



Megan Lee

Birthday 01/10/2021

Gary Hart

Birthday 01/13/2021

James Powell

Birthday 01/18/2021

Natalie Sims

Birthday 01/26.2021

Bud Porter

Birthday 01/29/2021

Contributions

For those able to attend worship services at the building please leave your contribution in the box at the rear of the auditorium.

For those who give by check and are meeting by Zoom, you can simply mail your check to Kerry Lashlee 9748

Bent Brook Dr Montgomery, AL 36117

Contribution last week

\$6,880

The Flower Fund is in need of contributions. Please contact Karen Ingram if you can help!



PERRY HILL ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST



Bulletin

News & Information
for Members &
Friends

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JANUARY 10, 2021

Does God Have A Sense of Humor?



Several years ago Dr. Richard Wiseman of the University of Hertfordshire in England did a serious study to determine the world's funniest joke. Over 40,000 jokes were submitted. Rated. And judged.

The experiment demonstrated that people in different parts of the world have varying tastes in humor. Americans like jokes with a character who's made to look stupid. New Zealanders, Australians and Brits prefer jokes involving word play. Germans had no preference in jokes.

But, here's the joke that won first place regardless of gender, geography or age.

Two hunters are out in the woods when one of them collapses. He doesn't seem to be breathing and his eyes are glazed. The other guy takes out his phone and calls the emergency services.

He gasps: "My friend is dead! What can I do?"

The operator says: "Calm down, I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead." There is a silence, then a gunshot is heard.

Back on the phone, the guy says: "Okay. Now what?"

Hey, don't groan! It won first place!

With all the craziness that's going on in the world, I'm in the mood for a little humor! Actually, Norma Jean would tell you in I'm always in the mood for some humor!

All of this got me to thinking, does God have a sense of humor? It reminds of the humorless, sour sister who chided her preacher for telling a joke in the pulpit. The preacher opined that God had a sense of humor. "How do you know that? She demanded. "Well," said the Preacher, "He made you, didn't He?" *Continued inside...*



Thomas Brewer family update 01/09/2021 - Thomas's mother is now in Andalusia ICU after several falls following her diabetic seizure. She is exhausted and struggling with a series of infections on top of her COVID-19 infection. Please continue to pray for her. Thomas had the COVID19 rapid testing Friday and is awaiting results. He said that he very much appreciates everyone's prayers.

Hart's update 01/09/2021 - Jess Hart came home on Jan. 6th! He is getting physical therapy but is very weak. Pat is still dealing with swelling in her legs. Gary & Janis are exhausted, and Janis now has shingles on her head and face. Continue to pray for all of the Harts..

Katherine Trefethen update 01/09/2021 - Katherine was able to go home Jan. 5th. She is having daily physical therapy but is still in a considerable amount of pain. With her therapy, she now can stand and sit alone. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

Marsha Williamson update 1/5/2021 - Marsha has a scheduled date for surgery to reinstall the tubing for her pump on February 9, 2021. Please pray for a successful surgery.

Keith Allen (Matthew Conley's Son In-Law) passes 1/5/2021 - This morning, Keith Allen, the son in-law of Matthew Conley passed away in Columbus, GA, from COVID. We will pass along more details as we get them. Let us remember Alicia Allen (the widow) and their family, as well as Matthew and Lelia in our prayers.

Caleb Buckley's uncle died 1/4/2021 - Just found out that Caleb's favorite Uncle of whom he spoke so highly of in his sermon Sunday passed away today on a New Year's Day snorkeling trip with his family in the Virgin Islands. Please pray for the Beckley and Outcalt families. As you can imagine Caleb is very upset.

Baby Owen is here! 01/04/2021 - Let us all rejoice with the Demas's at the arrival of their new baby boy, Owen Boone, who was born into this world this morning at 9 lbs 6 oz & 19 1/2 inches. Monique and baby Owen are doing great!

Kim Porter 01/09/2021 Kim is doing much better recovering from Covid-19.

Continued

And don't forget the giraffe. The octopus. And the duck-billed platypus. I can imagine God smiling, or even chuckling, after creating the wide variety of animals.

Several times the Psalmist pictures God derisively laughing from the heavens at the folly of those who oppose Him. His will. And His Word.

The Bible contains a good bit a humor, but much of it is subtle. And often hidden in the language differences. But there is humor found in irony, sarcasm, word-play, exaggeration, hyperbole, imagery and funny situations.

The book of Proverbs has some expressions that will bring a smile to your face. Proverbs 11:22 says, "Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is a beautiful woman who shows no discretion." What a visual description!

Suppose Solomon had a fight with one of his wives when he wrote, "Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife" (21:9).

Of how about the lazy fellow who shuns going to work, "The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside; I will be killed in the streets!" (Prov 22:13)

How funny is it that God spoke to Balaam through the mouth of a donkey? Can't you hear God laughing at Balaam's surprised look?

While not humorous to the Egyptians, it is amusing to see how God showed his power over the Egyptian gods with the plague of jumping frogs over running the land from their bedrooms, kitchens to the palace of Pharaoh!

Then there's Samson who killed 1,000 Philistine enemies of God with the jawbone of a donkey!

Looking closely at the life of Jesus, you see a good bit a humor. Consider his imagery of a man with a plank protruding out of eye! Or a rich man trying to go through the eye of needle! And of course, we see Jesus having a good time at the wedding feast in Cana and enjoying himself in the home of Zachaeus.

The Bible advises that, "A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones" (Proverbs 17:22). While we live in perilous times that vexes our souls, let's not lose our sense of humor. Or the joy of our faith. And who knows? Our jubilant spirit just may bring a smile to God's face.

-Ken Weliever, The Preacherman