WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

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Rose's Story "An 87 Year Old College Student Named Rose"

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned round to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being.

She said, "Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty -seven years old. Can I give you a hug?"

I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may!" and she gave me a giant squeeze. "Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked.

get married, and have a couple of kids..."

"No seriously," I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age.

"I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months, we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium.

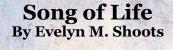
As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know."

She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, "We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up.

> If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change.

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The Joy of the Lord Gives us the strength To face every day of life.

We may have mountains To climb every way, it seems But here is a right way: It is praying for God to Help us climb, and His Words Lift us up!

What a Redeemer God is!

Praise and Bless God! Neh. 8:10





August 6th Communion Sunday

Greeter: Connie Frank Invocation & Call to Worship: Rev. Peter Grinion Scripture Reader: Connie Frank Offertory Prayer: Loretta Hirschman Fellowship: Valerie Bandemer

August 13th

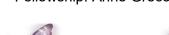
Greeter: Connie Frank Invocation & Call to Worship: Rev. Peter Grinion Scripture Reader: John Miller Offertory Prayer: Connie Necaster Fellowship: John Miller

August 20th

Greeters: Connie Frank Invocation & Call to Worship: Rev. Peter Grinion Scripture: Josina McCarroll Offertory Prayer: Laurie Wenthe Fellowship: Gretchen Young

August 27th

Greeters: Connie Frank Invocation & Call to Worship: Rev. Peter Grinion Scripture: Gretchen Young Offertory Prayer: Valerie Bandemer Fellowship: Anne Greco











Aug. 4 ~ Evie Scott

Aug. 6 ~ Heather Jonathan

Aug. 6 ~ Carol Wilkins

Aug. 10 ~ Evy Shoots

Aug. 10 ~ Joyce Shutts

Aug. 14 ~ Sharon Scurlock

Aug. 15 ~ Paul Lundy

Aug. 23 ~ Connie Frank

Aug. 28 ~ Jim Harper



CHRUCH PICNIC
Sunday,
September 3, 2023
Following Worship
In Fellowship Hall
Please bring a dish to pass.



The LINK Deadline

Please submit your articles, news, humorous stories, activities, etc. for the September LINK

by August 18th to Sharon Scurlock

Best knock knock joke ever..

Knock-Knock Joke

Three brothers age 92, 94 and 96 live in a house together.

One night the 96 year old draws a bath, puts his foot in and pauses. He yells down the stairs, "Was I getting in or out of the bath?"

The 94 year old yells back, "I don't know, I'll come up and see." He starts up the stairs and pauses, then he yells, "Was I going up the stairs or coming down?"

The 92 year old was sitting at the kitchen table having coffee listening to his brothers. He shakes his head and says, "I sure hope I never get that forgetful." He knocks on wood for good luck. He then yells, "I'll come up and help both of you as soon as I see who's at the door."



Prayer GroupSaturdays at 9:00 AM

Choir Practice Saturdays at 10:00 AM

Sunday Mornings Choir Practice at 9:30 AM Worship at 10:00 AM Fellowship at 11:00 AM

Bible Study

Bible Study suspended for July and August

Deacons Meeting August 4 at 10:00 AM

Trustees Meeting August 4 at 1:00 PM

LINK deadline for September 2023 is August 18 Sharon Scurlock

Cabinet Meeting ~ TBA

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Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets."

She concluded her speech by courageously singing "The Rose."

She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives.

At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep.

Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be.

When you finish reading this, please send this peaceful word of advice to your friends and family, they'll really enjoy it!

These words have been passed along in loving memory of ROSE.

REMEMBER, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY. GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL.

We make a Living by what we get, we make a Life by what we give."

Credited to motivational speaker <u>Dan Clark</u>, who published it under the title "Never Too Old to Live Your Dream" in the 1999 book Chicken Soup for the College Soul: Inspiring and Humorous Stories About College.

Spirit Lifting: Butterfly Blessings



"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."—James 1:17 (NIV)

Recently, a neighbor came over for iced tea. She wanted advice about which flowers to plant in her garden. Glasses in hand, we strolled through my yard.

"These pink roses and azaleas grow well," I said. Then I showed her where I'd planted purple agapanthus and bright yellow lantana. She pointed to some green stalks in the corner—bare except for a few small leaves.

"What happened there?" she asked.

"That's milkweed."

She stepped closer. "Oh no, caterpillars are eating it!"

"I know," I said, laughing.

"You don't mind?"

"No," I said. "Every year, monarch butterflies lay their eggs on the milkweed. Then caterpillars hatch. They'll cocoon and eventually emerge as beautiful butterflies."

"But they've eaten all the flowers!" she said.

"That's okay," I told her. "The way I see it, every flower in my garden is a gift from God and helping sustain the butterflies is a simple way to pay his gift forward."

As we walked back to the house, I said a silent thanks to God for his never-ceasing care.

Lord, please give me the creativity to find meaningful ways to pay your gifts forward.—Melody Bonnette Swang

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