



Times Remembered
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This time of year with the upcoming holidays I tend to think about food and cooking. I like to cook and I love to eat; especially desserts.

My favorite dessert for Thanksgiving is Pumpkin Pie, the cheesecake version. I made a Pumpkin Cheese Cake last year and it was delicious. Jam Cake with Carmel Icing ranks #1 as my favorite cake dessert.

My third choice probably would be a dessert no one would make much anymore; you probably wouldn't serve it at holidays, but it is definitely tasty.

It is Bread Pudding, a favorite in my family. It is a century old dish created by thrifty cooks to ensure stale bread would not go to waste.

My parents grew up during the Great Depression, when "waste

Be Thankful For What We Have

not, want not" were the words of the day. The creativity of house wives was sometimes pushed to the limit in order to stretch food dollars and make use of every morsel of available food.

I've heard my parents reminisce about dishes from that time period. Like corn meal mush, fat back, sweet milk and bread, butter and sugar sandwiches, and corn bread and buttermilk. I've also heard of dishes not so fondly remembered such as lard sandwiches!

We have experienced a challenging economy the past few years, but thankfully it is nothing like the Great Depression. However, when it comes to food we can take the best of what came out of that era . . . frugality . . . and leave the worst (lard sandwiches) to history.

Cookbooks in those days had many recipes that were creative and frugal. Several recipes made use of "meat extras" such as the liver, sweetbread, heart, kidneys, tongue, hog heads, (my Dad made souse meat from hogs heads that was delicious) and pigs feet.

Some of these things might make us wince to even think about preparing or eating them, but there is still a lot to be learned from our ancestors about economical nutritious cooking.

I am thankful for the bounty of food we enjoy today such as turkey, dressing and all the side dishes I plan to serve at our table this Thanksgiving. Many traditional recipes were passed down from generation to generation.

Bread Pudding

- 4 eggs, beaten
- 2 ¼ cups milk
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ¾ tsp nutmeg
- 2 cups stale bread (white) into 1-inch cubes
- ½ cup raisins (optional)
- Whipped cream (optional) to garish

In large mixing bowl use a rotary beater to beat eggs, milk, sugar, cinnamon, vanilla, and nutmeg. Set mixture aside. Place the two cups of bread crumbs in an ungreased baking dish and pour egg mixture evenly over the bread crumbs and raisins.

Bake in 350 degree oven for 40-45 minutes until tests done by inserting a knife in center comes out clean. Serve with whipped cream if desired. Yield: 6-8 servings.

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Bible says there are things far more important than money



America's Heartland

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You might have heard about the two fellows who worked for the gas company. Having finished a meter check, one of the guys challenged the other to a foot race back to the truck.

As each strained to outrun the other, an old lady in a bathrobe came from behind, passing them both, huffing and puffing and looking anxiously over her shoulder. They stopped her to ask what was wrong.

"When I see gas company employees running as hard and fast as you were, you'd better believe I'm going to run, too."

The Bible tells us there are things we should flee from because staying put could lead to spiritual calamity. "Flee" is a strong word. It casts the image of people in such a hurry that they who don't even

stop to grab any of life's necessities or niceties. "Flee" conjures up images of people running with urgency as far and as fast as possible.

When the Apostle Paul was writing to the young preacher Timothy, he offered him some advice that seems absolutely foreign in modern day America. Paul told Timothy to flee from the human tendency to love money.

"For the love of money is the root of all evil, which, while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things, and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness" (1 Timothy 6:10-11).

In other words, Paul told Timothy he should seek after what's truly valuable - righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience and meekness - rather than to chase the almighty dollar.

Lots of people thought I had absolutely lost my mind not so long ago when I left a high-paying job to serve as pastor of a very small church in rural Kentucky. It seemed to go against everything we're taught about the American dream of earning a big paycheck, owning a huge home, and liv-

ing lavishly.

The fact is, all of us should strive to do what the Lord would have us do, no matter what people might say. "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down, for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand. I have been young, and now am old, yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread" (Psalm 37:23-25).

Why do people chase after money and material goods anyway? Someone once wisely said they had never seen a hearse pulling a U-Haul trailer. In other words, we can't take anything with us when we leave this world, but, if we're fortunate, we can leave something behind - a clear testimony that we sought to love and serve God rather than to love money and chase after the riches of this world.

There are things more important than money, and that truth might become altogether clear if you, like that old lady, were to see a couple gas company employees running down the street as fast as they could. You'd might just leave everything behind and flee down that street, even if all you have on is a bathrobe.

You can't predict the weather, but you can plan ahead to effectively weather the storm. Use these tips to keep you and your family safe, and remember, there is power in planning.

BE PREPARED BEFORE A STORM STRIKES

In the event of a power outage, be prepared by keeping the following items in an easy-to-find emergency supply kit.



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Three-day supply, one gallon per person per day.



TOOLS
Flashlight, extra batteries, manual can opener, battery-powered or hand-crank radio, NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert.



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