

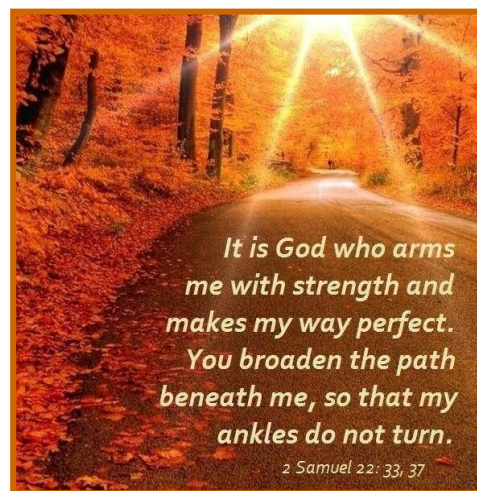
# WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

5660 WEST HENRIETTA RD (P. O. BOX 336), WEST HENRIETTA, NY 14586

(585) 334-0497; EMAIL: CHURCH@WHBAPTIST.ORG;

WEB. WHBAPTIST.ORG

PASTOR: REV. DR. PETER E. GRINION; TEL: (585) 278-8520



## The History of “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know” Song

The very first Christian song most children learn is “Jesus Loves Me.” If there were a best-seller hit list among the preschoolers, this very simple but precious song would have to be at the top of the charts. Yet few people know that “Jesus Loves Me” began life not as a song but as a part of one of 1860’s best-selling novels.

Anna Warner was well aware of the coming of the War Between the States. She lived with her father and sister on Constitution Island. Their home was practically next door to the United States Military Academy at West Point, and from her front porch she constantly heard the rumors of war. Yet even in the face of uncertain times, every Sunday Anna taught Bible classes to the cadets. She realized that if the southern states made good on their threat to withdraw from the Union many of the boys she knew could be killed or wounded in the war that would follow. While it broke her heart to consider the dismal fate for those too young to have experienced the many blessings of life, she also fully comprehended the importance of leading each of them to Jesus now. With an urgency brought about by a nation on the brink of dividing, sharing Christ’s love became her mission in life.

Besides her teaching, the forty-year-old Anna also wrote. With her sister Susan she had written several novels, using the pseudonym Amy Lothrop. In 1860 the sisters’ Say and Seal became the country’s best-selling work of fiction. Written for the masses and the moment, not fueled by timeless struggles or epic writing, the book would quickly pass from the public’s fancy, lost with thousands of other period pieces of the time. Yet, thanks to one very special scene

on but a single page, the essence of the book and of Anna’s faith would live for decades after Say and Seal and Anna herself had been forgotten.

In one chapter a child lay dying. Nothing could be done to ease his pain or give him a second chance at life. As his ultimate fate grew nearer, the novel’s focal character, Mr. Linden, attempted to comfort the small boy. Looking into the child’s eyes, he slowly recited a poem that began, “Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.”

The words of the poem made the boy’s last moments of life much easier. These simple lines also moved thousands of readers to tears. Hauntingly beautiful, composed straight from Anna’s faithful heart, “Jesus Loves Me” quickly sprang out of her book’s pages and became one of the most beloved poems of the era. No one can even begin to calculate how many times it was said on the battlefield, in the homes of children whose fathers were engaged in the Civil War, from pulpits and in Sunday school classes, and even at the White House itself. Ringing so clear and true, Anna’s sixteen short sentences had touched the hearts of millions with verses meant only to calm the soul of a dying fictional character.

One of the scores of readers who memorized the poem was William Bradbury. A teacher of voice and organ, in 1854 Bradbury had formed a piano company with Ferdinand Lighte and Henry Newton. Besides heading up his business, the noted musician also continued a practice of setting his faith to music by composing his own songs.

(Continued on Page 4)

*"Hope Heals"**By Evelyn M. Shoots**Think about a blanket  
Cozily around you,  
Comforting your soul.**Thankfulness within you  
Soothing every sinew,  
Truly fosters healing!**Fearful wonderings leaving,  
Thoughts of healing strengthening,  
You feel Jesus' power!**Miracles of healing  
Still abound around us ---  
Hope shines out a Welcome!**Safe in Jesus' caring,  
We relax and praise Him  
To the Highest Heavens!**Alleluia!**Romans 15:13**Sunday Morning*  
**WORSHIP****September 3rd  
Communion Sunday**

Greeter: Connie Frank  
Invocation & Call to Worship:  
Rev. Peter Grinion  
Scripture Reader: Annette Enedy  
Offertory Prayer: Loretta Hirschman  
Fellowship: Church Picnic

**September 10th**

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

**September 17th**

Greeters: Connie Frank  
Invocation & Call to Worship:  
Rev. Peter Grinion  
Scripture: Connie Frank  
Offertory Prayer: Valerie Bandemer  
Fellowship: Annette Enedy

**September 24th**

Greeters: Connie Frank  
Invocation & Call to Worship:  
Rev. Peter Grinion  
Scripture: Steve Wenthe  
Offertory Prayer: Laurie Wenthe  
Fellowship: Leanna Shirley

YOU CAN'T SPELL  
**CHALLENGE**  
WITHOUT  
**CHANGE.**

May you open  
yourself up to the  
**Changes**  
that a challenge may  
bring so that you can

*Rise!*

LIFE IS...



*The Lord is my strength and my shield;  
My heart trusts in him, and I am helped.*

*My heart leaps for joy  
And I will give thanks to him in song.*

*Psalms 28:7*





**Prayer Group**  
Saturdays 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**  
September 13 at 10:00 AM

**Deacons Meeting**  
September 1 at 10:00 AM

**Church Picnic**  
September 3 following  
Worship

**Trustees Meeting**  
September 8 at 1:00 PM

**Advisory Council Meeting**  
September 11th at 6:30 PM

**LINK deadline for**  
October 2023 is  
September 18  
Sharon Scurlock

**Cabinet Meeting ~ TBA**

**Garage and Craft Sale**  
October 21, 2023



Sept. 3 ~ Gretchen Young  
Sept. 4 ~ Jace Morse  
Sept. 5 ~ Clara White  
Sept. 8 ~ Zachary Dubois  
Sept. 12 ~ Isabella Goff  
Sept. 13 ~ Ellie Morse  
Sept. 17 ~ Connie Harper  
Sept. 19 ~ Eric Pires  
Sept. 22 ~ Laurel Heisig  
Sept. 27 ~ Dustin Pires

## West Henrietta Baptist Church Garage Sale and Craft Sale October 21, 2023



Dates for Garage Sale donations drop off will be determined at a later date.

Volunteers are needed. If you can help out, contact Joanne Wilbert or Laurie Wenthe.



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

If you haven't signed up for a dish to pass yet, here are some suggestions: coleslaw, potato salad with mustard or vegan mayo, potato chips, bean salad, and fruit salad.



**The LINK Deadline**  
Please submit your articles, news, humorous stories, activities, etc. for the October LINK by September 18th to Sharon Scurlock

(Continued from page 1)

By the beginning of the Civil War, Bradbury had built his own music company to publish and distribute his works. It was during the time when his music business was taking off that he first read and fell in love with "Jesus Loves Me."

Although an accomplished composer of what many think of as High-Church music—he had already lent his talents to such hymns as "Sweet Hour of Prayer", "He Leadeth Me", and "On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand"—Bradbury was moved in a much different fashion when he decided to add a melody to Anna Warner's poem. A lover of children's voices, as well as a proponent of music education in both school and church, Bradbury allowed the child in his own heart to spring forth when writing the simple musical notes for "Jesus Loves Me." Then, to fully complete the work, he added the following chorus:

"Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so."

The marriage of Warner's words and Bradbury's music was one of the most beautiful gospel efforts of all time. Yet the song "Jesus Loves Me" might have been as quickly forgotten as the novel *Say and Seal* if Bradbury's music company hadn't published it. Through the publisher's established distribution network, the new children's song quickly worked its way across the North and South. In the face of the most horrible fighting this nation had ever known, both sides were singing about a Savior who died, yet had risen and still watched over everyone with equal love and compassion. It was an ironic message for a very ironic time.

Almost a hundred and forty years after this song was first published, few know of the writings of Anna Warner or recognize the name of William Bradbury. But even though the writer and the composer have been forgotten, everyone knows their song. Children and adults of all races and even millions outside the Christian faith can sing "Jesus Loves Me." How many millions have clung to this message on lonely nights or rocked babies to sleep while singing this song is unknown. But what can be most assuredly stated is that "Jesus Loves Me" is the foundation on which many children not only first come to know Christian music but also come to know the love and sacrifice of the Lord who inspired it. And this message is what keeps them

singing the gospel throughout their lives.

By Norma Lee Liles  
hoopla214@yahoo.com

## Lyrics for "Jesus Loves Me" Song

"Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong;  
They are weak, but He is strong.

*Chorus:*

*"Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.*

"Jesus loves me! This I know,  
As He loved so long ago,  
Taking children on His knee,  
Saying, 'Let them come to Me.'

*Chorus*

"Jesus loves me still today,  
Walking with me on my way,  
Wanting as a friend to give  
Light and love to all who live.

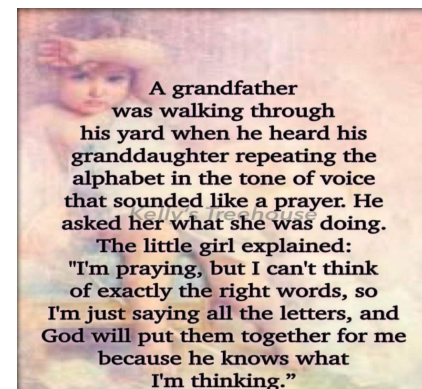
*Chorus*

"Jesus loves me! He who died  
Heaven's gate to open wide;  
He will wash away my sin,  
Let His little child come in.

*Chorus*

"Jesus loves me! He will stay  
Close beside me all the way;  
Thou hast bled and died for me,  
I will henceforth live for Thee.

*Chorus*







## WORLD MISSION OFFERING 2023 – TIME TO GIVE GENEROUSLY TO THOSE AROUND THE WORLD!!

Ecclesiastes 3:11 “He made everything beautiful in its time.”

During September our church can join in the transformation work God is doing around the world through International Ministries. Through 120+ global servants and 250 global partners God can use our participation not only to change lives but to also keep deepening our own discipleship in Christ. You can take part in what the Holy Spirit is doing to bring God’s Kingdom on earth as it is in Heaven.

Please pray hard and give abundantly to this year’s offering. We have so much, and God expects us to share with others. Let us give and increase the witness of our International Missions.

Each week in September we will share information from International Mission, put inserts on mission work and envelopes for your offering. Please read them and pray and then given your best to help God make everything beautiful in its time.

Blessing-from your Mission Committee

## HOLY HABITS

**H**ang time with God  
**A**ccountability  
**B**ible study  
**I**nvolved in ministry  
**T**ithing  
**S**haring faith



## It's Happening!!!!

The church painting started Wednesday morning, 8/30/23. Thanks to Laurie Wenthe for taking pictures to allow us to see it happen. AND, thanks for your support and the Trustees who made it happen. Attached are pictures starting with Day 1, power washing & prep. Day 2, Steve Wenthe said they are scraping and priming as they go.



## The Grocery List

### Inspirational Christian Story

Louise Redden, a poorly dressed lady with a look of defeat on her face, walked into a grocery store. She approached the owner of the store in a most humble manner and asked if he would let her charge a few groceries. She softly explained that her husband was very ill and unable to work, they had seven children and they needed food. John Longhouse, the grocer, scoffed at her and requested that she leave his store. Visualizing the family needs, she said: Please, sir! I will bring you the money just as soon as I can." John told her he could not give her credit, as she did not have a charge account at his store.

Standing beside the counter was a customer who overheard the conversation between the two. The customer walked forward and told the grocer that he would stand good for whatever she needed for her family. The grocer said in a very reluctant voice, "Do you have a grocery list?" Louise replied, "Yes sir" "O.K." he said, "put your grocery list on the scales and whatever your grocery list weighs, I will give you that amount in groceries." Louise, hesitated a moment with a bowed head, then she reached into her purse and took out a piece of paper and scribbled something on it. She then laid the piece of paper on the scale carefully with her head still bowed.

The eyes of the grocer and the customer showed amazement when the scales went down and stayed down. The grocer, staring at the scales, turned slowly to the customer and said begrudgingly, "I can't believe it." The customer smiled and the grocer started putting the groceries on the other side of the scales. The scale did not balance so he continued to put more and more groceries on them until the scales would hold no more. The grocer stood there in utter disgust. Finally, he grabbed the piece of paper from the scales and looked at it with greater amazement.

It was not a grocery list, it was a prayer which said: "Dear Lord, you know my needs and I am leaving this in your hands". The grocer gave her the groceries that he had gathered and stood in stunned silence. Louise thanked him and left the store. The customer handed a fifty-dollar bill to the grocer and said, "It was worth every penny of it."

Only God Knows how much a prayer weighs.

So many of us do not take advantage of the power God has given us. A prayer!

- Author Unknown

[www.heavensinspirations.com](http://www.heavensinspirations.com)



## Laughter The Best Medicine

Nick's mother stops for a moment as her son reads the Bible to their cat. "Isn't that sweet?" she says. But an hour later, she hears a terrible racket. Running out the door, she finds Nick trying to dunk the cat in a bucket of water. "Nick, what are you doing?"

"I'm baptizing Muffin," he says.

"But cats don't like to be in water."

"Well, then he shouldn't have joined my church."

*Reader's Digest—Sept. 2022*