

# Around St. James'

May

2007

June

## **Rector's Ramblings**

I just had the luxury of spending 8 days at a conference/retreat sponsored by the National Church, more specifically by the Church Pension Fund. It is called CREDO, which means "I believe" and is designed to help clergy look at their financial, vocational, spiritual and physical health with the intent being to keep clergy healthy and in the ministry longer. Clergy burnout is a real issue in the Church and people who burn out, either leave the ministry all together, or stay and cause real damage to congregations and themselves.

Anyway, the real gift of this time was that it was designed to help participants live more fully into the people God is calling them to be, not just as priest, but as a human being. CREDO is designed to help participants look at the various aspects of their lives that often in the routine of daily living get neglected over time. Then through a process of workshops, prayer and conversation, participants establish a plan for creating more balance and health in the areas that need attention. The faculty gave talks and provided resources to help focus and provide information on the four topic areas and there is plenty of time for prayer, and small group conversation to help individuals examine their theologies, their lives and start working on their plan for making the necessary changes to bring these two together.

I saw this time as a real gift. Not many people get the opportunity to have uninterrupted time to really look at themselves and pray about whether or not they are living authentically into the unique person God calls them to be in all aspects of their life: physically, financially, vocationally and spiritually. Does what and who we say we are as Christians, as a human being, show forth in the way we treat ourselves, use our resources, plan for our futures, do our jobs? Do we pay enough attention to our spiritual lives? All those things matter as we fully integrate our faith, our beliefs about who we are as people of God. It is all about do I live as I profess I believe?

Although most of you do not have the opportunity to do this kind of reflection in an environment like CREDO provides, I would encourage you to find some time in your hectic lives to contemplate, pray and have conversation with your families about how you live or don't live into what you profess to believe. It was surprising to me that I had paid little attention to the fact that we had not established a retirement plan. And that not doing so was potentially detrimental to the quality of life we would have in our retirement years. How would living in poverty as elderly folks be an adequate response to what I believe God wants for us as we age? How would that be good stewardship of our resources? There were other aspects of my life that I realized I had not been paying attention to as well, some had to do with my prayer life and study time. I have been so busy "doing things" that I have been neglecting two very important aspects of my own spiritual life as well as those practices that make me a better priest.

As you examine your own faith and life, see what areas you have been neglecting, and start making a plan on how to address these areas. Gather support to make any changes you may feel you need to make from your family, friends and fellow parishioners. Also, remember you are not alone in this, God is with you in your success and failures and the fact that we try to please God in all we do is in itself pleasing to God.

Two of the quotes I took with me from my time at CREDO are: "If things are going to change, something has to change" and "God loves you just the way you are, but God loves you too much to let you stay that way." It is never too late for us to live more fully into the unique person God calls us to be but sometimes taking the first steps is the hardest part.

## Opportunities for Fun

The fellowship committee is planning to have monthly activities and events at St. James and here is the schedule so far:

June 3<sup>rd</sup> – Church picnic



July – Game 21<sup>st</sup> – Bay Socks Baseball Game see the sign up sheet outside the parish hall for details.

August 11<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Wine tasting



September 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> – Home Coming weekend and Gospel Choir Concert



October – Pot Luck dinner and a Movie – Mexican night

November – Dance Lessons

December 15<sup>th</sup> – Sight and Sound Theater trip

### Women's Study Group

The Women's Study Group meets on Mondays from 10:30 to Noon. Please see the schedule of topics in the bulletin and on the board and join us for any that strike your interest.

St. James Youth Group  
We are looking for 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grader's to join the St. James Youth Group. We have a lot of fun and ministry work planned for the upcoming months. If you are interested in attending a meeting to see if we are what you are looking for please Contact Michelle Prasser at (301) 743-7515 to get the next meeting date.

Choir  
Practice  
Adult Choir  
Thursday's 7:30  
– 9:00 p.m.  
Children's Choir  
Sunday's 3:00 –  
4:00 p.m.



# Prayer List Update

This is a new section for our church newsletter. This section will be for updating the congregation on the people we have been praying for on the sick and military list. So if you have information on someone on the list and they don't mind you updating the congregation on their condition please email Shelley Prasser at [ShelleyP65@comcast.net](mailto:ShelleyP65@comcast.net).

The following are updates on people that were are on or are still on the prayer list:

Sue Brooks - a retired teacher at Indian Head Elementary who is waiting a liver transplant. Sue continues to deal with many health problems associated with her liver condition. Thank you for your years of prayers for her.

Trudy Williams – Jackie Williams's sister in law who has had numerous medical problems for several years. She is currently recovering from many surgeries on her hip. She had a hip replacement a year ago which was infected for many months. The replacement was removed with the intent of replacing it again once the infection cleared. Unfortunately the leg never would heal properly so the doctors decided she could not ever have the hip put back in. She has just returned home from 3 months in the hospital and rehab. She will now be in a wheelchair other than being able to take a few steps with a walker. Your continued prayers for Trudy and my brother, Jimmy are greatly appreciated as they deal with Trudy's healing, pain and therapy.

Roger Raley - was badly burned in an accident last September 06. He has recently returned to his home in Nanjemoy after many months in the burn unit at Johns Hopkins. He is so thankful to be home and for everyone's prayers. His road to recovery is still a long one.

Diane Domina - finished her treatments for breast cancer and is doing well right now.

Doug McNeish has finished his treatments for prostate cancer in Florida and will be traveling home to MA in Mid June.

David Martell, Jr. has lymphoma and is right now cancer free, gaining weight again and feeling good.

Eileen and Bruce - are parents of a young man, 18 years old who was murdered. They caught the young people who did it and the trial has begun.

Dale Scott - Doug's brother who had an accident at work and lost a few fingers but is doing much better now.

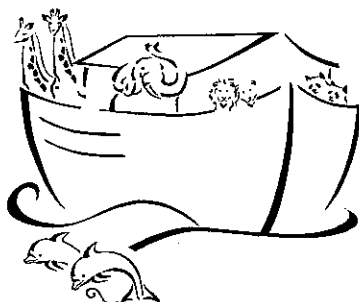
Our military update this month will be will be Donoval Anthony Petty the son of Jervis Petty, Former Lackey High School Principal. Donoval Petty is in the Army Reserve based in Washington, DC. H In the beginning of the war, he was deployed to Fort Dix, New Jersey to support the troops leaving and returning from Iraq. He spent 18 months at Fort Dix before returning home and to his job. He was deployed to Iraq in September 2006 and is still stationed there. He is part of the motor pool. He is responsible for transporting supplies to designated locations. He has a wife and stepchildren and is employed by the Prince Georges Public Schools System in their transportation department.

Remember if you have an update on someone and won't mind sharing with the Congregation please email me or give me a call at (301) 743-7515.



## Nursery

We now have nursery staffed by adult volunteers each Sunday at the 10:15 service. Thank you to Ron Litten, Jean Alice Artes, Nancy Ahern and Mittie Buchanan. We have a good number of children in the nursery on Sundays and could use a few more volunteers to be present so if a child needs one on one attention there is someone else to remain with the other children. If you are interested in helping out with this important ministry, please talk with one of the volunteers or with Rev. Denise. The commitment is only once a month



**Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark**

**One** : Don't miss the boat.

**Two** : Remember that we are all in the same boat.

**Three** : Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

**Four** : Stay fit When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big

**Five** : Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

**Six** : Build your future on high ground.

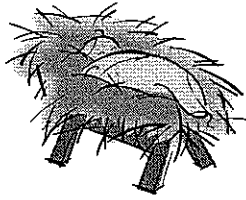
**Seven** : For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

**Eight** : Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

**Nine** : When you're stressed, float a while.

**Ten** : Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

**Eleven** : No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting...



## Sight and Sound Theatre Day Trip "Miracle of Christmas"

On December 16th we will be hosting a day trip to Lancaster, PA to the Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre ([www.sight-sound.com](http://www.sight-sound.com)) to see "Miracle of Christmas". A bus will take us from Indian Head to Lancaster and home again.

The moment we catch sight of the state of the art majestic Millennium Theatre rising on the horizon, we'll enjoy and experience of unprecedented excellence - exquisitely detailed inside and out.

The miraculous day when God became man, we'll experience the "Miracle of Christmas," and rediscover the true meaning of the season. If we arrive early (and we plan to) we'll be able to visit a first century stable with live animals and shepherds. Then, we can treat ourselves to specially made seasonal goodies, and delight in elaborate Christmas lights and decorations centered around a glittering 30-foot high "angel" tree.

When the show begins, we'll follow the extraordinary journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel the lonely road to Bethlehem, and in a lowly stable, give birth to the Savior of the world. With majestic flying angels, live and animatronics animals, spectacular sets on a 300 foot wrap around stage, stunning special effects and a soaring musical score we will witness a scene sure to touch our hearts.

The bus will leave Indian Head approximately 9:00 a.m., we will travel to Lancaster and eat our bag lunches, see the show and then stop on the way home for a bite to eat.

We are trying to keep the cost as low as possible to enable as many people as wish to go, to do so. If possible, the cost may be lower if we can discount the bus.

Cost per person for the show and bus is:

\$70.00 per adult

\$46.00 teens (13-18)

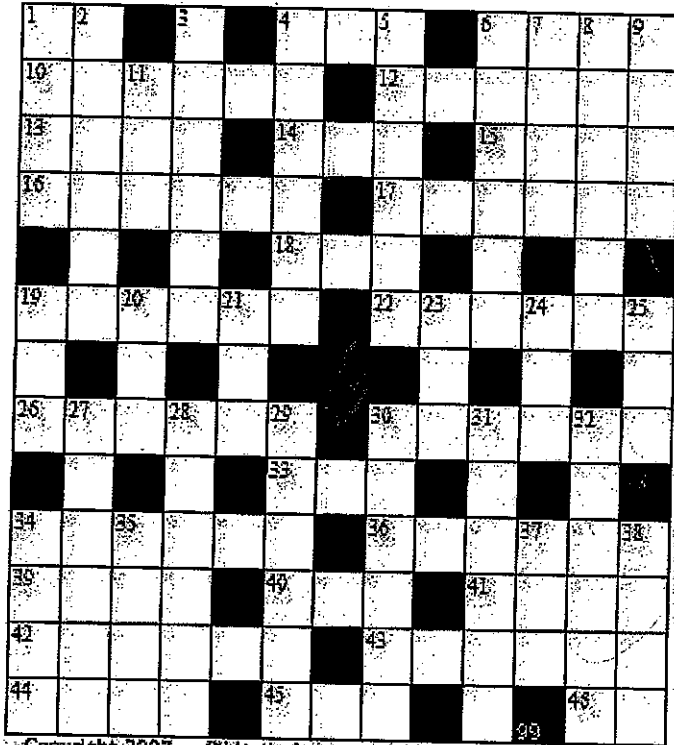
\$36.00 children (12-3)

Sign-up with a deposit of half your cost is due by June 15th to allow us to purchase enough seats, and good ones. The remainder will be due Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Sign-up sheet is on the board in the hallway, checks should be made to St. James with PA trip in the memo. Checks can be given to Barbara Prasser, Mittie Buchanan or Sharyn Gantt.

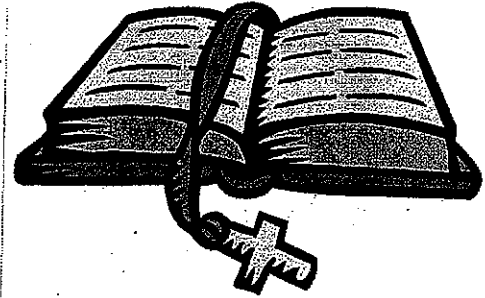
## TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL Game...



There is a sign up sheet for the Bowie Baysox's baseball game on July 21. It is fireworks night at the game. The tickets are \$7.50 for adults, \$4.50 for kids 6 & over and children 5 and under are free. It is a wonderful event to bring children to, even if you aren't a big baseball fan, the small park and festive atmosphere makes for a really enjoyable night. Please join us.....



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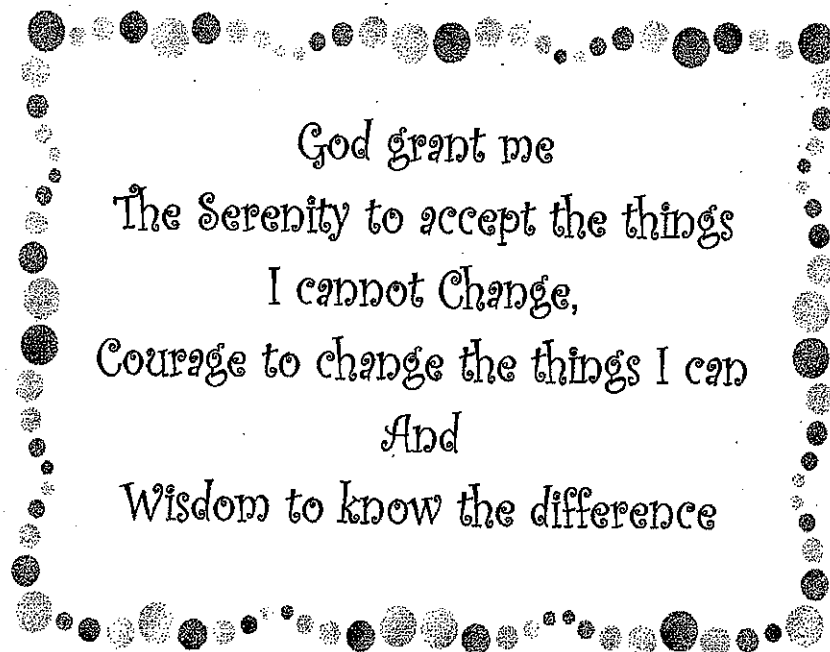


ACROSS

- 1 \_\_\_ ! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? (Luke 4:34)
- 4 tear (Ps 7:2)
- 6 Noah's son (Gen 6:10)
- 10 It is mine to \_\_\_ ; I will repay," says the Lord (Rom 12:19)
- 12 know that you have no authority to \_\_\_ taxes, tribute (Ezra 7:24)
- 13 the righteous will thrive like a green \_\_\_ (Prov 11:28)
- 14 Come to me, \_\_\_ you who are weary and burdened (Matt 11:28)
- 15 I have finished the \_\_\_, I have kept the faith (2 Tim 4:7)
- 16 I will not eat, until I have told mine \_\_\_ (Gen 24:33) KJV
- 17 Noah's ark came to rest on this mountain (Gen 8:4)
- 18 who overcomes, I will give the right to \_\_\_ from the tree of life (Rev 2:7)
- 19 It is \_\_\_ to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man (Ps 118:8)
- 22 They were swifter than \_\_\_, they were stronger than lions (2 Sam 1:23)
- 26 They are like plants in the field, like \_\_\_ green shoots (Isa 37:27)
- 30 He will \_\_\_ the afflicted among the people (Ps 72:4)
- 33 mother of Seth (Gen 4:25)
- 34 piles (Ex 22:6) KJV
- 36 mistreated (Judg 19:25)
- 39 kept Solomon supplied with all the cedar and \_\_\_ logs he wanted (1 Kings 5:10)
- 40 what will be the sign of your coming and of the \_\_\_ of the age? (Matt 24:3)
- 41 Woe unto you also, ye lawyers! for ye \_\_\_ men with burdens (Luke 11:46) KJV
- 42 faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by \_\_\_, is dead (James 2:17)
- 43 Whoever welcomes this \_\_\_ child in my name welcomes me (Luke 9:48)
- 44 Like a bird that strays from its \_\_\_ is a man who strays (Prov 27:8)
- 45 oppress his saints and \_\_\_ to change the set times and the laws (Dan 7:25)
- 46 Woe to you who are well f \_\_\_ now, for you will go (partial word) (Luke 6:25)

## DOWN

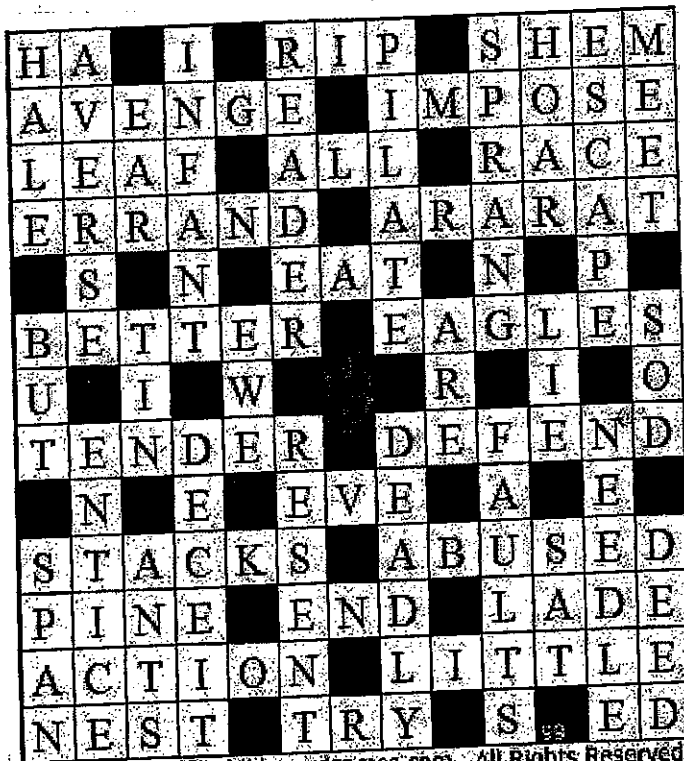
- 1 lest he \_\_\_ thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the (Luke 12:58) KJV  
2 from them that pass by securely as men \_\_\_ from war (Mic 2:8) KJV  
3 Never again will there be in it an \_\_\_ who lives but a few days (Isa 65:20)  
4 standing where it does not belong, let the \_\_\_ understand (Mark 13:14)  
5 \_\_\_ asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?" (Luke 23:3)  
6 It \_\_\_ up overnight and died overnight (Jonah 4:10)  
7 a small round thing, as small as the \_\_\_ frost on the ground (Ex 16:14) KJV  
8 from the Sovereign LORD comes \_\_\_ from death (Ps 68:20)  
9 caught up together with them in the clouds to \_\_\_ the Lord in the air (1 Thess 4:17)  
11 struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right \_\_\_ (Luke 22:50)  
19 With man this is impossible, \_\_\_ with God all things are possible (Matt 19:26)  
20 they exchanged silver, iron, \_\_\_ and lead for your merchandise (Ezek 27:12)  
21 the poor man had nothing except one little \_\_\_ lamb he had bought (2 Sam 12:3)  
23 Blessed \_\_\_ the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God (Matt 5:9)  
24 I assure you before God that what I am writing you is no \_\_\_ (Gal 1:20)  
25 Jacob \_\_\_ pottage; and Esau came from the field (Gen 25:29) KJV  
27 My son, if sinners \_\_\_ you, do not give in to them (Prov 1:10)  
28 He committed no sin, and no \_\_\_ was found in his mouth (1 Peter 2:22)  
29 do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not \_\_\_ his rebuke (Prov 3:11)  
30 Their tongue is a \_\_\_ arrow; it speaks with deceit (Jer 9:8)  
31 Who can discern his errors? Forgive my hidden \_\_\_ (Ps 19:12)  
32 easier for a camel to go through the eye of a \_\_\_ than for a Matt 19:24  
34 my days a mere handbreadth; the \_\_\_ of my years is as nothing Ps 39:5  
35 Picnic pests (Prov 30:25)  
37 a sister called Mary, who \_\_\_ at the Lord's feet listening (Luke 10:39)  
38 He was a prophet, powerful in word and \_\_\_ before God (Luke 24:19)



[Back](#)







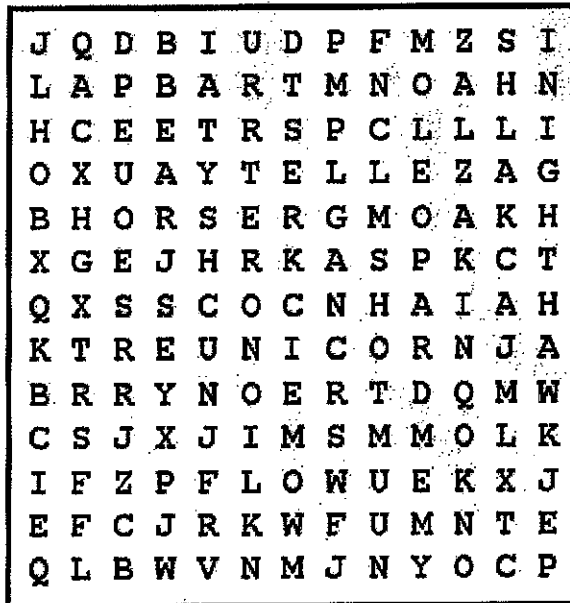
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## Kids Bible Wordsearch

## Animals in the Bible Puzzle #1

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.

- BEAR
- CAMEL
- DONKEY
- GAZELLE
- GOAT
- HART
- HORSE
- IBEX
- JACKAL



- LEOPARD
- LION
- MOLE
- MOUSE
- NIGHTHAWK
- OSTRICH
- SHEEP
- UNICORN
- WOLF

# St James' Welcome Wagon

The welcome wagon is getting ready to start visiting new people in the area. We have a wonderful group of volunteers who will drop by and welcome people to the communities around St. James'. We could use a few more bread bakers. We are asking for mini loaves of breads, pumpkin, zucchini, banana, what ever, that we can give to people when we stop by. If you are willing to bake a few loaves every now and then, please bake them and put them in the freezer in the parish hall. Please date them so we take the older ones first. Thank you so much. We have over 120 new people to visit so we'll need lots of bread!

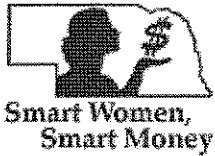
St. James' Church Picnic

June 3<sup>rd</sup>

More Information coming SOON

!





### Treasurer's Corner:

First, I wish to thank all of you for your continued support of me in the Treasurer's job. But I am not the only one who works on our books. Karen Burroughs is our assistant treasurer and has helped when I have been on the road traveling. But most important is Rick Ryan who tracks out pledges each week and sends out our pledge statements each year. Thank you to both of you who keep me straight. Second, I want to thank you for maintaining your pledges. It has certainly allowed the church to support outreach ministries, obtain much needed upgrades, and support overall management. But, summer is soon upon us, so please don't forget to continue your pledge through the summer. JV



### Ways and Means:

The Ways and Means (AKA: Tea Committee) has done it again. We had a very successful Spring Tea: Sweet Sentiments on May 12. We had 72 participants from various locations attend an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and tea, of course. The Tea made \$1,500 which will go to our general fund. We even have a newcomer to our committee, Claire Phillips. Welcome Claire.

We hope to have our Gospel Concert in September and our Christmas Tea in December. If you have any questions, concerns, or fund raising ideas, please don't hesitate to let any member of committee know (Karen Burroughs, Barbara Prasser, Mildred Weston, Ethel Evans, Christine Freeman, Claire Phillips, and Jackie Vos).  
JV

JUNE 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
27 3:00 PM Children's Choir Practice	28 10:30 AM Women's Group	29	30 8:00 PM AA Meeting	31 7:30 PM Choir Practice	1 8:00 PM NA Meeting	2	
3 Annual Picnic 12:00 PM Annual Church Picnic 3:00 PM Children's Choir Practice	4 10:30 AM Women's Group	5	6 8:00 PM AA Meeting	7 7:30 PM Choir Practice	8 8:00 PM NA Meeting	9	
10 3:00 PM Children's Choir Practice	11 10:30 AM Women's Group 7:00 PM Vestry Officer's Meeting	12	13 6:30 PM Finance Committee 8:00 PM AA Meeting	14 7:30 PM Choir Practice	15	16	
17 3:00 PM Children's Choir Practice	18 10:30 AM Women's Group	19 7:00 PM Vestry Meeting	20 8:00 PM AA Meeting	21 7:30 PM Choir Practice	22	23	
24 3:00 PM Children's Choir Practice	25 10:30 AM Women's Group	26	27 8:00 PM AA Meeting	28 7:30 PM Choir Practice	29	30	50th Anniversary 6:00 PM Doug and Evelyn McClanahan's 50th Wedding Anniversary

## How Long Did You Say?

Let's see, if I don't count today, then there are only 16 full days left. The closer it gets, the less capable I feel. I'm not ready for this. I want to be doing something to get ready, some sort of movement, like show some progress, get psyched! I sure can worry though, Lord only knows how much of that I can do. Strange thing is, one of my favorite passages in the Bible is found in Matthew 6. Like verse 26: *Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?* And verse 28: *And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin.* The chapter ends with these treasured words of wisdom: *Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself.* Reading and praying through that chapter is comforting and speaks to the uselessness of worrying about stuff. But still, I have to keep reminding myself of those words and reminding myself, constantly!

Maybe I should count today, at least what's left of it, then I still have 17 days. Yeah right, now that helps a lot! Just coming up with a good song was a struggle, but there in the back of my mind was a memory from last year's American Idol season finale. Taylor Hicks sang it and I remember thinking, "Now that might make a really good song for the occasion".

*I've never been the one to raise my hand,  
That was not me and now that's who I am.  
Because of you I am standing tall,  
My heart is full of endless gratitude,  
You were the one, the one to guide me through,  
Now I can see and I believe it's only just beginning.*

*This is what we dream about,  
but the only question with me now  
Is do I make you proud?  
Stronger than I've ever been,  
Never been afraid of standing out,  
But do I make you proud?*

I really think those lyrics have special meaning for both of us. At the end of our journey together and as we embark on new adventures, aren't we all hoping and praying that the answer will be "Yes!"?

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, in a loud, commanding voice, Denise will ask, "Who gives this woman to be married to this man?"

My sincerest wish is that when I open my mouth, something coherent and meaningful will come out, hopefully in a language everyone will understand. For you see, my baby's getting married on that day. Erica and Cory will be united in marriage and I'll be the blithering idiot in the back trying to figure out where I left my hanky.

Tom