



Times Remembered Betty A. Young
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Back in 1956, I was only 6 years when I attended Stump School in first grade. The highlight of the school year was the Christmas Pageant.

My Great Aunt Nell, who was also my teacher got the entire program up and running. She searched for just the right skits, plays and poems that were appropriate for each child or each group. Once the children were selected for their parts, each student began memorizing their lines. Each child would have at least one part or recitation, but the older children would usually have more lines.

Each child was responsible for getting their own costumes, with their mothers help we had angels, shepherds, wise

Highlight of School Was The Christmas Pageant

men and king costumes.

The older boys had the responsibility of helping set up the stage and cutting the Christmas tree since they were eighth graders and had some building skills. It was a task that seemed to take the whole day, and it never failed that the tree they brought back was always much too tall, with one side completely bare of needles after they dragged it across meadows and fields. But silver icicles would surely cover it.

All the other children would trim the tree from top to bottom with ornaments of their making such as paper chains colored brightly or sycamore balls covered in foil and whatever pretty scraps of material or ribbons they could come up with to decorate.

Students would draw names for a gift exchange among themselves, we also spent some time making a gift for our parents. I remember making so many pot holders on those looms that about every kid had.

On the last day of school before Christmas vacation we did a full dress rehearsal of the program. Afterward, we exchanged gifts and

then school would be dismissed early. I vividly remember receiving a gift of yarn cards that became pictures of dolls when the cards were laced.

The day of the Christmas program, there was standing room only. Parents, grandparents, families, neighbors...in fact most of the community attended.

The program began with students singing Silent Night, while the children hummed, Mrs. Black (Aunt Nell), read the Christmas story from the Bible. While the students in the main play were getting ready, other children recited poems. The final skit was always filled with humor, and to wrap up things, everyone in attendance would join for some caroling.

Then came the moment that all the children had been waiting for. The kids formed a line, from youngest to oldest and began singing Jingle Bells hoping that Santa would soon appear. Santa finally burst through

the door with a huge pack slung over his shoulder. He made a lot of noise with the "Ho-ho-ho's."

Finally Santa made it over to the students and gave each one candy, fruit and a small gift from the teacher. After delivering his loot he disappeared as quickly as he came in the building.

After the program we gathered our gifts and helped clean up the room and sang Christmas carols as we worked...suddenly I looked outside the window and noticed that snowflakes were starting to fall gently from the sky. Soon, a fresh coating of white would cover everything across the mountain country side.

I can still hear those sweet voices singing the Christmas songs; and I can't help but reflect back and recall some of those wonderful memories of celebrating the Christmas season in a one-room schoolhouse with my teacher and my Aunt Nell Black.

CHURCH NEWS

Church News is published as a free service of The Estill County Tribune. Call your announcement to (606) 723-5012; fax it to (606) 723-2743; or E-mail it to <News@EstillTribune.Com> or mail to 6135 Winchester Road, Irvine, KY 40336

Friday, December 5th @ 7pm

Gospel Singing At Stacy Lane

There will be a singing at the Stacy Lane Community Church of God on Friday, December 5, 2014, at 7 p.m. Singers will be Mike & Joanne Perry, Fred & Stacy Lee, Melvin & Shirley Banks, and The Stacy Lane Singers. Pastor Rev. Jason Riddell and congregation welcome everyone. For more information, call (606) 975-8209.

Saturday, December 6th @ 7pm

Pine Hill Baptist Gospel Singing

Pine Hill Baptist Church on Barnes Mountain Road, will be having a Gospel Singing this coming Saturday night, December 6, 2014, starting at 7:00 p.m. Guest singers will be The Praise Singers. Everyone is invited. Other singers are welcome.

Sunday, December 7th @ 6pm

Parade of Poinsettias Program

The Irvine First Church of the Nazarene, 280 Broadway, Irvine, will be having its 2nd annual Parade of Poinsettias Program on Sunday, December 7, at 6 p.m.

Anyone wishing to bring a poinsettia to the service remembering or honoring a loved one or loved ones is asked to arrive at the Church that evening by no later than 5:30 p.m. What a beautiful time of the year to not only receive the love of Lord, but to extend it to others as well! Anyone with any questions is asked to contact Pastor Curt Napier at 517 719-2238.

BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of 3 Kings in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Who said, "I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit"? Matthew, Mark, John the Baptist, Luke
3. Jesus says that to see the kingdom of God, you have to ...?

- Love one another, Be born again, Do what's right, Tithe
4. From Leviticus 14, how long was a "clean" person required to remain outside his tent? 1 night, 2 nights, 4 days, 7 days
 5. What town or city was Saul of Tarsus near when he converted to Christianity? Damascus, Assos, Corinth, Gaza
 6. Which apostle's mother-in-law is mentioned in the Bible (KJV)? Peter, Judas, James, Andrew

Bible Trivia Answers are at the bottom of Page 10



It takes the darkness of the night to bring out the brilliance and beauty of the stars. When we face the fear of the unknown, however, we often find the grace of God. "Though I walk through," David said, "the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil because You are with me!" We are all joyfully aware of God's presence when days are filled with sunshine and warmth. All of us, however, have at one time or another, entered into valleys that are filled with ill-defined shadows that we find frightening and foreboding. We look for a light to shine over the rim of the mountain to give us the assurance that there is hope. Yet it is because of

those days of sunshine and warmth that David reminds us to remember that God is also with us when all is not well and the light that faithfully guided us fades.

There are times when our "valley" may take the form of suffering. When it does, we must not forget that Jesus also suffered and understands our times of suffering. And when we feel abandoned and alone we must not forget that those whom He spent three years training to be His disciples forsook Him. And when He was laid to rest it was in someone else's tomb.

Our Savior has walked through every "dark valley" that we will ever face. He understands our grief. Now, He is in heaven with His Father and when we go to Him in prayer with our needs, we have the assurance that He understands our needs. He was there before us.

PS-041 December 3, 2014
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Memorializing A Brother
by BOB CASEY, Preacher
Church of Christ, 262 Broadway, Irvine, KY

In **Revelation 14:13** John heard these words, "Blessed are the dead which are in the Lord from henceforth; yea saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their words do follow them."

Today we mourn the passing of our brother in Christ, James Leon Garrett. I can say beyond doubt that our brother has won the race with Christ, because I have been a personal witness of his commitment to our Lord. I was there when he, along with his wife, confessed their faith in Jesus. I was there when they were both obedient to our Lord in baptism. I have been there in his life as a Christian every since he obeyed. He hit the ground living faithfully as a Christian, without ever looking back. He was always faithful in attendance, usually the first to arrive. He is already being missed in church. Now he is taken by illness and death, but the promise of Christ is upon him. He studied and knew what our Lord said in **Revelation 2:10** to the Christians at the Smyrna Church, "Be thou faithful unto death, now I will give thee a crown of life." So today he is sealed with the Holy spirit of promise recorded in **Ephesians 1:13**.

So today for all who may have known the brother, I can say with Biblical truths, if you desire to go to heaven when life here is over, you will have me to go heaven when life here is over. You will have to go the same way as did our brother. So don't be misled into thinking that just any form of religion will get you there. It is either the Lord's way or no way. So my plea to all is, get a Bible, read what it actually says, and then do it! This is the only safe way to live, and also to die. You and I will stand before Jesus and he will read the record of our lives, and will use the bible to just as well. **II Corinthians 5:10** and **Revelation 20:10-15** says so. Again, what are you waiting for? It doesn't matter what you may plan or think. One day you will die. So are you making plans for it? I hope that you do, and that you will do it soon. Call my number below if you need help.

Call 1-859-369-4165, Sincerely, Bob Casey

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Estill Arts Council presents
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