

HEART-TO-HEART

We are reminded that Christ is in our hearts and we are in His and that love connects us all in unity.



“Dad: A son’s first hero, a daughter’s first love.”
-Unknown

History of Father’s Day

(excerpt from <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day>)

“On July 5, 1908, a West Virginia church sponsored the nation’s first event explicitly in honor of fathers, a Sunday sermon in memory of the 362 men who had died in the previous December’s explosions at the Fairmont Coal Company mines in Monongah, but it was a one-time commemoration and not an annual holiday.

The next year, a Spokane, Washington, woman named Sonora Smart Dodd, one of six children raised by a widower, tried to establish an official equivalent to Mother’s Day for male parents. She went to local churches, the YMCA, shopkeepers and government officials to drum up support for her idea, and she was successful:

Washington State celebrated the nation’s first statewide Father’s Day on June 19, 1910.

Slowly, the holiday spread. In 1916, President Wilson honored the day by using telegraph signals to unfurl a flag in Spokane when he pressed a button in Washington, D.C. In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge urged state governments to observe Father’s Day.”

As we express gratitude to our earthly fathers on June 16, may we also praise and appreciate our heavenly father for all that he’s done for us.

Happy Father’s Day!

IN THIS ISSUE

A Memory That Still Brings Chills Down My Spine

Another Senior Moment

Senior Citizens...Not!

The Serenity Prayer

A Memory That Still Brings Chills Down My Spine

by Linda Kunimitsu

I can't forget an incident that occurred around 1969. Leeward Community College had opened its campus and I was hired as a departmental secretary.

I was in my twenties, married, and had an infant son. The day started off like any other day. I had dropped off my son at the babysitter's and headed towards the college from Pacific Palisades. Back in those days, traffic was nice and leisurely, not at all like it is today.

My thoughts were on other things, and I was not concentrating on my driving. I made the left turn to drive towards the college. I then heard a horrendous screeching sound and a pickup truck passed inches from the front of my car. I had not stopped at a stop sign. Or did I go through a red light? I can't remember if it was a stop sign or traffic light. It didn't matter. I was daydreaming and did not stop when I should have.

I briefly saw the truck lose control and go off the road on the right, then back onto Kam Highway towards where the Pearl City Home Depot is today. I was speechless. He did not stop and kept going. As I made my way to the college parking lot, I realized that I had almost lost my life. My hands were shaking. I sat there, trying to come to terms with myself. If the driver of that truck had

not acted so fast, both our vehicles would have been smashed to smithereens, or flattened like pancakes.

If I was a Christian, I would have been praising and thanking the Lord that morning. I was not, and it would still be another twenty years before I found Jesus (or did He find me?).

Since then, whenever my faith floundered, I'd think of that day and my faith would be renewed. How can there NOT be a God? I have thanked God many times for that experience that strengthened my faith and give thanks for that quick-thinking driver. I pray I will meet him in heaven some day.

Do you have any such story to tell? Joan Doi wrote an article on the day her daughter's house burned down. What a horrible day it was; yet, she found God's provision in many ways.

Please share with us your stories. They are meant to be shouted from the rooftops!



"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!"

1 John 3:1

Another Senior Moment...(so many of them)

by Linda Kunimitsu

I was recently quite honored to be asked to give a dear friend's eulogy. As I was rehearsing on the morning of the funeral, I wanted to talk about a mutual friend who lived on the mainland. For the life of me, I could not think of the state she now lives in. She's been there for a loong time. I KNOW THE STATE. It starts with an A.

Well, I could think of several states that started with an A—Alabama, Alaska, Arizona.—but not her state. I finally went to my husband, Nori, and thought maybe he could jiggle my memory.

As I started explaining to him, bingo—Arkansas!!! Thank you, Jesus!

Don't these things drive you crazy?

I later wondered if I could have googled it. Yup, there it was—all the states that started with an A! I am so stuck in my generation, I don't think of googling simple things, you know?

Seniors, Google is our best friend (next to Jesus).



"I've reached an age where my train of thought leaves the station without me."

MAXINE



Senior Citizens...Not!

by Julie Morita

One day Derek and I decided to go to see a movie. Derek opened the theater app to see what movies were playing. When he saw the prices, he said that maybe ordering it online is more expensive. We decided to go to the theater and figure out which movie we wanted to see.

As Derek told the boy behind the window which movie we wanted to see, I watched the boy look me and Derek over.

We paid for our tickets and went inside. Derek commented that it seems cheaper to go to the theater and buy the tickets.

I had to give him the bad news. No, the boy charged us the senior citizen rates. While I ranted and raved about being seen as a senior citizen (I was in my early 50s), Derek just smiled and said, "Score! We got discount!"

'Til today I'm still in disbelief. When did I get to be my parents' age?

The Serenity Prayer

(excerpts from <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/prayer/what-is-the-serenity-prayer-is-it-biblical.html>)

“The Serenity Prayer is a petition to God asking for calmness and peace in all matters of life. It asks for strength and courage to alter the matters within a person’s control and for acceptance in matters which cannot be changed.”

We all know the short version of the prayer:

O God grant me...
the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change;
the Courage to change the things I can,
and the Wisdom to know the difference, Amen.

Did you know that there’s a full length version? Here it is:

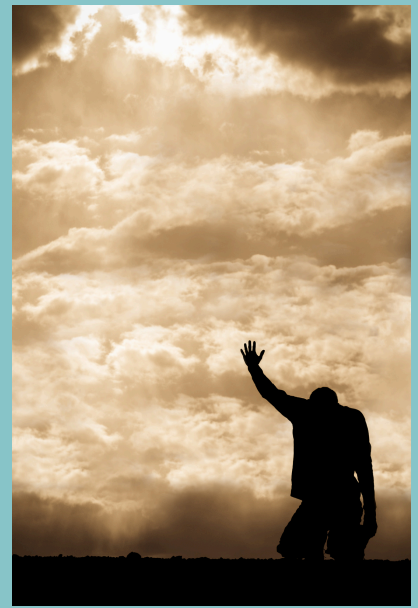
God, give me grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed,
Courage to change the things which should be changed, and the Wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.
Living one day at a time, Enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,
Taking, as Jesus did,
This sinful world as it is,
Not as I would have it,
Trusting that You will make all things right,
If I surrender to Your will,
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with You forever in the next.
Amen.

Sometimes, we need to pray for calmness, peace, strength and courage. Sometimes we don’t know what to pray or how to pray. The Serenity Prayer is a prayer that you can use to start your conversation with God. There is no right or wrong way to pray, but it’s a habit that we need to establish to grow closer to God.



94-420 Farrington Hwy.
Waipahu, HI 96797
Office: (808) 671-0699
Email: info@westoahuchristian.org
Website: <http://www.westoahuchristian.org>

Pastor - Stan Miyamoto
Editorial Staff - Linda Kunimitsu & Julie Morita



*"Hear my prayer, LORD
God Almighty; listen to me,
God of Jacob."*

PSALMS 84:8

*Please feel free to contact:
Linda Kunimitsu or Julie
Morita about this newsletter
or to submit an article.*