to be academically successful. The cash donated goes into a fund that teachers can use when they see or learn of a need a student may have. In past years, this office has donated thousands of dollars to Pasco schools to support this important program.

Cash donations can be made at any of the five tax collector locations in Pasco County. For more information about the Pasco Tax Collector's ABC Program, as well as the charitable giving programs in general, please contact Assistant Tax Collector Greg Giordano at 727-847-8179 or visit [www.pascotaxes.com](http://www.pascotaxes.com)

Donations may also be mailed to the tax collector's office at the following address: Tax Collector Mike Fasano, P.O. Box 276, Dade City, FL 33526. Please note on your check's memo line "Pasco ABC Program." Additionally, donations may also be made online at <https://www.govhub.com/fl-pasco/tc-gives/donate>



### An Act of Kindness: The Good Samaritan



Jesus answered, "A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who both stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. By chance a certain priest was going down that way. When he saw him, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite also, when he came to the place, and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he travelled, came where he was. When he saw him, he was moved with compassion, came to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. He set him on his own animal, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, and gave them to the host, and said to him, 'Take care of him. Whatever you spend beyond that, I will repay you when I return.' Now which of these three do you think seemed to be a neighbor to him who fell among the robbers?" He said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

— Luke 10:30–37, World English Bible

**"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."**

— Ephesians 4:29



**Written in Stone**

*Continued from Page 1*



It doesn't have to last long, but just for thirty days nobody will worship any god or man except for you and this will solidify your kingdom." Often the devil uses common worship and common language to do that.

So if you read in Daniel 6:8, he signs the decree that no one is to pray to any god or man for thirty days or they would be cast into the lion's den. King Darius never thought that anyone would ever break his law because once the king signed the decree, it could not be changed.

When Daniel heard about the signing of the decree, knowing the penalty, he chose not to hide his faith, so he went into his house and opened up his windows facing toward Jerusalem on his knees and gave thanks to his God as written in Daniel 6:10.

Soon after, the cabinet members went to the King Darius and said to him, "You know someone in your kingdom just doesn't care about your new law. It's that Daniel. He's been praying three times a day." With a heavy heart and knowing that he could not change the law, he gave the command to cast Daniel into the lion's den. The king spoke to Daniel, saying, "May the God whom you serve deliver you." And he had the stone put over the lion's den with a government seal in Daniel 6:16.

The next morning, the king had the stone removed and said, "Has your God delivered you from the lions?" Daniel cried out, saying, "My God has sent angels to shut the lions' mouths."



Because Daniel knew one of the Ten Commandments says that "you shall put no other God before me." Not even King Darius, not even for thirty days. Daniel was showing with his life that by keeping this law no harm would come to him and that he was willing to die rather than to disobey the law.

So what kind of faith and determination will God's people need in the last days? Will there be a law that says that he who does not worship the Beast in his image will be killed? Because worshipping the Beast is going to require breaking one of the Ten Commandments. Like Daniel, will God's people love the Lord so much that they would rather die or go hungry than to break God's commandments?

The Ten Commandments are not multiple choice questions. Can God's moral law be amended or repealed? Jesus tells us in Luke 16:21: "And it is easier for heaven to pass away than one speck of the law to fail." In Psalm 89:34, it reads: "My covenant I will not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips."

God is not going to break his covenant, for it's forever and ever. Also in Psalm 111:7-8 it says that all of his commandments are sure and will stand fast forever and ever. The Ten Commandments just didn't suddenly appear in Exodus because the Ten Commandment have al-

ways reflected God's nature. We know this from when Potiphar's wife tried to tempt Joseph to commit adultery in the book of Genesis. Joseph said, "I cannot do that." Joseph knew this even in the days of Genesis that adultery was a sin.

When Cain killed Abel, God said that sin lies at your door, and sin is the breaking of God's laws. Was murder a sin in the Garden of Eden? Or was murder not a sin until God wrote it down at Mount Sinai? Just as it is wrong to lie all the way back from the beginning. God simply arranged it, meaning that He wrote approximately 300 words into a stone of granite so it could not be changed nor would there be any misunderstanding that this was his perfect will for all of man and not to just one nation. So when you do away with law, you do away with the nature of God.

All through the Bible, you will find reflected references in His law. God is good, the law is good, God is Holy, the law is Holy, God is righteous, God is truth, God is pure, God is spiritual, God is unchangeable, and God is eternal. These are all characteristics of the law. So we need to be very careful about doing away with God's law because it is the very nature of God. Jesus was the word that became flesh. Christ said that "he who hears these words of mine is like a wise man who built on a rock." And the Ten Commandments was written on rock.

If any words would be important, it would be the words that God wrote in stone. Christ was the embodiment of the world. His life was of obedience to the laws of God. He said, "Pick up your cross and follow me." Jesus came to save us from sin. So what is he saving us from? In 1st John 3:4 it says, "Sin is the transgression of the law." In Romans 3:20, it reads: "By the law is the knowledge of sin." We really don't know what sin is except by the law. For God's laws reveals what sin is. The purpose of the law is not to save us but to show us that we are in need of salvation.

You can illustrate this by using a mirror to simulate the Ten Commandments and a wash cloth to simulate what Jesus did for us. Let's say that I walk out among you with something on my face and people begin whispering about it. Then a staff member comes up and says to me, "You have pie on your face." And if I pulled out a mirror, I could confirm what they have said is true. I could say that the mirror must be broken or say, "You're right," and then try to use the mirror by rubbing it on my face to try to remove it or use the cloth of Jesus with the mirror to wipe it away. So you can see that the mirror or the law can show you what's wrong or the problems in your life. But it could not be removed without the cloth of Jesus. The law is here to show us we need both the law and the blood of Jesus in order to take away sin.

So the law is like a mirror as it says in James 1:23-25. It's not to take away our sin but to show us our sin, and then you go to Jesus for cleansing.

Paul said where there is no law there's no transgression. In Romans 7:7 it reads, "I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said you shall not covet."

Did Jesus keep the Ten Commandments? In John 15:10 says, "I have kept my Father's commandments."

What is the punishment for living a life of sin? In Romans 6:23 it says, "The wages of sin is death." Some say the Ten Commandments are not binding for the New Testament Christians. Jesus said in Matthew 19:17, "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." Also in John 14:15, it says, "If you love me, keep my commandments."

You may hear a lot of pastors say that you do not have to keep the commandments, saying that Jesus had come to fulfill the law. So what does that mean?

When Jesus came to John the Baptist to be baptized John said to Jesus that you need to baptize me because you are the Messiah. Jesus said to him, "no John, allow it to be this way to allow us to fulfill all righteousness."

So obviously he wants us to keep the commandments. How is it possible to keep the commandments? In Romans 8:3-4 it says, "God sent his own Son... condemned sin in the flesh that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us."

And in Philippians 1:6 it tells us, "He who has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

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**Find the Bible verses in the paper and complete the entry!**

**Trivia Verses**

- Without faith,
- Be imitators of God,
- Do not let

**At what business did you pick up the Gazette? Or online?**

**June trivia had 8 players winning a round of golf certificate from Heritage Harbor!**

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What is the old covenant and why did it fail? Deuteronomy 4:13 says, "And he declared unto you His covenant, which He commanded you to perform, even the Ten Commandments and He wrote them upon two tablets of stone." But while Moses was retrieving the tablets from God, the Israelites made a golden calf. In Hebrews 8:8 it says, "In finding fault with them he said, 'I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.'"

The old covenant was based on the promises of the people who made a promise. The new covenant is based on the Lord. Hebrews 8:10 says "This is the covenant that I will make, said the Lord. 'I will write them into their hearts.'" Who spoke the first law? God did.

The problem is with the people, not the law. God never commanded his people to do something without giving them the power to do so. So when you follow the law that is called obedience. But some churches today are acting as if obedience is legalism. Obedience is not legalism. It is just another way for the devil to intimidate Christians by using dirty words among Christians, like legalist and Pharisee. Doesn't living under grace, by faith, make keeping God's laws non-essential?

Romans 6:15 says, "What then, shall we sin because we are not under grace? God forbid!" And again in Romans 3:31 it says, "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid yea, we establish the law. Again He use that praise God forbid."

Paul said in 2:13 that "it is not the hearers of the law that will be justified but the doers that will be justified." Ephesians 2:8-9 "for by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves. It is a gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast."

We're not saved by our obedience. But if we love the Lord, we want to obey Him. If you go to Billy Graham's website and ask the question: "Does God expect His people to keep the Ten Commandments?"

Answer: The Ten Commandments are just as valid today as when God gave them to Moses over 3,000 years ago. Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the law." in Matthew 5:18.

Are some Old Testament laws no longer binding? The answer is yes. The laws contained in ordinances such as yearly Sabbath offerings, meat offerings, drink offerings, etc. such as those in Leviticus 23. The Passover ceremony and circumcision are all ceremonial laws. Just remember this: the Ten Commandments were written by the eternal nature of God. Ceremonial laws were written by Moses.

These are two distinct laws. And the law that was nailed to the cross was ceremonial laws. Not the Ten Commandments. If you're struggling as we all do, just say, "Lord, I want to do your will." You know He gave us the Commandments because he wants to save us.

Written in Stone is a free special offer #111. Call 1-877-993-2287 for Amazing Facts.

Formulated by Dunndead Publications





## A Note to Our Dedicated Readers and Jesus Followers

### A Call for Support to Sustain Our Ministry

Amidst the beauty and challenges of our world, there exists a silent but relentless battle against mycobacteria—a battle that touches lives, tests faith, and demands unwavering commitment. This is the journey that Kay Dunn is facing today, and we urgently need your support to continue spreading God's word and serving those in need.

#### Understanding the Challenge

The mycobacteria infection attacks the lungs and leaves her very weak. It is also known as Lady Windermere Syndrome, and is caused by water, soil, and humidity, in other words, from the air. For those of you that know Kay personally, you know she is a very energetic, happy, spirit-filled lady who answers "Yes God" whenever He calls upon her to do something. But this illness is leaving her weak, tired, and having difficulty concentrating.

#### 2 Corinthians 12:9 NIV

*But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.*

#### Our Commitment and Mission

Despite these challenges, our commitment to spreading God's word through print media remains steadfast as it has for the past 23 years. We believe in the transformative power of faith and community, offering solace and hope to those affected by daily challenges. Through the Gazette, we provide comfort, prayer, and support for Christian businesses.

#### Why Your Support Matters

The journey ahead is daunting, yet our resolve to serve remains strong. We know that God will get Kay through this, and she will come through with a strong testimony to share. However, we cannot continue to spread God's word through print media alone. Your generous donations play a crucial role in sustaining the ministry and enabling us to continue:

- Reach more people in the community to spread God's word.
- Spread the word about Christian businesses to support their growth in the community.
- Support local outreach ministries by sharing their stories in the Gazette.

#### Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

#### How You Can Help

Your support is instrumental in helping us continue our mission. By donating today, you empower us to reach more hearts and make a tangible difference in the lives of those in our community. Every contribution, no matter the size, brings us closer to our shared goal of spreading God's love and healing to all.

#### Luke 9:23 NIV

*Then he said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.*

#### Join Us in Making a Difference

Together, we can overcome the challenges and continue to spread God's word of compassion, hope, and resilience. Your generosity enables us to serve as beacons of light in the darkest of times, bringing comfort and strength to those in need.

#### John 10:10 NIV

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.*

#### Conclusion

As we navigate the complexities we face, we remain steadfast in our mission to serve with compassion and faith. Your support today ensures that the ministry can continue its vital work, providing hope and healing to people in our community. Please make a donation through PayPal <https://dunndeanpublications.com/make-a-donation> or by check mailed to Dunndean Gazette, 218 E. Bearss Avenue, #256, Tampa, FL 33613.

Join us in making a lasting impact. Together, we can illuminate the path forward, guided by faith and fueled by love. Thank you for considering our call to action and for standing with us in this noble endeavor. But most importantly, thank you for your continued prayers.

#### Matthew 18:20 NIV

*For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.*

"God's medicine is the best medicine. He is definitely our physician," said Kay. Jesus owns everything, we are just His stewards. Blessings and Gratitude,

Kay and Mark Dunn, Publishers of the Gazette



**Help us to continue to spread God's word!**

Visit our website [www.dunndeanpublications.com](http://www.dunndeanpublications.com) to make a donation or send your check or money order to:

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while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. — II CORINTHIANS 4:18 NKJV

I heard about this middle-aged woman who had a heart attack on the operating table. She asked God if this was it. God said, "No, you have 40 more years, Suzy." Upon recovery, she decided to stay in the hospital to have an extreme makeover—tummy tuck, face-lift, the works. Two months later as she was leaving the hospital, she was hit by a car and was killed. When she got to heaven, she said, "Oh Lord, I don't understand it, I thought you said I had 40 more years." God said, "I'm sorry, Suzy. I didn't recognize you."

*Say it like you mean it. Joel Osteen*

## Celebrate Your Independence With Social Security

**By Javier Morales, Social Security Public Affairs in South Florida**



Every July 4, we celebrate our nation's independence. For nearly 90 years, our programs have helped create financial independence for millions of hardworking people. We have useful online resources like the Social Security Statement (Statement) and our benefits estimator tool that helps people not yet receiving benefits. The Statement shows the benefits that you and your family may be eligible for and provides personalized fact sheets tailored to your age and earnings situation. The benefits estimator tool allows you to get estimates based on different ages. These online tools can

help you better prepare for your retirement.

#### If you're not receiving benefits

You can get the most out of your online experience if you have a personal my Social Security account. You can:

- Request a replacement Social Security card.
- Get estimates for spouse's benefits.
- Get your Statement instantly.
- Get proof that you do not receive benefits.
- Check your application status.

#### If you're receiving benefits

You can use your personal my Social Security account to:

- Request a replacement Social Security card.
- Get an instant benefit verification letter.
- Start or change your direct deposit. (Social Security beneficiaries only)
- Change your address. (Social Security beneficiaries only)
- Get a replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S instantly for tax season.
- Opt out of mailed notices for those available online.

You can create your personal my Social Security account at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount).

Our blog at [blog.ssa.gov](http://blog.ssa.gov) features news and information about our programs and services. You can subscribe and get notified each time we post a new blog so you can stay informed. From the blog, you can also connect with us on Facebook, X, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube. With so many services and helpful information available online, we are here for you when you need us. Learn more at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov).

## Dive Into Summer With Essential Safety Tips From The Pasco Sheriff's Office

As the expression goes, "Summertime is the best time," but it can only be great by staying safe! Amidst the excitement surrounding summer, don't forget to include safety in your plans. Whether you're enjoying a day at the pool, jetting off on a vacation or just enjoying your time at home, the Pasco Sheriff's Office encourages our citizens to be cautious. Kick off your fun-filled summer with these essential safety tips from PSO!

You may have noticed more pedestrian and bicyclist activity in your neighborhood as students enjoy their break from school. Drivers can help keep Pasco's youth safe by slowing down and watching out for kids playing in residential neighborhoods. If you're one of the many people enjoying time outside, use sidewalks and crosswalks when possible, look in every direction for cars before crossing a street, remain distraction-free and keep your eyes on the road. Before biking, verify that you have all the right equipment and don't forget to wear a helmet.

Living in Florida, where water-related activities are plentiful, taking personal responsibility for your safety is essential. Remember to wear sunblock and stay hydrated as you bask in the sun. Teach children how to swim and never leave them unattended in or near water. If you're at a pool, keep a first aid kit nearby for emergencies and avoid leaving toys near the pool that could attract children to the water. When planning a boat trip, check the weather, file a float plan and pack all necessary boating essentials. PSO also recommends learning CPR, as it's a skill that could save a life, whether you're at the beach or in a pool.

Taking a trip can be exciting, but don't let the fantastic memories you make be ruined by coming home to missing items and damaged property. Burglars take advantage of empty homes. Therefore, it's crucial to prepare your home before a trip. Ask a friend to monitor your house and bring in your newspaper. Think twice before posting travel plans to social media, as you never know who may see them and use that information to take your belongings. Collect spare keys from outside because criminals know the typical spots where people hide their keys. Remove all valuables from sight and lock the doors to your car and home. Implementing some of these tips can go a long way in protecting your property and providing peace of mind while away.

Although living in the "sunshine state" has many perks, there is one downside we have to contend with - hurricanes. Being prepared is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones during hurricane season. Pack a go-bag that includes non-perishable food, batteries, toiletries, first aid supplies, medications, pet supplies, cash and fuel. Obtain sandbags early to prepare your home for possible flooding. Ensure outdoor items are properly secured or stowed away and dispose of all debris. These objects can become projectiles during a storm. Another critical step to take is to clear and clean your gutters properly.

There are many ways to enjoy your summer, especially living in Florida, but the best way to make this season great is to be safe. As you make the most of this time, remember to check out PSO's social media pages for more tips! Have a great summer and stay safe!





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"I pledge allegiance  
to the flag of the  
United States of America,  
and to the Republic  
for which it stands,  
one Nation under God,  
indivisible, with liberty  
and justice for all."

"Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him." — Hebrews 11:6

**Get your Smile on!**  
Think about this:

- \* Many folks want to serve God, but only as an adviser.
- \* Do you think "stop, drop, and roll" will work in Hell?
- \* Some minds are like concrete: thoroughly mixed up and have permanently set.
- \* God loves everyone but probably prefers "fruits of the Spirit" over nuts!
- \* The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes came close.
- \* Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on the front door forever.
- \* Quit griping about your church! If it was perfect, you couldn't belong.
- \* If your church needs a better pastor, it only needs to pray for the one it has.
- \* The best mathematical equation is 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.
- \* God Himself doesn't propose to judge a man until he's dead. So why should you?
- \* Don't wait for six strong men to take you to church.
- \* We don't change the message, the message changes us.
- \* Why advertise your business to keep God's word in print media? He will give you something to sing about and something you can dance to.

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SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) is a Free program offered by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco & Pinellas. Specially trained volunteers can assist you with your Medicare, Medicaid, and Health insurance questions by providing one-on-one counseling and information.

SHINE services are free, unbiased, and confidential. SHINE Counselors do not sell anything. SHINE Counselors can be reached by calling 1-800-963-5337 or 727-217-8111.

**New River Library—Medicare 101 Thursday, July 11th at 10:30am**

A SHINE Volunteer will be available to answer Medicare questions on Thursday, July 11th at 10:30 am at the New River Library, 34043 FL-54, Wesley Chapel, FL 33543. For information call 813-788-6375

**The Genesis Center MOW—Medicare Basics Wednesday, July 17th at 11:00am**

A SHINE Volunteer will be available to answer Medicare questions on Wednesday, July 17th at 11 a.m. at the Genesis Center MOW, 38112 15th Ave. Zephyrhills, FL 33542. For information call 813-782-7859

**Land O' Lakes Library—Medicare Basics Saturday, July 20th at 10:00am**

A SHINE Volunteer will be available to answer Medicare questions on Saturday, July 20th at 10 a.m. at the Land O' Lakes Library, 2818 Collier Pkwy, Land O' Lakes, FL 34639. For information call 813-929-1214

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**One Nation Under God**



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**All American Pet Day**

This month we get to celebrate "All American Pet Photo Day" on July 11. To commemorate this day, our readers shared some of their favorite pictures of their beloved pets! What better way to start your day than to see all these cute faces?



"Reba" from Joni D. "Lizzie in her Easter outfit" from Judy D.



"Marshall doesn't want me to read!" from Amber H.



"Azula" from Amy M. "Lucca smiling" from Liz M.

**Hello To Mark & Kay Dunn's Furrries!**



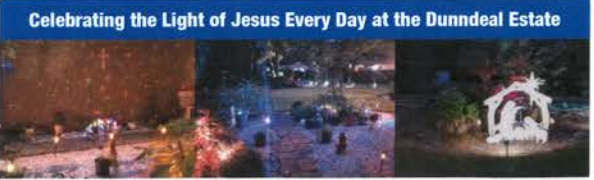
Our beloved Underdog of 14 years looking over Mighty Mouse 2 (his replacement) Mighty Mouse 2 delivering the Gazette Mighty Mouse 2 rescued from the Pasco Shelter



I was afraid of water but look at me now! Tinkerbell was found in the wild, now 14 yrs.



Quicksilver was rescued from a dump and is our cat with an attitude! 12 years of sneaking up on the others! Star was lured to us as a 6 week old stray by Mark playing his guitar on the porch! He's a loveboy of 8 years.



Celebrating the Light of Jesus Every Day at the Dunndead Estate



# JESUS is not our Religion, He is our Savior...

*Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Hebrews 11:1*

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. "The Big Bang" Genesis 1:3 "Let there be light..."*

Thanks to the advertisers, our Operating Partners, we can make a difference in the community. Their support of the Gazettes has brought us to the crossroads in Bible ministries that our forefathers forged into our Constitution, **IN GOD WE TRUST**. As a Christian publication, we are on a mission to exceed expectations with outstanding hard work by connecting with Christian businesses, and churches. Our uplifting editorials are mainly contributions from local businesses, churches, and events... *1st Corinthians 16:14 Let all that you do be done in love.*



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*The Back Pew - Larson*

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