

WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH THE LINK



It's busting out all over.

Stories of My Dad -- RAY ORTLUND | JUNE 14, 2014

God gave me a great dad. He was the finest man I've ever known and the best pastor, and the best preacher, by far. I drew strength from his love for me. I miss him today. I miss him every day.

Here are some reasons why I honor him. And these are just for starters. Dad came to all my high school football games, and even to some practices. My friends noticed. I noticed. I knew I mattered to him. I wasn't a "priority" in his schedule. I was his son. He liked watching me play football. I liked him watching me play football. We enjoyed it together.

He set me free to pursue God's call on my life. He guided me in appropriate ways, but he did not fearfully cling to me or hope I would always live nearby. Just the opposite. He urged me to follow Christ anywhere. Now and then he'd make this speech: "I don't care if you're a ditch-digger, as long as you love the Lord with all your heart." He was not at all impressed with worldly success and going to the right schools and all that pretense and bluff. He wanted something better for me, something I had to find on my own. But I never doubted now urgently he desired it for me. And I did find it, partly because my dad didn't intrude himself into it but cheered me on as I figured things out for myself.

I remember going downstairs early one morning and walking in on my dad in the living room. There he was, on his knees, his face buried in his hands, absorbed in silent prayer. He didn't know anyone else was up. So it wasn't for show. It was real. My dad had a real walk with God. It never occurred to me, not once, to wonder what mattered most to my dad. It never occurred to me to wonder if Jesus was the Lord of his heart and of our home. Dad revered the Bible. He loved the gospel. He served the church. He witnessed to our neighbors. He tithed when he couldn't afford it. He set the tone of our home, and our home was a place of joy, honesty and comfort. Jesus was there.

One day when I was 11 or 12, while we were doing yard work out front — I can't remember the context — but my dad stopped, looked me in the eyes and said, "You know, Bud, before time began, God chose you." I was floored. Almighty God thought of tiny me? Way back then? I felt so loved by God. Years later, when I became aware of the doctrine of election as such, I had no problem with it. I loved it. My dad had begun my theological education in my boyhood in the course of everyday conversation.

My mom told me once that dad had a practice as he came home at the end of each day. He worked hard throughout the day. He came home tired. His blood sugar was low. So as he walked up the back steps, before he reached out to open the back door, he would lift a simple prayer to God, "Lord, I need some extra energy right now." And God answered those prayers. I never saw my dad walk in with no positive emotion to give. Instead, he'd walk over to my mom, kiss her with a borderline embarrassing big kiss, and then he'd turn to me and say, "Come on, Skip, let's wrestle!" And we'd go out to the front room and wrestle on the floor and tickle and laugh and have a blast.

Cont. on Page 3

Editor: Joyce Shutts

Worship Servants

June 4

Invocation: Rev. Dr. Peter Grinion

Scripture: Annette Enedy **Offering:** Connie Necaster

Greeter: Everyone

Fellowship: Kathy G., Loretta H.

June 11

Invocation: Rev. Dr. Peter GrinionScripture: Valerie BandemerOffering: Valerie Bandemer

Greeter: Everyone **Fellowship**: TBD

June 18

Invocation: Rev. Dr. Peter Grinion

Scripture: Dr. Len Smith Offering: Laurie Wenthe Greeter: Everyone

Fellowship: Father's Day Luncheon

June 25

Invocation: Rev. Dr. Peter Grinion Scripture: Connie Necaster Offering: Loretta Hirschman

Greeter: Everyone

Fellowship: Valerie Bandemer



Starway to the Stairs

Far past all planets
Is a bright golden stairway
Rising to Heaven.

You may hear music Sweeter than anything heard With some heavenly words.

Lord of Creation is there Higher than high in the air! He hears all prayers!

God shares Christ, His Son Whom He Crowned to Help us all

with world Peace increase!

By Evelyn M. Shoots





Worship 10 a.m. Sundays

Short Choir Practice 9:30 a.m. Sundays

Bible Study

10 a.m. Wednesdays

Prayer Meeting

9 a.m. Saturdays

Choir Practice 10 a.m. Saturdays

Deacons' Meeting

10 a.m. June 9 @ Church

Trustee's Mtg.

1 p.m. June 9 @ Church

Advisory Council 6:30 p.m., June 12

Get your reports to Sharon

Link Inputs to Sharon Scurlock By June 18



June 6 ~ Carol Dubois

June 10 ~ Stacie Goff June 11 ~ Elizabeth Hirschman

June 11 ~ Vi Oliphant-Smith,

Chris Pires

June 12 ~ Sally Kubica

June 15 ~ Stan Enedy

June 20 ~ Bonnie Healy

June 21 ~ Dr. Leonard Smith

June 26 ~ Ken Goff

June 28 ~ Ashley Marie Dubois



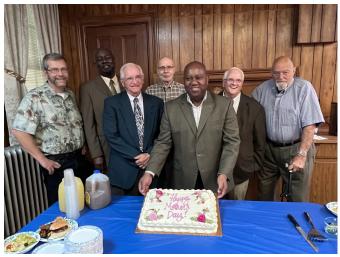
To Pastor on the Passing of his Former Mother-in-law.

And to Ayden & Bryce for their Grandma's passing.

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The Lord put his hand on my dad's ministry. Sure, he went through hard times. He was accused of ridiculous things by crazy people. But he trusted God and kept going. And, the Lord owned his ministry with obvious manifestations of divine favor. There were even times when dad was unable to finish his sermon there at Lake Avenue Church, because the Holy Spirit was so moving on the people that they were going into prayer and repentance. It was never forced or fake. It was the Lord, adding his unusual blessing to the ministry of "a vessel for honorable use."

I honor my dad today, with thanks to God.



Thank You for the wonderful luncheon prepared & served by the men for the ladies on Mother's Day.

A Tribute to Pastor

Pastor invites us
To join him in prayer
And he shows us he cares.
Every meeting time
Our Chapel bells chime
Which lift our prayers high.
Pastor's scripture powered words
Inspire us through what we've heard.
Alleluia!

We are so thankful
Pastor holds his loving prayers
around us all!
God Bless You Pastor!

Member Evelyn M. Shoots





"IT'S TIME TO SHARE"

This is the theme of this year's One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Isn't it a perfect Time to Share with those in need around the world. It is one way of saying we need to think of our own blessings and share with the larger world that is in need.

Galatians 6:9

"So, let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up."

This scripture held special meaning to World Relief Officer, Lisa Rothenberger-Winter this past year. War in Ukraine persists, communities from Kentucky to Puerto Rico are in the throes of long-term recovery from tornadoes, floods and hurricanes, while wildfires continue to imperil western U.S. states.

And those are just a few of the life-changing hardships people have faced in 2022. In the midst of it all, American Baptists have responded through the One Great Hour of Sharing, and we are seeing the harvest indeed.

Please pray and meditate on Galatians 6:9 and ask yourself what God is calling you to share with those in need. West Henrietta Baptist is striving to grow, to share God's Love as well as repair our building and maintain it. God continually blesses us, let us be generous in our giving and not be fatigued of doing good!

With expectation and gratitude for your Loving Gifts,

Your Mission Committee



CONNIE FRANK -2023 Para of the Year

This paraprofessional has been with our district, well, actually she's Para of the Half Century, since 1972. However, this year having completed over 50 years with Rush-Henrietta CSD, she is our very special Para of the Year.



She believes in longevity. That's why she's also been married to the same man for 60 years! From Pennsylvania to California to Ohio and finally to Rochester, she and her husband raised two children who started their school careers at Vollmer.

This para chose to work so that she could meet people. If you know her at all, you know she loves a good conversation and always has a great story to tell.

For 20 years, she ran volleyball classes through Rush-Henrietta Continuing Ed, while already working as a school aide and teacher aide in the district.

Our Para of the Year says that she has met so many wonderful people through her work choices and loves the children, feeling that she has made a difference in their lives. We know she has and the kids love her too!

Thank you for all of your years of devotion to Rush-Henrietta, the Paraprofessionals and our children and their families!

Congratulations, Connie -- We Love You

Note: There was a Video with WHAM TV last Oct. wherein she was interviewed. She said "I served for 50 years and now I'm starting my 51st." That clears things up!

The Neighbor to Neighbor Celebration

What happened at the Celebration, Sat., May 13?

Well, lots of things. It was planned as a welcome for our multicultural neighbors. We had a table dis-



VOLUNTEERS

playing an overview of West Henrietta Baptist Church, (our history, our dedication to missions, & our building). Thank you to Annette Enedy, Connie & Keith Necaster, Leanna Shirley & Joyce Shutts for volunteering to help. We were asked to be there as a founding Church of the local Interfaith League of Churches, one of the sponsors. There were well over 800 people attending.

The pictures give a better idea of the evening than can be described by words.

Joyce Shutts, Delegate





