

January 2007

The Kum Doubles Messenger

CLASS TIDBITS:

- Check page 8 for the new Crafting Corner column
- Congratulation to Bill and Pat Love on the marriage of their son, Steve to his new wife, Pri-sai
- Jan and Ed Dame will be joining the ranks of Grandparenthood in the near future
- We were able to provide \$2600 for missions from our recent craft sale and this continues to grow as new sales outlets develop.
- Class voted to donate \$1000 to the church's general budget in honor of the Pastoral Staff.

Christmas Party



The Kum Doubles Messenger

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Announcements

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January 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Birthdays

4 Gerald Carver
 18 Gayle Baggett
 20 Lewis Patrick
 23 Pam Knott
 29 Judy Dayton

Anniversaries

2 Rod & Cindy Alleman
 22 Jim & Phyllis Street

February Sunday School Study Plan

Date	Teacher	Study	Scripture
7	Street	Be Free!	John 8
14	Dame	Ultimate Fairness	John 5
21	Clough	Lasting Results	John 6
28	Henson	Overcoming Darkness	John 8 & 12

2006 Party Planner

Mon	Day	Host	Activity	Time	Notes
Jan		Committee	Chili Diner		Election of Class Officers
Feb	12	Street	Gaither Concert	6 PM	Concert starts at 6. Meet at Concert.
Mar		Committee			
Apr		Committee			
May		Committee			
Jun		Committee			
Jul		Committee			
Aug		Committee			
Sep		Committee			
Oct		Committee			
Nov		Committee			
Dec		Committee	Christmas Party		

Prayer Requests

[Pages 3 & 4 are not published on the internet]

Praises

Trivial Pursuit

How observant are you? What is your score on these 25 questions?

1. On a standard traffic light, is the green on the top or bottom?
2. How many states are there in the USA? (Don't laugh, some people don't know)
3. In which hand is the Statue of Liberty's torch?
4. What six colors are on the classic Campbell's soup label?
5. What two numbers on the telephone dial don't have letters by them?
6. When you walk does your left arm swing with your right or left leg? (Don't you dare get up to see!)
7. How many matches are in a standard pack?
8. On the United States flag is the top stripe red or white?
9. What is the lowest number on the FM dial?
10. Which way does water go down the drain, counter or clockwise?
11. Which way does a "no smoking" sign's slash run?
12. How many channels on a VHF TV dial?
13. On which side of a women's blouse are the buttons?
14. Which way do fans rotate?
15. How many sides does a stop sign have?
16. Do books have even-numbered pages on the right or left side?
17. How many lug nuts are on a standard car wheel?
18. How many sides are there on a standard pencil?
19. Sleepy, Happy, Sneezy, Grumpy, Dopey, Doc. Who's missing?
20. How many hot dog buns are in a standard package?
21. On which playing card is the card maker's trademark?
22. On which side of a Venetian blind is the cord that adjusts the opening between the slats?

23. There are 12 buttons on a touch tone phone. What 2 symbols bear no digits?
24. How many curves are there in the standard paper clip?
25. Does a merry-go-round turn counter or clockwise?

Answers below

By the Numbers

The National Center for Health Statistics, the statistical arm of the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention reports that the nuclear family and traditional marriage is in meltdown. In 2005, there were 1.5 million out-of-wedlock births representing 36.8% of total USA births.

Among non-Hispanic blacks the illegitimacy rate was 69.5%. For Hispanics, it was 47.9%. For whites, it was 25.4%. 52% of illegitimate births were to women without a high school diploma vs. 9% with a graduate or professional degree. Princeton professor Sara McLanahan reports, "You're beginning to see these households composed of a mother and three children and three differ-

ent ex-partners.

According to Investor Business Daily, "It's been said you need only do three things in this country to avoid poverty: finish high school, marry before having a child and marry after age 20. Among those who follow such advice, only 8% are poor, while 79% of those who do not are poor.

From Investor Business Daily, December 2006

Trivial Pursuit Answers

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Bottom | 17. 5 |
| 2. 50 | 18. 6 |
| 3. Right | 19. Bashful |
| 4. Blue, Red, White, Yellow, Black, Gold | 20. 8 |
| 5. 1, 0 | 21. Ace of Spades |
| 6. Right | 22. Left |
| 7. 20 | 23. *, # |
| 8. Red | 24. 3 |
| 9. 88 | 25. Counter |
| 10. Clockwise, North of the equator | |
| 11. Towards Bottom Right. | |
| 12. 12—2 to 13 | |
| 13. Left | |
| 14. Clockwise as you look at it. | |
| 15. 8 | |
| 16. Left | |

Rules from God for 2007

Submitted by Bob Potter

1. Wake Up!

Decide to have a good day. "Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118:24

2. Dress Up!

The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord looks at the heart." I Samuel 16:7

3. Shut Up!

Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking. "He who guards his lips guards his soul." Proverbs 13:3

4. Stand Up!

For what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything.. "Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good..." Galatians 6:9-10

5. Look Up!

...To the Lord. I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

6. Reach Up!

...For something higher. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path." Proverbs 3:5-6

7. Lift Up!

Your Prayers. "Do not worry about anything; instead PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING." Philippians 4:6 †

"Somebody has well said there are only two kinds of people in the world.

There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."

A Thought To Ponder

Submitted by Harold Henson
by C.S. Lewis

"If the solar system was brought about by an accidental collision, then the appearance of organic life on this planet was also an accident, and the whole evolution of Man was an accident too. If so, then all our present thoughts are mere accidents - the accidental by-product of the movement of atoms. And this holds for the thoughts of the materialists and astronomers as well as for anyone else's. But if their thoughts - i.e. of materialism and astronomy - are merely accidental by-products, why should we believe them to be true? I see no reason for believing that one accident should be able to give me a correct account of all the other accidents."

"One must keep in mind that Christianity is a statement which, if false, is of no importance, and, if true, of infinite importance. The one thing it cannot be is moderately important." †

Passing Acquaintance

When we visit my parents' grave site, my boys always help water the flowers. One day they argued over who should get the water. Knowing my youngest was born one month after my father died, my elder son said, "You can't do it. You didn't even know Grandpa." To that my little one replied, "Oh yes I did. I was coming down when he was going up." †

—Elsie Ratowski, Prudenville, MI. *Today's Christian Woman*, "Heart to Heart."

Circulation

Submitted by Christine Burkett

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, "Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face."

"Yes," the class said.

"Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?"

A little fellow shouted,

"Cause your feet ain't empty." †

A Helping Hand

Submitted by Gerald Carver

Some people understand life better, and they call some of these people "retarded"...

At the Seattle Special Olympics, nine contestants, all physically or mentally disabled, assembled at the starting line for the 100-yard dash.

At the gun, they all started out, not exactly in a dash, but with a relish to run the race to the finish and win. All, that is, except one little boy who stumbled on the asphalt, tumbled over a couple of times, and began to cry. The other eight heard the boy cry. They slowed down and looked back. Then they all turned around and went back... every one of them. One girl with Down's Syndrome bent down and kissed him and said, "This will make it better."

Then all nine linked arms and walked together to the finish line.

Everyone in the stadium stood. The cheering went on for several minutes. People who were there are still telling the story. Why? Because deep down we know this one thing: What matters in this life is more than winning for ourselves. What matters in this life is helping others win, even if it means slowing down and changing our course.

"A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle." †

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds.

After explaining the commandment to "honor" thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"

Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill." †

The Wallet

Submitted by Lee Voss

As I walked home one freezing day, I stumbled on a wallet someone had lost in the street. I picked it up and looked inside to find some identification so I could call the owner. But the wallet contained only three dollars and a crumpled letter that looked as if it had been in there for years.

The envelope was worn and the only thing that was legible on it was the return address. I started to open the letter, hoping to find some clue. Then I saw the dateline, 1924. The letter had been written almost sixty years ago.

It was written in a beautiful feminine handwriting on powder blue stationery with a little flower in the left-hand corner. It was a "Dear John" letter that told the recipient, whose name appeared to be Michael, that the writer could not see him any more because her mother forbade it. Even so, she wrote that she would always love him. It was signed, Hannah.

It was a beautiful letter, but there was no way except for the name Michael, that the owner could be identified. Maybe if I called information, the operator could find a phone listing for the address on the envelope.

"Operator," I began, "this is an unusual request. I'm trying to find the owner of a wallet that I found. Is there anyway you can tell me if there is a phone number for an address that was on an envelope in the wallet?"

She suggested I speak with her supervisor, who hesitated for a moment, then said, "Well, there is a phone listing at that address, but I can't give you the number." She said, as a courtesy, she would call that number, explain my story, and would ask them if they wanted her to connect me. I waited a few minutes and then she was back on the line. "I have a party who will speak with you."

I asked the woman on the other end of the line if she knew anyone by the name of Hannah. She gasped, "Oh! We bought this house from a family who had a daughter named Hannah. But that was 30

years ago!"

"Would you know where that family could be located now?" I asked.

"I remember that Hannah had to place her mother in a nursing home some years ago," the woman said. "Maybe if you got in touch with them they might be able to track down the daughter."

She gave me the name of the nursing home and I called the number. They told me the old lady had passed away some years ago but they did have a phone number for where they thought the daughter might be living.

I thanked them and phoned. The woman who answered explained that Hannah herself was now living in a nursing home. This whole thing was stupid, I thought to myself. Why was I making such a big deal over finding the owner of a wallet that had only three dollars and a letter that was almost 60 years old?

Nevertheless, I called the nursing home in which Hannah was supposed to be living and the man who answered the phone told me, "Yes, Hannah is staying with us."

Even though it was already 10 p.m., I asked if I could come by to see her "Well," he said hesitatingly, "if you want to take a chance, she might be in the day room watching television."

I thanked him and drove over to the nursing home. The night nurse and a guard greeted me at the door. We went up to the third floor of the large building. In the day room, the nurse introduced me to Hannah.

She was a sweet, silver-haired old timer with a warm smile and a twinkle in her eye. I told her about finding the wallet and showed her the letter. The second she saw the powder blue envelope with that little flower on the left, she took a deep breath and said, "Young man, this letter was the last contact I ever had with Michael."

She looked away for a moment, deep in thought and then said softly, "I loved him very much. But I was only 16 at the time

and my mother felt I was too young. Oh, he was so handsome. He looked like Sean Connery, the actor. Yes," she continued, "Michael Goldstein was a wonderful person. If you should find him, tell him I think of him often. And," she hesitated for a moment, almost biting her lip, "tell him I still love him. You know," she said smiling as tears began to well up in her eyes, "I never did marry I guess no one ever matched up to Michael ..." I thanked Hannah and said good-bye.

I took the elevator to the first floor and as I stood by the door, the guard there asked, "Was the old lady able to help you?" I told him that she had given me a lead. "At least I have a last name. But I think I'll let it go for a while. I spent almost the whole day trying to find the owner of this wallet."

I had taken out the wallet, which was a simple brown leather case with red lacing on the side. When the guard saw it, he said, "Hey, wait a minute! That's Mr. Goldstein's wallet. I'd know it anywhere with that bright red lacing. He's always losing that wallet. I must have found it in the halls at least three times."

"Who's Mr. Goldstein?" I asked as my hand began to shake. "He's one of the old timers on the 8th floor. That's Mike Goldstein's wallet for sure. He must have lost it on one of his walks."

I thanked the guard and quickly ran back to the nurse's office. I told her what the guard had said. We went back to the elevator and got on. I prayed that Mr. Goldstein would be up. On the eighth floor, the floor nurse said, "I think he's still in the day room. He likes to read at night. He's a darling old man."

We went to the only room that had any lights on and there was a man reading a book. The nurse went over to him and asked if he had lost his wallet. Mr. Goldstein looked up with surprise, put his hand in his back pocket and said, "Oh, it is missing!"

"This kind gentleman found a wallet and

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Ranting Tailgater

Submitted by Lee Voss

Police aren't perfect, but this cop comes close to winning the ingenuity award.

A driver did the right thing, stopping at the school crosswalk even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman behind him went ballistic, pounding on her horn and screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to drive through the intersection with him.

Still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer.

The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, finger

printed, photographed and placed in a cell.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm awfully sorry for this mistake. You see, as I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping the guy off in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him, that I noticed the "What Would Jesus Do" license plate holder, the "Follow me to Sunday School" bumper sticker, the chrome plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk and the "My Boss is a Jewish Carpenter" decal on your back window Naturally, I assumed you were in a stolen car".



"There are better ways to log off."

Crafting Corner

The following are a list of items to be on the lookout for or to save to recycle :

- Pringle Cans
- Baby food jars or small colored jars
- Clear jars—plastic or glass. The plastic jars will be used to sort beads, buttons, jewels, etc.
- Buttons-before throwing out old clothes, strip the buttons or beads
- Old jewelry-bracelets, necklaces..we will sort the "jewels" for other uses
- Beads
- Wooden cutouts, - hearts, stars, gingerbread people, snowflakes, etc.
- Floral glass rocks-preferably flat on one side
- Stain glass paints
- Beaded trim-watch clearance shelves at fabric stores, Walmart, craft stores
- Butter tubs-great for paint storage
- Glass jars/bottles-mason jars, wine/liquor bottles, pickle jars, any size or shape
- Ribbon-preferably wire edges, but we can use most any type
- Clay pots-clean, any size
- Package wraps-these are the fancy jewel or beaded things that can be added to packages we will use for a variety of things
- Broken and chipped colorful plates-to use for mosaics
- Berry baskets-usually green plastic, woven type
- Your old Christmas cards

For those of you who will be doing spring cleaning or stopping at occasional garage sales.....keep this list handy.

DECEMBER 7, 1941, AND SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Submitted by David Mayhew

By Henry Mark Holzer

In the immediate aftermath of September 11, 2001, and from time-to-time since then, it has been said that the day was akin to the one about which President Franklin Delano Roosevelt spoke: December 7, 1941. The comparison is apt but not completely. Despite the similarities, the differences in what followed each of those days are profound and the aftermath of September 11, 2001, may well portend far worse consequences than did World War II for the United States of America.

The esteemed historian Samuel Eliot Morrison, in his *The Oxford History of the American People*, has written of December 7, 1941:

"At the end of this sad and bloody day, 7 December 1941, the 'day that shall live in infamy,' as President Roosevelt said of it, 2403 American sailors, soldiers, marines, and civilians had been killed, and 1178 more wounded."

In Hawaii, nearly 150 planes had been destroyed on the ground, at least six battleships had been sunk or rendered non-operational.

Soon, American air assets in Manila would be destroyed. The Japanese would roll over the Malay Peninsula and take Singapore. Guam and other islands in the Pacific would fall. Hong Kong would be taken. The fate of Bataan and Corregidor would be told by the Death March and hellish prison camps. And more. Much more.

Morrison, again, about December 8, 1941:

"To millions of Americans, whether at breakfast in Hawaii, or reading the Sunday paper in the West, or sitting down to dinner in the East, this news of disaster after disaster, seemed fantastic, incredible. As the awful details poured in, hour after hour, incredulity turned to anger and an implacable determination to avenge these unprovoked and dastardly attacks.

On 8 December, Congress with but one dissenting vote declared a state of war with Japan . . . President Roosevelt, in his war message . . . declared, 'Never before has there been a greater challenge to life, liberty and civilization!'"

Yes, on December 7th and September 11th there were sneak attacks. Yes, each day was one of infamy. Yes, there were considerable losses of American (and other) lives. Yes, substantial symbols of American power - the Pacific Fleet, the World Trade Center and the Pentagon - were destroyed. Yes, Americans fought back at Pearl Harbor and on United 93. Yes, the news on those days was fantastic, incredible.

And yes, then, as now, "Never before has there been a greater challenge to life, liberty and civilization."

And yes, on December 8th and September 12th there was among our people an implacable determination to avenge these unprovoked and dastardly attacks.

But with these comparisons, the picture changes.

In 1941, and for nearly four year after, ! we saw full mobilization of our great nation's resources: military, economic, social, spiritual, political. Every sector of our society was engaged.

Men and women volunteered for the armed services.

Women went into factories.

Rationing was imposed.

Religious leaders prayed, and went into combat with their flocks.

Politicians joined hands, giving FDR what he needed to fight ruthless enemies.

Civilians willingly endured shortages and blackouts

Kids (like me) collected newspapers, tin cans, used fat and grease all for the war effort

The radio, newspapers, and magazines supported the war effort, and exercised disciplined self-restraint about what they published.

Celebrities, who hadn't enlisted, sold War Bonds and entertained the troops.

Images kept patriotic spirits high: Joe Rosenthal's photo of the Iwo Jima flag raising; MacArthur wading ashore in the Philippines; repatriation of emaciated POWs from Japanese prison camps; Patton, with his pearl-handle revolvers; the London blitz; the liberation of Paris. VE-Day. Then, VJ-Day. Times Square overflowing with joy.

And the man-in-the-street, and his wife, and his children, and all other Americans, knew that we were fighting Germany and Japan (and Italy) because, as FDR said, they posed a grave threat to life, liberty and civilization.

As do the radical Islamists who on 9/11 showed us a preview of their nihilism-driven corrupt religion's vision for mankind, and who, before and since, have maimed and murdered thousands of innocent men, women, and children throughout the world.

But after President Bush's rousing post 9/11 speech to Congress and the American people, after flags flew everywhere for a few months, after passage of some useful but inadequate legislation, do we see within our country Morrison's "implacable determination to avenge these unprovoked and dastardly attacks?"

Sadly, we do not.

Indeed, we see the opposite.

We see a narrow Supreme Court majority, infatuated with the romance of international law at the expense of American sovereignty, giving due process rights to terrorists, ignoring established precedent to nullify military tribunals, and treating irregular enemy combatants as if they were mere burglars to be dealt with by our domestic criminal law system.

We see international busybody organizations inspecting our detainee facility at Guantanamo, and solemnly pronouncing a verdict on our treatment of Islamic mur-

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derers who would make American citizens their next victims.

We see those murderers coddled - uninterrupted sleep, prayer time, outside recreation, nutritious food, health care - by a soft administration bent on mollifying these international busybodies and their domestic crybaby cousins.

We see America-hating organizations such as the ACLU, the National Lawyers Guild, and the Center for Constitutional Rights enlisting thousands of lawyers whose task is to monkey-wrench the terrorist adjudicatory system, as if they were representing O.J. Simpson in a Los Angeles courtroom.

We see leading newspapers disclosing top secret defense information - surveillance, money tracing, secret interrogation facilities - not only with impunity, but to the cheers of America's left together with those in the world who would destroy us.

We see a mostly partisan Democrat Party - in Congress and at the National Committee - playing politics with laws essential to our national security.

We see a weakened Republican president proffering legislation for military tribunals that provides for terrorists process at once unnecessary and dangerous, only to be trumped by the likes of grand-standing Republican Senators McCain, Warner, and Graham, who, not content to provide Islamic murderers with all the due process enjoyed by domestic criminal defendants, want to provide them, as well, with classified information about sources and methods. We see this senatorial quartet also determined to prohibit the time-tested good cop/bad cop technique of interrogation, sleep deprivation, loud music, dietary manipulations apparently believing that our military and CIA are dealing with some Chicago street gang, not savages out to destroy us and our way of life.

We see public officials acquiescing to the demands of homegrown Muslim organi-

zations, in an effort not to offend blinding themselves to that religion's core belief in jihad, martyrdom, and its ultimate triumph.

We see in America, according to a nationwide Scripps Survey Research poll, that more than one-third of our countrymen suspect the government assisted in the 9/11 terrorist attacks or took no action to stop them so the United States could go to war in the Middle East. Worse, if that be possible, is that sixteen percent of those polled attribute collapse of the World Trade Center towers not to the jet planes hijacked by Islamic terrorists, but to agents of George W. Bush who somehow, clandestinely, blew up the buildings.

We see in our colleges and universities an inbred corps of fanatic intellectuals who see life's purpose is to brainwash the young minds entrusted to their care into believing that the enlightenment, Western values, and the political philosophy that created and sustained our nation are all malevolent, and that Islam, the religion of nihilism and murder, is mankind's true aspiration

We, who at the Battle of the Bulge shot captured German troops wearing American uniforms and on Guadalcanal incinerated Japanese defenders with flame throwers, we who firebombed Dresden and Tokyo, we who dropped two atomic bombs on Japan, now send Senators to Washington who fight the president over "harsh" interrogation of terrorists who often have information that can save American lives.

We see the recruitment of radical Islamists in our prisons, aided and abetted by radical Islamic clergy, paid for by the American taxpayer.

We see politicians willing to turn over America's national security, and perhaps the ultimate survival of our civilization, to unelected judges, responsible to no one, many of whom have been cloistered for so long that they lack an adequate understanding of the real world.

We see the much heralded publication of the Army Field Manual, providing Geneva

Conventions protection barring "outrages against personal dignity" like "hooding," forced nudity, and duct-taping eyes, to Islamic terrorists who behead, dismember, and disembowel captured Americans

We see, in short, an utter, indeed a frightening, lack of understanding of the principles that animated our creation as the freest most successful nation ever to exist on this earth, principles that carried us through revolution, civil war, world wars, and a cold war.

We see that too many Americans have become ignorant and complacent, and thus broken the faith with those who fought at Yorktown, died at Gettysburg, survived the trenches, landed at Normandy, froze at Chosin, and were imprisoned in Hanoi.

We see our country in thrall to pernicious ideas that have sucked from us the understanding of what we face and the will to face it.

And time is running out.

Unless America wakes up fast - parents, clergy, intellectuals, workers, educators, veterans, celebrities, students - one day, perhaps sooner than later, we will look up and no longer see Ronald Reagan's "shining city on a hill."

We will see a Mosque.☩

Henry Mark Holzer, professor emeritus at Brooklyn Law School, can be contacted through his website, www.henrymarkholzer.com.

Children's Photo

Submitted by Christine Burkett

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group picture.

"Just think how nice it will be to look at it when you are all grown up and say, 'There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer,' or 'That's Michael, He's a doctor.'

A small voice at the back of the room rang out, "And there's the teacher, she's dead."☩

The Duck & the Devil

Submitted by Lee Voss

The Duck & the Devil There was a little boy visiting his grandparents on their farm. He was given a slingshot to play with out in the woods. He practiced in the woods, but he could never hit the target. Getting a little discouraged, he headed back for dinner. As he was walking back he saw Grandma's pet duck. Just out of impulse, he let the slingshot fly, hit the duck square in the head, and killed it. He was shocked and grieved. In a panic, he hid the dead duck in the wood pile, only to see his sister watching! Sally had seen it all, but she said nothing. After lunch the next day Grandma said, "Sally, let's wash the dishes." But Sally said, "Grandma, Johnny told me he wanted to help in the kitchen." Then she whispered to him, "Remember the duck?" So Johnny did the dishes. Later that day, Grandpa asked if the children wanted to go fishing and Grandma said, "I'm sorry but I need Sally to help make supper." Sally just smiled and said, "Well that's all right because Johnny told me he wanted to help." She whispered again, "Remember the duck?" So Sally went fishing and Johnny stayed to help. After several days of Johnny doing both his

chores and Sally's... he finally couldn't stand it any longer. He came to Grandma and confessed that he had killed the duck. Grandma knelt down, gave him a hug, and said, "Sweetheart, I know. You see, I was standing at the window and I saw the whole thing, but because I love you, I forgave you. I was just wondering how long you would let Sally make a slave of you." Thought for the day and every day thereafter? Whatever is in your past, whatever you have done... and the devil keeps throwing it up in your face (lying, cheating, debt, fear, bad habits, hatred, anger, bitterness, etc.) ... whatever it is.... You need to know that God was standing at the window and He saw the whole thing..... He has seen your whole life. He wants you to know that He loves you and that you are forgiven. He's just wondering how long you will let the devil make a slave of you. The great thing about God is that when you ask for forgiveness, He not only forgives you, but He forgets..... It is by God's grace and mercy that we are saved. Go ahead and make the difference in someone's life today. Share this with a friend and always remember: God is at the window. †

23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
24. The most important sex organ is the brain.
25. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.
26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words: "In five years, will this matter?"
27. Always choose life.
28. Forgive everyone everything.
29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
30. Time heals almost everything. Give time time.
31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
32. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch.
33. Believe in miracles.
34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
35. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
36. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.
37. Your children get only one childhood. Make it memorable.
38. Read the Psalms. They cover every human emotion.
39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
41. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
42. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
43. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
44. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
45. The best is yet to come.
46. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
47. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
48. If you don't ask, you don't get.
49. Yield.
50. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift. †

Rules to Live By

Submitted by Christine Burkett

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
4. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
9. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
13. Don't compare your life to others'. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.
16. Life is too short for long pity parties. Get busy living, or get busy dying.
17. You can get through anything if you stay put in today.
18. A writer writes. If you want to be a writer, write.
19. It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.

Cont. next column

The Mouse Trap

Submitted by Lee Voss

A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package "What food might this contain?" the mouse wondered. He was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap.

Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning: There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"

The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, "Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it."

The mouse turned to the pig and told him, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"

The pig sympathized, but said, I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured

you are in my prayers."

The mouse turned to the cow and said "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The cow said, "Wow, Mr. Mouse. I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose."

So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap alone.

That very night a sound was heard throughout the house -- like the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey.

The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught. The snake bit the farmer's wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital, and she returned home with a fever.

Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his

hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient.

But his wife's sickness continued, so friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig.

The farmer's wife did not get well; she died. So many people came for her funeral, the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them.

The mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness. And so, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and think it doesn't concern you, remember -- when one of us is threatened, we are all at risk.

We are all involved in this journey called life. We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another.✚

From a strictly mathematical viewpoint:

Submitted by Christine Burkett

What Equals 100%? What does it mean to give MORE than 100%? Ever wonder about those people who say they are giving more than 100%?

We have all been in situations where someone wants you to give over 100%. How about achieving 101%? What equals 100% in life?

Here's a little mathematical formula that might help you answer these Questions:

If:

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

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26.

Then: H-A-R-D-W-O-R- K

$$8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98\%$$

K-N-O-W-L-E-D-G-E

$$11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96\%$$

But,

A-T-T-I-T-U-D-E

$$1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100\%$$

AND, look how far the love of God will take you

L- O- V- E- O-F -G-O-D

$$12+15+22+5+15+6+7+15+4 = 101\%$$

Therefore, one can conclude with mathematical certainty that:

While Hard work and Knowledge will get you close, and Attitude will get you there, it's the Love of God that will put

Submitted by Gerald Carver

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."✚

THE HUSBAND AND THE FORGOTTEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Submitted by Gerald Carver

Ed was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was really ticked. She told him "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 4 seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE!"

The next morning Ed got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a small box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway.

Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway, brought the box back in the house. She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale.

Funeral services for Ed have been scheduled for Friday .✚

The Wallet Cont.*(Continued from page 7)*

we wondered if it could be yours?" I handed Mr. Goldstein the wallet and the second he saw it, he smiled with relief and said, "Yes, that's it! It must have dropped out of my pocket this afternoon. I want to give you a reward."

"No, thank you," I said. "But I have to tell you something. I read the letter in the hope of finding out who owned the wallet."

The smile on his face suddenly disappeared. "You read that letter?"

"Not only did I read it, I think I know where Hannah is."

He suddenly grew pale. "Hannah? You know where she is? How is she? Is she still as pretty as she was? Please, please tell me," he begged.

"She's fine ... just as pretty as when you knew her." I said softly.

The old man smiled with anticipation and asked, "Could you tell me where she is? I want to call her tomorrow." He grabbed my hand and said, "You know something, mister. I was so in love with that girl that when that letter came, my life literally ended. I never married. I guess I've always loved her. "

"Mr. Goldstein," I said, "come with me." We took the elevator down to the third floor. The hallways were darkened and only one or two little night-lights lit our way to the day room where Hannah was sitting alone watching the television.

The nurse walked over to her. "Hannah," she said softly, pointing to Michael, who was waiting with me in the doorway. "Do you know this man?" She adjusted her glasses, looked for a moment, but didn't say a word. Michael said softly, almost in a whisper, "Hannah, it's Michael. Do you remember me?"

She gasped, "Michael! I don't believe it! Michael! It's you! My Michael!" He walked slowly towards her and they embraced. The nurse and I left with tears streaming down our faces.

"See," I said. "See how the Good Lord works! If it's meant to be, it will be."

About three weeks later, I got a call at my

office from the nursing home. "Can you break away on Sunday to attend a wedding? Michael and Hannah are going to tie the knot!"

It was a beautiful wedding with all the people at the nursing home dressed up to join in the celebration. Hannah wore a light beige dress and looked beautiful. Michael wore a dark blue suit and stood tall. They made me their best man.

The hospital gave them their own room and if you ever wanted to see a 76-year-old bride and a 79-year-old groom acting like two teenagers, you had to see this couple. A perfect ending for a love affair that had lasted nearly 60 years.

Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only love will leave footprints in your heart. May God hold you in the palm of his hand and Angels watch over you.✠

Mary had a little Lamb

Submitted by Bob Potter

Mary had a little Lamb,
His fleece was white as snow.
And everywhere that Mary went,
The Lamb was sure to go.
He followed her to school each day,
T'wasn't even in the rule.
It made the children laugh and play,
To have a Lamb at school.
And then the rules all changed one day,
Illegal it became;
To bring the Lamb of God to school,
Or even speak His Name!
Every day got worse and worse,
And days turned into years.
Instead of hearing children laugh,
We heard gun shots and tears.
What must we do to stop the crime,
That's in our schools today?
Let's let the Lamb come back to school,
And teach our kids to pray!✠

Charles Schultz Philosophy

Submitted by Lee Voss

The following is the philosophy of Charles Schultz, the creator of the "Peanuts" comic strip.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

How did you do?

The point is, none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies. Awards tarnish. Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another quiz. See how you do on this one:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

Easier?

The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care.✠

**Kum Doubles Sunday
School Class**

First United Methodist Church

211 W. Third St.
Irving, TX 75060

FUMC office: 972 253-3531
FUMC Fax: 972 254-2498

Class Officers

President	Marni Monty
Vice President	Doug Pierson
Secretary	Shirley Reynolds
Treasurer	Harrold Henson

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Sunshine	Sylvia Mayhew, Jamie Pierson, Jan Dame
Nominating	Christine Burkett George Adamson Judy Dayton

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KUM DOUBLES MESSENGER Newsletter

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Circulation	Becky Flanery
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1st Sunday	Jim Street
2nd Sunday	Jan Dame
3rd Sunday (Alternating)	Gayle Baggett, Pat Clough
4th Sunday	Danny Parsons, Doug Pierson, Harold Henson
5th Sunday	Guest Speaker

Kum Doubles members serving elsewhere during

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JoCarol Adamson	Music Director
Dottie Creech	SS Secretary
Paul Creech	Sonrise Village
Allan Knott	Covenant Class Teacher
Pam Knott	Covenant Class Teacher
Mary Lou Niethamer	Ass't SS Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

to be developed

VISIT US

Come as you are for coffee, fellowship and good Bible based instruction. We meet each Sunday morning [9:45 A.M. to 10:40 A.M.] in room 315 [3rd floor at top of stairway near elevator].

CONTACT US

To activate prayer chain—Sylvia Mayhew [Phyllis Street, if Sylvia unavailable]
General questions—Marni Monty
FUMC Christian Education Director—Linda Wheeler 972 253-3531 ext. 27
Newsletter—Jim Dayton
Website—Doug Pierson

SEND US NEWSLETTER MATERIAL

We're always seeking stories and news for the newsletter. Please submit information on anything you think the class would enjoy. We'd love to hear you brag about your children or grandchildren. Forward me the emails that you get—inspiration, politics, jokes, one-liners, etc. What about photos that you think the class would enjoy? What about a letter to the editor expressing your opinion?

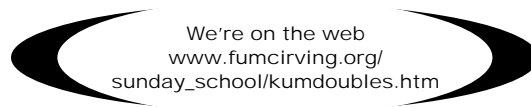
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www.fumcirving.org/sunday_school/kumdoubles.htm

THE NEWSLETTER PRAYER REQUEST PAGE is only published in the classroom edition of the newsletter. If you receive the KUM DOUBLES MESSENGER over the internet, and you would like to receive the prayer request pages, please contact Jim Dayton or a member of the class to make arrangements for receiving those pages.

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