



Volume 13, Issue 1

February-March 2024

## Winter Time!

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## HEART MATTERS

***Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.***  
***Proverbs 4: 23***

Our hearts pump at a rate of 70 to 75 beats per minute. Though weighing only 11 ounces on average, a healthy heart pumps 2,000 gallons of blood through 60,000 miles of blood vessels each day. Everyday, the heart creates enough energy to drive a truck 20 miles. In a lifetime, that is equivalent to driving to the moon and back. A healthy heart can do amazing things. Conversely, if our hearts malfunction, our whole body shuts down.

The same could be said of our spiritual heart. In scripture, the word heart represents the center of our emotions, thinking, and reasoning. It is the command center of our life.

So when we read *“Keep your heart with all diligence”* (Proverbs 4: 23 NKJV), it makes a lot of sense. But it is difficult advice to keep. Life will always make demands upon our time and energy that cry out for immediate attention. By comparison, taking time to hear God’s Word and to do what it says may not shout quite so loudly. We may not notice the consequences of neglect right away, but over time it may give way to spiritual heart attack.

I’m thankful God has given us His Word. We need His help not to neglect it, but to use it to align our hearts with His every day.

Poh Fang Chia; Our Daily Bread devotion

What does it look like to “keep your heart with all diligence”?



# How to Recover When You've Blown It



Who among us has never dealt with a sin “that so easily entangles us” (Heb.12:1), that attacks us when we least expect it. The Christian life has always been a struggle between the flesh and the Spirit who lives in us (Romans 7). The continuing problem of living in a fallen world is that there will be times when the flesh wins out over the Spirit within us. We give in, or follow, the strongest urge that is in us at a certain moment. Most of the time, we see the sin coming along and can take the necessary preparations with the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome it. But what happens when we slip and fall . . . quite frankly, blow it? When we blow it there is instant conviction and guilt that hits us and we wonder how God could ever forgive us. Been there? We all have. It doesn't help when we remember the things of our past that the enemy calls back to us in a moment of weakness. There is one thing we all share together, a past.

Some of us have things in a big, dark, ugly past that no one knows, and we'd be ashamed if anyone did. For some, it's the abortion. For others, it's the affair, the one-night stand on the business trip. For some, it's the time they flat out stole something and got away with it. Still others secretly spend a lot of time on the internet hooked on pornography.

Regardless of what it is, most of us have blown it at some point. The question is, “*How do you recover?*” How do you overcome the guilt and the shame and the embarrassment? How do you ever get right with God again and experience His fellowship?

God has given us the answer in Psalm 51. This is David's prayer after his friend Nathan confronted him about his sin.

*Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight; so You are right in Your verdict and justified when You judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Yet You desired faithfulness even in the womb; You taught me wisdom in that secret place. (Psalm 51:1-6)*

David was a great and godly man who committed adultery and murder, and yet he knew God better than probably any of us will ever know Him. In a moment of weakness, he made a disastrous mistake and then did what most of us do. Instead of owning it early, he tried to hide it and cover up. We are all sinners by nature, and we all make mistakes. But when we try to cover up our sin and keep it secret, its impact grows.

The good news is this: **With God, failure is never final. God wants to restore us.**

So, what's our part? How do we recover from our mistakes? Here are three steps:

1. **Get honest.** Get it out in the open. Stop the secrecy. Stop rationalizing. Stop minimizing. Stop reframing it. Stop saying everyone else does it. Stop comparing yourself to someone else that does it worse. Do what David did. He got to the point when he said, “I have sinned against the Lord.” This is the most difficult step.

(continued)

2. **Ask God for forgiveness.** When confronted, David prayed to God and said, “Have mercy on me ... wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from all my sin.” David didn’t try to cut a deal or negotiate a settlement. He didn’t say, “Now, God, I’ll do this if You do this.” Instead, he said, “Help me! Forgive me. Cleanse me.” If you’ve never done that, get honest and then ask God to forgive you. He wants to. I’ve done some dumb things, some bad things, and some sinful things in my life. Then I would often feel really bad for two or three weeks while I’d try to do good things to balance out the bad things. But nothing would help. What I’ve learned is that it’s only when I’ve gotten honest with God, and said, “I blew it. Help me!” that I’ve received His grace. We get grace because God is looking for truth in the innermost man.
3. **Receive His forgiveness.** When Nathan said, “The Lord has forgiven you,” David didn’t go back into the palace and say, “But I just can’t forgive myself. I know God has forgiven me but I just can’t forgive myself.” David received God’s cleansing and restoration. We can, too. Do you struggle with forgiving yourself? I know I have. But, remember, Christ died on the cross for all our sin. He paid for our sin: past, present, and future. The moment we trust Christ, we are positionally right in our relationship with God. But we also need to confess our sin, agree with God about it, and accept His forgiveness to really experience the benefits.

Remember that each one of us is a work in progress. None of us ever really gets a handle on where we should be in the sanctification process. The only thing we know, is that God is right there to pick us up, dust us off, and bring us along with Him in the process of living out our faith. We are reminded of the words of Paul to the church at Thessalonica:

*“We can’t help but thank God for you, dear brothers and sisters loved by the Lord. We are always thankful that God chose you to be among the first to experience salvation—a salvation that came through the Spirit who makes you holy and through your belief in the truth. He called you to salvation when we told you the Good News; now you can share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. With all these things in mind, dear brothers and sisters, stand firm and keep a strong grip on the teaching we passed on to you both in person and by letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who loved us and by His grace gave us eternal comfort and a wonderful hope, comfort you and strengthen you in every good thing you do and say” — (2 Thessalonians 2:13-17).*



## **INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY APP**

The church directory is available online via the **Instant Church Directory** App available through Google Play Store or Apple App Store. To access the app, you must first provide the office with an email address. Then, create an account in the app with the same email provided to the office and create a password. You then need to verify the account through your email.

To make any changes to your information, such as a new phone number or picture, please submit the change on the app or contact Shelly Werner at the church office.

In this issue:



## Something New

Most everyone at some point in their life wanted to be a cowboy!

As Cowboy culture developed, a code of conduct known as the “Cowboy Code” emerged. This code emphasized values such as honesty, loyalty, hard work, and respect for land and animals. It was a set of principles that guided the behavior and moral compass of cowboys, becoming an integral part of their identity.

Over time, the term “cowboy” became synonymous with the rugged and independent spirit of the American West. Cowboys became iconic figures in popular culture, portrayed as fearless, hardworking individuals who embraced a nomadic lifestyle and faced the challenges of the frontier.

This image of the cowboy was further perpetuated through literature, film, and other forms of media, solidifying their place in American history and folklore.

Whether it was the rough and rugged cowboy of the wild west or the modern-day cowboy who continues to work with cattle and horses, their contributions cannot be understated. The word cowboy continues to evoke images of adventure, independence, and resilience. It serves as a reminder of the spirit of the West and the enduring legacy of those who have worn the title with pride.

To be continued....



### Thoughts from **BOB,** the Blacksmith

## WOODVILLE CHURCH NURSERY SCHEDULE

### *February*

- 4 Amanda Baar & Renee Cook
- 11 Nancy Eveland & Lynda Kolehouse
- 18 Nancy Redd & Sharon Stieg
- 25 Mary Helmus & Christie Pikaart

### *March*

- 3 Marilyn Davis & Renee Frantz
- 10 Amy Hysell & Jenna Minor
- 17 Amanda Baar & Renee Cook
- 24 Sue Walta & Karen White
- 31 Renee Hanlon & Kim Schaefer



**Thank you, ladies, for your service in caring for these little ones.**

*If you are unable to serve on the date that you are scheduled please contact Karen White 231-519-9488 as soon as possible.*



# FEBRUARY 2024



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Greeters for February:</b> Carol Tillotson				1  Praise Team practice	2	3  
<b>4</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible study	<b>7</b> WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	<b>8</b>  Praise Team practice	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible study	<b>14</b>  WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	<b>15</b>  Praise Team practice	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible study Men's Evening Bible Study	<b>21</b> WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	<b>22</b>  Praise Team practice	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>26</b> <i>Board Meeting</i>	<b>27</b> Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible study	<b>28</b> WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	<b>29</b>  Praise Team practice		

## Sunday

WORSHIP SERVICE  
10:00 a. m.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL  
11:45 a. m.

## Tuesday

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY  
7:00 a. m.  
WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY  
9:30 a. m.

## Wednesday

EVENING SERVICE  
6:30 p. m.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday

BOARD MEETING  
6:00 p. m.

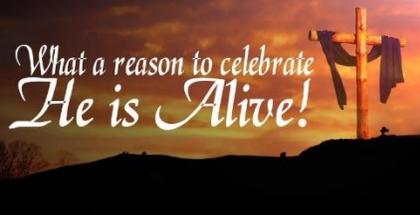


## February Anniversaries

14 Gordon & Marian Witte  
16 Ricky II & LeeAnna Yates  
24 Will & Shari Hartley

## February Birthdays

2 Esther Davison	19 Chuck Hanlon
4 Ricky Yates III	20 Marilyn Davis
5 Michelle Kuikstra	21 Mary Cook
Bob Shoemaker	24 Dan Doornbos
8 Amy Hysell	25 John Byers
16 Nelda Thompson	27 Michael Hart
19 Bob Doornbos	



# March 2024



	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Sunday</b> WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 a. m.  Sunday school 11:45 a. m.	<b>Greeters for March:</b>					1	2
<b>Monday</b> LADIES AID 10:00 a. m.	<b>3</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>4</b> <b>LADIES AID</b>	<b>5</b> Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible Study	<b>6</b> WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	<b>7</b> Praise Team practice	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00 a. m.  LADIES BIBLE STUDY 9:30 a. m.	<b>10</b>  <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible Study	<b>13</b> <b>AWANA</b> WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	<b>14</b> Praise Team practice	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> AWANA 6:00 p. m.  NIGHT SERVICE 6:30 p. m.	<b>17</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>18</b> <b>LADIES AID</b>  <b>Board Meeting</b>	<b>19</b> Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible Study Men's Evening Bible Study	<b>20</b> <b>AWANA</b> WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	<b>21</b> Praise Team practice	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Monday</b> BOARD MEETING 6:00 p. m.	<b>24</b> Palm Sunday <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b> <b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Men's Bible Study Ladies Bible Study	<b>27</b> <b>AWANA</b> WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE	<b>28</b> Praise Team practice	<b>29</b> <b>Good Friday</b> 	<b>30</b>
	<b>31</b> <b>WORSHIP SERVICE</b>						



*March Anniversaries*  
 15 Larry & June Frontjes  
 John & Terry Innis

*March Birthdays*

4 Marian Witte	19 Gary Frantz
10 DeeAnn Ruiter	23 Paula Gray
11 Pauline Wabeke	Tanya Atwood
12 Doreen Jusino	24 Alton Rockey
Savannah Costello	26 Phil Rottman
13 Wes Knight	28 Jim Edewaard
14 Amanda Hahn	29 Nancy Redd
15 Lynda Kolehouse	31 Lori VanderArk
18 June Frontjes	Gary Teja

## World's Best Lasagna

This lasagna recipe takes a little work, but it is so satisfying and filling that it's worth it!

Recipe by **John Chandler**

**Prep Time:**      **Additional Time:**

30 min            15 min

**Cook Time:**    **Total Time:**

2 hr 30 min    3 hr 15 min

### Ingredients

1 pound sweet Italian sausage  
¾ pound lean ground beef  
½ cup minced onion  
2 cloves garlic, crushed  
1 (28 ounce) can crushed tomatoes  
2 (6.5 ounce) cans canned tomato sauce  
2 (6 ounce) cans tomato paste  
½ cup water  
2 tablespoons white sugar  
4 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley, divided  
1 ½ teaspoons dried basil leaves  
1 ½ teaspoons salt, divided, or to taste  
1 teaspoon Italian seasoning  
½ teaspoon fennel seeds  
¼ teaspoon ground black pepper  
12 lasagna noodles  
16 ounces ricotta cheese  
1 egg  
¾ pound mozzarella cheese, sliced  
¾ cup grated Parmesan cheese

### Directions

1. Gather all your ingredients.
2. Cook sausage, ground beef, onion, and garlic in a Dutch oven over medium heat until well browned.
3. Stir in crushed tomatoes, tomato sauce, tomato paste, and water. Season with sugar, 2 tablespoons parsley, basil, 1 teaspoon salt, Italian seasoning, fennel seeds, and pepper. Simmer, covered, for about 1½ hours, stirring occasionally.
4. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Cook lasagna noodles in boiling water for 8 to 10 minutes. Drain noodles, and rinse with cold water.
5. In a mixing bowl, combine ricotta cheese with egg, remaining 2 tablespoons parsley, and ½ teaspoon salt.
6. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F.
7. To assemble, spread 1½ cups of meat sauce in the bottom of a 9x13-inch baking dish. Arrange 6 noodles lengthwise over meat sauce. Spread with ½ of the ricotta cheese mixture. Top with 1/3 of the mozzarella cheese slices. Spoon 1½ cups meat sauce over mozzarella, and sprinkle with ¼ cup Parmesan cheese.
8. Repeat layers, and top with remaining mozzarella and Parmesan cheese. Cover with foil: to prevent sticking, either spray foil with cooking spray or make sure the foil does not touch the cheese.
9. Bake in the preheated oven for 25 minutes. Remove the foil and bake for an additional 25 minutes.
10. Rest lasagna for 15 minutes before serving.

## Two-Ingredient Dough Garlic Knots

These garlic knots begin with the "internet famous" 2-ingredient dough. Add a few more ingredients and you'll have incredible garlic knots to serve with an Italian meal.

**Prep Time:**

20 min

**Cook Time:**

10 min

**Total Time:**

30 min

### Ingredients

#### Bread Dough:

1 cup self-rising flour  
1 cup whole fat plain Greek yogurt  
¼ teaspoon granulated garlic  
¼ teaspoon Italian seasoning  
1 pinch salt

#### Garlic Topping:

1 tablespoon melted butter  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
½ teaspoon dried parsley  
½ teaspoon garlic granules

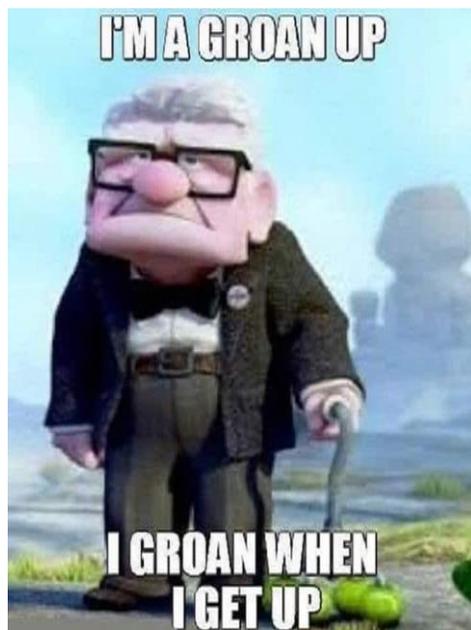
### Directions

1. Combine flour, yogurt, garlic granules, Italian seasoning, and salt in a bowl; mix to combine.
2. Dust work surface with more flour. Transfer dough to work surface. Knead dough for 8 to 10 minutes with the palm of your hand. Add more flour (1 teaspoon at a time) as needed to keep dough from being too sticky.
3. Preheat the oven to 500 degrees F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or a silicone baking mat.
4. Shape dough into a rounded loaf. Using a bench scraper, cut off 8 wedges of dough. Roll each wedge of dough into a rope shape and tie into knots. Place knots onto the prepared baking sheet.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until knots are lightly browned, 10 to 12 minutes.
6. Meanwhile, combine melted butter, oil, garlic granules, and parsley for topping in a small glass bowl. Brush mixture over the warm knots.



**“...A merry heart doeth good like a medicine...”**

**“I'M NOT SLEEPING; I'M JUST RESTING MY EYES.”**  
-ALL DADS, ON EVERY COUGH, ANYTIME EVER.



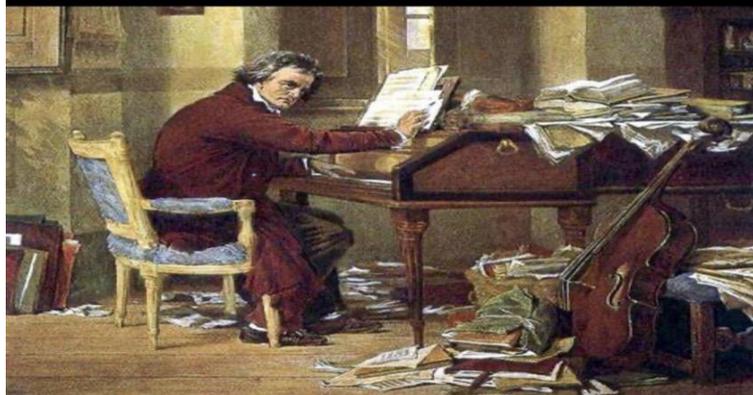
**THINGS I'M NO LONGER INTERESTED IN:**

- 1. Driving at night**
- 2. Leaving my house at night**
- 3. Driving in the winter**
- 4. Leaving the house in winter**
- 5. Driving**
- 6. Leaving the house**



"That was amazing, Jason! I've never heard such an accurate rendition of several cats getting run over by a lawnmower."

**Why did Beethoven get rid of all his chickens?**



**Because they kept going Bach, Bach, Bach**

**I'm so out of shape right now that if someone yelled 'Run for your life' I'd be like 'You guys go ahead- I'm ready to meet Jesus'**

# ACTIVITY PAGE

## The Book of Acts

J A M E S X I L E F H X Y X M  
 G G R E T E P A U L F N L L N  
 W D G Q E T H I O P I A U X O  
 W X Q R P S A P P H I R A U I  
 B T T J H O P I L I H P S P A  
 W X D E E C N H A T C E D R Z  
 G C O R N E L I U S O S A I M  
 Z M O U N T O F O L I V E S S  
 S W L S A N M E L I T A D C I  
 E V A A N E M O R W N M K I T  
 S Z I L A P P I R G A M C L P  
 V S D E N B E A U T I F U L A  
 R T Y M I X B S A B A N R A B  
 R O L I A J L Q S N E H T A P  
 S A L I S D A M A S C U S R A

Agrippa  
 Ananias  
 Antioch  
 Athens  
 baptism  
 Barnabas  
 Beautiful  
 Cornelius  
 Damascus  
 Ethiopia  
 Felix  
 jailor

James  
 Jerusalem  
 Lydia  
 Melita  
 Mount of Olives  
 Paul  
 Pentecost  
 Peter  
 Philip  
 Priscilla  
 Rome  
 Sapphira

Saul  
 Silas  
 Stephen  
 struck dead



### Coffee Filter Heart Suncatchers

#### Ingredients

- Coffee filters
- washable markers
- scissors
- water bottle

#### Instructions

- Fold the coffee filter in half and cut a heart shape.
- Color the coffee filter using washable markers
- Spray the coffee filter gently with water and allow to dry.

CRAFT  
TIME