



THE C R O S S R O A D S

Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

351 Morrow Road, Forest Park, Georgia 30297

Our vision is to be a light in the community that brings all people to God through Christ-centered worship and ministry and nurtures their faith in order to extend His kingdom.

JUST A PENNY

You always hear the usual stories of pennies on the sidewalk being good luck, gifts from angels, etc. This is the first time I've ever heard this twist on the story. Gives you something to think about. (I received the essence of this message from an email.)

Several years ago, a lady and her husband were invited to spend the weekend at the home of her husband's employer. Arlene, was nervous about the weekend. The boss was very wealthy, with a fine home on the waterway, and cars costing more than her house.

The first day and evening went well, and Arlene was delighted to have this rare glimpse into how the very wealthy live. Her husband's employer was quite generous as a host, and took them to the finest restaurants. Arlene knew she would never have the opportunity to indulge in this kind of extravagance again, so was enjoying herself immensely.

As the three of them were about to enter an exclusive restaurant one evening, the boss was walking slightly ahead of Arlene and her husband. He stopped suddenly, looking down on the pavement for a long, silent moment. Arlene wondered if she was supposed to pass him. There was nothing on the ground except a single darkened penny that someone had dropped, and a few cigarette butts. Still silent, the man reached down and picked up the penny. He held it up and smiled, then put it in his pocket as if he had found a great treasure. How absurd! What need did this man have for a single penny? Why would he even take the time to stop and pick it up?

Throughout dinner, the entire scene nagged at her and finally, she could stand it no longer. She casually mentioned that her daughter once had a coin collection, and asked if the penny he had found had been of some value. A smile crept across the man's face as he reached into his pocket for the penny and held it out for her to see. She had seen many pennies before! "What was the point of this?" "Look at it," he said. "Read what it says." She read the words, "United States of America ..." "No, not that. Read further." "One cent?" "No, keep reading."

"In God we Trust?"

"Yes!"

"And?"

"And if I trust in God, the name of God is holy, even on a coin. Whenever I find a coin, I see that inscription. It is written on every single United States coin, but we never seem to notice it! God drops a message right in front of me telling me to trust Him. Who am I to pass it by? When I see a coin, I pray. I stop to see if my trust IS in God at that moment. I pick the coin up as a response to God; that I do trust in Him. For a short time, at least, I cherish it as if it were gold. I think it is God's way of starting a conversation with me. Good thing for me for me, God is patient and pennies are plentiful!"

My mother was a coin collector. She would go to the bank and get \$200 worth of nickels and she and I would spend Saturday and Sunday using a plastic magnifying device that let us look at and flip the coin and then drop it in a pile if was not worth

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JUNE 2011

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Happy Father's Day!

OUR MISSION: To exhibit the kingdom of God to our community by being a witness to everyone who is within our reach that Jesus Christ is LORD. To proclaim the gospel by telling the good news of Jesus Christ while equipping all who will to be evangelist so the church will grow. To provide for the worship of God through traditional Sunday morning worship and offer alternative times and styles of worship to the community. To promote the ministry of compassion by providing opportunities for ministry and encouraging others to seek God's call for compassionate service. To preserve the truth of God's word by defending the faith against any deviation from the bible as objective truth. To educate the members of the body of Christ so they are equipped to live as becomes the followers of Jesus. To maintain the spirit of unity through the fellowship of the children of God. To expand the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

FATHER'S DAY AGAIN

(continued from page 1)

anything. I never paid attention to what was on the coin until much later in life. When I find a coin I read the words, "In God We Trust," and laugh. "Yes, God, I get the message!" Mother would often walk her neighborhood in Clarksdale, Mississippi and she had a fantastic day when she found money by the side of the road. One weekend when I was visiting her I got a roll of quarters and dropped them around the curb at her house knowing she would find a good many. She did and was amazed that she had been so "lucky." I started doing what she did and it is amazing how many coins are dropped that I find just like she did but now I do what that wealthy man did.

God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way, if in God we trust!

Dr. Spencer R. Frye Sr.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support for my care. I am doing well and doing well in school too. Even though I am looking forward to summer, I will not be happy to see school end for this year.

I hope you have a good summer.

Love, Chantel

(Our Thornwell Child)

Having lived in Heaven for a long time, Jesus decides it's time to search out his earthly father and thank him for raising him. However, Heaven is a large place and Jesus searches for many, many years without success. Finally, exhausted, he sits down on a bench to rest and strikes up a conversation with an old man also sitting on the bench.

"I'm searching for my earthly father but with no success," says Jesus. The old man replies, "Now there's a coincidence. I'm searching for my earthly son. Well, actually he wasn't really my son but I loved him like my own flesh and blood." At this Jesus perks up and says, "Why the one I'm searching for wasn't really my father either but he raised me like one of his own. He led a hard life as a carpenter but accepted me into his life without question."

The old man starts to get excited now and says, "Why I was a carpenter when I lived on earth!!" Jesus bursts out "My father's name was Joseph." Leaping to his feet the old man holds out his arms and sobs "My name was pronounced Joseph in some languages too!"

Crying Jesus embraces the old man saying only, "Father," to which the old man responds, "Pinnocchio!!!"

Even as a young man, I wanted to be a dad. I remember my seventh grade friend, David, and I would be talking about something, sports, music, girls, or who knows what, and I'd really be thinking in my head about having children of my own someday. For me, being a father was the most important aspect of being a male and an adult—and still is.

It's a dad who tries to live out for his children what God declares in Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." It's important for children to try to see that this dream is what animates the hearts of dads everywhere, even if it doesn't always seem like it.

A boy and his father were walking along a road when they came across a large stone. The boy said to his father, "Do you think if I use all my strength, I can move this rock?" His father answered, "If you use all your strength, I am sure you can do it." The boy began to push the rock. Exerting himself as much as he could, he pushed and pushed. The rock did not move. Discouraged, he said to his father, "You were wrong, I can't do it." The father placed his arm around the boy's shoulder and said, "No, son, you didn't use all your strength — you didn't ask me to help." (—David J. Wolpe in *Teaching Your Children About God*, as cited in *Spiritual Literacy: Reading the Sacred in Everyday Life*, ed. Frederic Brussat and Mary Ann Brussat (New York, Simon & Schuster, 1996), 447.0

Fathers most want to help their children know their real strength. They believe in their children. A Dad's purpose in life is to make his child the very best she or he can become. He wants to ready his children for their independent, adult existence. The father's hope is that his child will be able to stand tall, work hard, and do well. The power of each dad is his desire to make his children better than he is.

(continued on next page)

The Craft Group Schedule for June:

June 14 11:30am—Miss Bessie's Tea Room in Barnesville, Meet @ the church to carpool 10:30

June 28 11:30am—O'Charley's @ 138 in Stockbridge, Meet @ church to carpool 11:15

There are three things about hope that we want to remember. **First, hope is the anchor of the strong. Second, hope is the stimulus to kindness. Third, hope is the incentive to achievement.**

It takes a hopeful person to be strong. If you know a bit about Cleveland Browns football, you have probably heard of the Dawg Pounders, the rabid Browns fans who in the 1980s and 90s wore dog masks, barked like hounds, and threw dog bones onto their favorite players as a sign of respect and appreciation. These guys weren't sitting in the high priced luxury booths reserved for the suits. No way. They were loyal, the unmovable anchor of the hardcore fans' relationship to their hometown football team. These were the men who "... took the hard benches with the obscured views because they were looking for a place that still honored the sort of man who proved his mettle and his decency by showing up without fail, rain or snow, a man who could be, if nothing else, counted on." No matter which way things go, good or bad, if you hold up the best values and believe in the right things, you're worth something. It takes the anchor of hope in a sea of change to keep oneself and one's family strong and secure.

Active hope reveals itself in acts of kindness. Those who are filled with hope are filled with kindness. "Actually, I always liked Nixon," said John F. Kennedy, Jr. At an editorial meeting of his magazine, *George*, someone made a disparaging remark about ex-President Richard Nixon. John, Jr. explained that Nixon was kind to John's family. JFK, Jr. remembered being invited to the White House as a boy. As his family had feared, he knocked over his glass of milk. President Nixon helped him wipe up the milk. John, Jr. never forgot that act of kindness. (Reader's Digest, June 2002)

Kindness has its own rewards and its own reasons. A hopeful person knows the rewards of acting kindly are not always apparent, but over a life time, they more than pay for themselves. You will never be sorry... for thinking before acting; hearing before judging; for forgiving your enemies; being candid and frank; for being honest in business; closing your ears to gossip; for harboring pure thoughts; for being courteous and kind to all.

The third point is this: Good dads are "handsome." What I mean by this has nothing to do with physical appearance. Actually, that's not true either. Good dads show up physically in their children's lives. But they don't have to look good. They have to be good. They are hands on and hearts into their children. They pay attention to them and try to keep up on the changes going on in their lives. That's how they know what they're supposed to do at a crucial time in their child's life. They are there for them.

A popular author and psychologist, Gary Smalley, asked one hundred people: What is one specific way you knew that your dad was special and kind to you? "My father would put his arm around me at church and let me lay my head on his shoulder." "When my father was facing being transferred at work, he purposely took another job so that I could finish my senior year in high school at the same school." "When I wrecked my parent's car, my father's first reaction was to hug me and let me cry instead of yelling at me." "When I was thirteen, my dad trusted me to use his favorite hunting rifle when I was invited to go hunting with a friend and his father." "My father went with me when I had to take back an ugly dress a saleswoman had talked me into buying." "My father would let me practice pitching to him for a long time when he got home from work."

It's all in the timing and being there when you're needed. That makes anybody look good to everybody. Being "hand-some," hands-on, is what brings hope to those who need you. More than this, it motivates others to do their best and to achieve what they dream about.

One day, a poor boy who was selling goods from door to door to pay his way through school, found he had only one thin dime left, and he was hungry.

PW Message Corner . . .



- * PWCT meeting on June 5th at 12:15pm
- * Thanks for your donations to the PW Birthday Offering. We received **\$369.00**. This is one of the 23 charities the Philadelphia Women support each year. We are truly blessed to have such wonderful, dedicated women and the support of our congregation. God is good all the time!
- * It is time for us to nominate someone to receive the **Honorary Life Membership Award**. The Honorary Life Membership is given to a woman in recognition of faithful service in some area of the Church's work. Please take a moment to nominate someone who you think is deserving of this honor. On the Women's Bulletin Board - close to the bathrooms - is a list of all of the women who have already received this award. You can also find this list in your circle notebook if you are a member of any of our circles. Nomination forms are located in the Narthex and are to be placed in the box labeled Honorary Life Membership. If you would prefer you can mail your nomination to Jennifer Rohrbach, 6768 Victoria Drive Morrow, Ga. 30260. Nominations will be taken until June 19, 2011.

He decided he would ask for a meal at the next house. However, he lost his nerve when a lovely young woman opened the door. Instead of a meal he asked for a drink of water. She thought he looked hungry so she brought him a large glass of milk. He drank it slowly, and then asked, "How much do I owe you?"

"You don't owe me anything," she replied. "Mother has taught us never to accept pay for a kindness." He said, "Then I thank you from my heart." As Howard Kelly left that house, he not only felt stronger physically, but his hope was strengthened also. He had been ready to give up and quit.

Years later that young woman became critically ill. The local doctors were baffled. They finally sent her to the big city, where they called in specialists to study her rare disease. Dr. Howard Kelly was called in for the consultation. When he heard the name of the town she came from he went down the hall of the hospital to her room. Dressed in his doctor's gown he went in to see her. He recognized her at once. He went back to the consultation room determined to do his best to save her life. From that day he gave special attention to the case.

After a long struggle, the battle was won. Dr. Kelly requested the business office to pass the final bill to him for approval. He looked at it, and then wrote something on the edge and the bill was sent to her room. She feared to open it, for she was sure it would take the rest of her life to pay for it all. Finally she looked, and something caught her attention on the side of the bill. She read these words: "PAID IN FULL WITH ONE GLASS OF MILK. (Signed) Dr. Howard Kelly."

Hope lives on and on. It lives on in the people we carry in our strength, care for in our kindness, and help with our hands and hearts. Amen.



JUNE VOLUNTEERS

Nursery Workers

Ushers

05/Barbara Barlow
12/Nell Cates
19/Dot Pearce
26/Evelyn Murdock

Darr Johnson
Ray Morgan
Jim Phillips
Lynn Vandiver

Happy Birthday to ...

06 / Jo Nelson
06 / Jane Ashmore
06 / Patty Boone
08 / Tony Kitchen
09 / Holly Ashmore
10 / Wanda Johnson
14 / Buddy Ashmore
16 / Nancy Kemper
16 / Ethan Lyle
18 / Asher Nevrekar
18 / Jackson Randolph
22 / Barbara Gibson
24 / Betty Foster
24 / Barry Billington
25 / Grace Collier
25 / Katie Clayton
29 / Paul Lyle
30 / Ralph Kelly
30 / JoAnn Tatzel

Happy Anniversary to ...

05 / Van & Diane Banke
17 / Darr & Beverly Johnson
21 / Don & Elizabeth Ford
25 / Michael & Deven Coddington

WE'RE ON THE WEB AT
WWW.PPC-USA.ORG

Core Values of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church

- Radical Hospitality** (Romans 12:9-21)
- Passionate Worship** (John 4:21-24)
- Intentional Faith Development** (I Corinthians 9:19-24)
- Risk-Taking Mission and Service** (Matthew 25:14-30)
- Extravagant Generosity** (II Corinthians 9:6-15)



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TO BE REMEMBERED IN PRAYER AND WITH CARDS (new info in bold)

Please notify us concerning updates. Inquiring minds – and prayerful hearts – want to know!

5/3 Sydney Bates (Dot Dunn's grand-niece) – undergoing counseling for family issues

5/12 Debbie Cheatwood (friend of Vandivers) - Stage 2 lung cancer

4/2 Barbara Gibson – moved to rehab center after leg surgery to repair break

5/16 Shannon Hubbell (Tony Kitchen's sister) – recovering from surgery/ antibiotic treatment for infection

3/28 Lee Rohrbach (Fred's dad) – radiation seed planted for prostate cancer

5/17 Elizabeth Simpson (Nancy Maxwell's daughter) – recovering from heart surgery

5/19 Mike Sorrow (Pat & John's friend) – brain tumor, complications from infection

4/06 Charles Trotter (Joyce Smith's brother) - recovering from surgery to place stint in heart

4/25 Kevin Wright (Bob & Rebecca Huie's son-in-law) – recovering from heart surgery

OUR HOMEBOUND:

Mary Binkney

Tye Bryant

Joan Cushing

Doris Ellis

Marie Foster

Myrtice Ormond

Bert Tatzel

JoAnn Tatzel

*Addresses of
our homebound are
on the bulletin board.*

To make a prayer request, you may call the church office at 404-366-1851, send an email to secyppc@bellsouth.net or click on the prayer request button on our website at www.ppc-usa.org.

My Hero

My hero is the quiet type, no marching bands, no media hype,
But through my eyes it's plain to see, a hero, God has sent to me.

With gentle strength and quiet pride, all self-concern is set aside,
To reach out to his fellow man, and be there with a helping hand.

Heroes are a rarity, a blessing to humanity.
With all they give and all they do, I'll bet the thing you never knew,
My hero has always been you.

--Anonymous