



The Vine & the Branches

June 2015

Sharing another recent Bob Gilmore poem with you -- Bob attends West Chehalem Friends Church. I first met him back when Laura was taking Spanish, and their church had Spanish classes going to prepare for a church mission trip. Bob and his family were in Guatemala for several years; he's a retired GFU professor. He has a special gift for poems:

He Knows

He knows when I am sound asleep
He knows when I'm awake
He hears me when I breathe each prayer
He knows each breath I take
He knows when I am feeling pain
He knows when I'm alone
He knows me better than I know myself
He is my Anchor Stone
He knows when I am weak and tired
He knows and gives me strength
He knows the shortness of my life
He knows its breadth and length
He knows the things I do not know
He helps me understand
I live and breathe in the great power
Of His almighty hand

Bob Gilmore
5-30-15

Be sure, God knows!
Karen Maas, Vine and Branches editor



PRAYING TOGETHER

Every Sabbath morning, 8:45am, join us in the Prayer Room before Sabbath School and church. It provides us with a time to come together in praise and thanksgiving, and present the needs of members in prayer each week. The Prayer Room is the classroom across from the Mothers' Room, in the back of the church foyer. – Donna Schacher

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From the Pastor's Keyboard

Dear Church Family,

Have you ever heard the term "He said, She said?" If you have not heard it you most certainly have experienced it. It is so easy to get into a disagreement with someone. What I find is so interesting, when I am counseling some couples, is that both parties almost always think they are right. While one may be more convincing, or more forceful, they both feel they are right.

When Penny and I were going through premarital counseling, we were asked to find a couple that had been married for 50 years and ask them the secret of their long marriage. We found that couple while we were standing in a lobby of a church after the service and asked them the question. The guy spoke first saying, "The reason we have been married so long is that we never fight or argue." At that he turned to talk to someone else. The wife spoke up and said, "The reason we never have a fight is because I always give in to what he wants, but I do not always agree, so I choose to always do what he wants." At that the guy turned around and said, "I thought we always agreed?" She said, "No, I just keep quiet, but I often disagree with you." They then launched into their first vocal argument.

Arguments and fights happen, but the Bible says something important. In Proverbs 15:4 it says, "The soothing tongue is a tree of life, but a perverse tongue crushes the spirit." The word used for soothing means "brings healing, composure, health, remedy, soothing, and tranquility." In other words, this tongue speaks words that help stop or help bring to an end a problem. This tongue brings one back to a healthy composure. This is a tongue that speaks truth in love, but helps to bring understanding, resolve, and release to a situation.

What I have gotten out of this verse is this: Do my words bring life or death, selflessness or selfishness, condemnation or mercy, peace or war. What is often needed is words that bring opportunity for solution. I must first love in heart, then I can love in words.

I hope each of you as you experience the joy of words that bring healing.

Have a great month.

Love and prayers,
Pastor Ballard

Strawberry Bread

A treat for dessert!, from Taste of Home

Ingredients:

3 c flour
2 c sugar
1 t baking soda
1 t ground cinnamon (ok, 2)
1 t salt
1 egg, plus 3 egg whites, lightly beaten
1 1/4 c vegetable oil
2 heaping cups fresh or frozen strawberries, chopped
1 1/2 c chopped walnuts

Combine dry ingredients in a large bowl. Mix egg, egg whites, and oil in a smaller bowl, then add to the dry mix and stir until well moistened. Stir in strawberries and nuts (dough will be stiff).

Pour into two 8"x4" loaf pans; bake at 350F for 70 minutes or until bread tests done. Cool in pans before removing to a wire rack. Yield 2 loaves; 32 servings.





June Birthdays

- 01 Olive Marjen
- 02 Melvin Heath
- 02 John Martin
- 02 Andy Uhre
- 03 Stacy Pekarek
- 04 Virginia Erickson
- 04 Cain Andrew Otte
- 06 Shelly Cate
- 07 Diana Billington
- 09 Beth Miller
- 12 Dennis Lampley
- 12 Dorothy McKinney
- 13 Roberto Ventura
- 14 Kytanna Ballard
- 14 Kay Heath
- 15 Sandra Pekarek
- 15 Lande Zook
- 17 Bill McKinney
- 20 Andrew Carr
- 22 Clarice Goertz
- 23 Elisha Rotan
- 25 Ryan Martin
- 26 Sarah Whyte



June Anniversaries

- 15 David & Lorijene Keightley
- 17 Bill & Dorothy McKinney
- 17 Lester & Blossom Payne
- 19 Weldon & Lauralee Whitley
- 19 Bob & Donna Young

