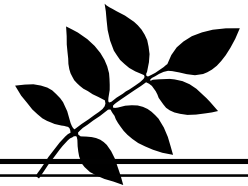


# The Hickory Leaf

May 2010



Hickory Bend United Methodist Church  
605 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37214  
Phone: 615-889-1360 / [www.hickorybendumc.com](http://www.hickorybendumc.com)  
Gary Brock, Pastor

## ***A PASTORAL THOUGHT OR TWO***

***“... the Spirit helps us because we are weak. We do not know how we should talk to God. But the Spirit himself talks to God for us, while we cry and cannot say any words”*** [Romans 8:26]

The mother tearfully said: *“God took my child.”* The child was killed over a year ago in a hit-and-run. And, I thought, after all this time this is the only conclusion that you have come to.

My immediate thoughts and my belief: ***“No, God didn’t!”***

A reckless driver took your child.  
The child’s lack of judgment in running into the street took your child.  
Maybe, it’s no more than one of those senseless things that happen.  
**BUT GOD DID NOT TAKE YOUR CHILD!**

My reflections then led to: ***why would you even think that?***

Is your belief that a God who is powerful enough to “take” a child is not powerful enough to move that child out of the way? Not powerful enough to make the driver swerve?

How could you find any comfort, or hope, with a God who operates so arbitrarily? How could you ever trust him with your daily life much less your “eternal life”? More importantly, why would you want to?

Is your God one that hurts us to get our attention?

What about the driver? He, too, is part of the story. What was God trying to teach him – especially if we buy into the idea of a punitive God? *“You misbehave and I’ll let, or cause, you to kill someone?”* What a horrendous thought!

As a hospital chaplain, I regularly heard this kind of religious belief. You cried with one, held the hand of another, rejoiced at a discharge, and worried, fretted with each over what the future now held for them. Where was God in all this “stuff” that suddenly resulted in hospitalization?

*“It’s just not fair.”* You’re right, if life is nothing more than fair or unfair. But, what if life is more about seeing what we can, with God’s help, do with what you’re going through ...

*“I don’t think that God loves me.”* I really don’t know how you could feel any different right now. But God is listening, and it’s OK to feel the way you do. Even *“Jesus wept”* on occasion. We know how abandoned he felt as he neared death. I think that you will feel God again; you will know that he has wiped the tears from your heart.

*“Why would God do this?”* Tell me what God has done ...

*Continued on Page 2.*

***What led you to visit HBUMC for the first time?*** What was it that made you want to stay.....to make Hickory Bend your home church?

One of our members was asked to write a letter about how he and his family came to be part of *our family* and his letter is featured in this month’s issue of the *Hickory Leaf*.

We’d love to hear your story about how you came to be a part of the Hickory Bend family. If you’d like to share it with us, you can email it to [keithdb@att.net](mailto:keithdb@att.net) or see Emalie Egan. She’d be glad to interview you and write your story for you.

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Greetings,

Two years ago on a warm July morning my family and I first visited Hickory Bend. We were greeted warmly and sincerely and made to feel welcome by everyone we met that Sunday. Many of you, even though you did not know us, had been praying for us, as Candy had been placed on your prayer list by Teressa Watson. The following Sunday we visited again and found the same warmth we had experienced a week earlier. One Sunday led to another, and each week we were made to feel at home. Candy, Lauren, and I often talked about what a friendly place this was. We also found that Hickory Bend had a pretty good preacher too!

As one Sunday led to another we were soon involved with yard sales, UMYF, and potato bars! As our family became more involved with the many activities at the church, we discovered we had found our new church home complete with a wonderful church family. We discovered what the people of Hickory Bend already knew, that this is a wonderful church with a great pastor. We discovered a church complete with love, compassion, caring, and sharing.

We discovered something else also. Something that many in our church may be missing. We discovered that our church has great Sunday school and Bible Study classes. We have been in Mitzi’s class and Brother Gary’s class. We haven’t quite made it to the Ole Timers class yet, but have heard they have a really good time and eat well. We have learned so much in a relaxed atmosphere. As for me, I am a long, long way from a Bible scholar, but I am so comfortable in these classes. No one is made to feel inadequate. We laugh and learn together. The classes are a time of fellowship as well.

I would ask all of you to give Sunday school and Bible Study a try. Come discover for yourselves another gem of Hickory Bend. I promise, you will not be disappointed.

Larry Rucker

## WORSHIP TEAM REPORT

BY: Cathy Caldwell

Holy Communion, Mother's Day, Graduation Sunday, Pentecost, and Memorial Day. Almost every Sunday in May is an extra special Sunday! Come join us at Hickory Bend on Sunday morning to worship and celebrate. Rumor has it that the men are cooking something special up for Mother's Day. Also, we are so proud of our Graduates, from preschool through college, and we will be honoring them on May 16. Watch the Hickory Leaf Newsletter for the list of our graduates and a short biography for several of them.

See you in Church!



### MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE AT THE SCOTT SULLIVAN MEMORIAL VETERAN'S POINT

Join us on Sunday, May 30, 2010, for a memorial service honoring military men and women who have died in our nation's service.

The service will held be right after our regular 11 o'clock worship service.

## MAY 2010 SERMON SCHEDULE

MAY 2	"What does that mean?" Scripture: Acts 1:1-11
MAY 9	"For the love of God!" Scripture: Acts 2:37-47
MAY 16	"Do it one more time and you will ..." Scripture: Acts 4:1-18
MAY 23	"Grace is not a blue-eyed blond!" Scripture: Acts 4:23-33
MAY 30	"As you were." Scripture: Acts 5:27-42

## JOIN CLUB 52

BY: Emalie Egan

### You are invited to join Club 52!

Members of Club 52 give one dollar a week to support youth missions. (Club 52 Membership includes Flamingo Removal Insurance. Remember, we cannot control where these pesky birds land, but removal is free for Club 52 Members.)

We have several youth and one chaperon who have signed up to go to Mountain T.O.P. this summer. Your membership in Club 52 is a powerful investment in the future of our church.

Thank you for supporting our mission projects.

### PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY



Mike Baker, Elizabeth Clingan, Barry Cloyd, Caleb England, Kenny England, Brian Ginnetti, Russell Lewis Jones, Mitch McDannald, Jeff McInturff, Amanda & Brad McMahan, Matthew Miesner, Joshua Mitchner, Jason Nevitt, David Parker, Joshua Snowbarger, Jess Summar, Zachery Taube, Lvann Whited, Bobby Woods.

## PASTORAL THOUGHT OR TWO

Continued from Page 1.

Writer Peter Mathiesson has one of his characters observe: "One time I asked, Mr. Watson, sir, do you believe in God? And he said, believing in him doesn't mean I trust him."

Years ago, in a meeting of hospital chaplains, a colleague told the following about a recent experience: *He was called to the ER to help staff with a hysterical child ... screaming something that no one could understand ... it took awhile, but as the child tired ... as he calmed down, we heard him clearly through sobs: "Don't tell Jesus ... don't tell Jesus ... don't ..."*

*His mom just shook her head. A bit baffled the chaplain took her aside while the staff took care of the child. She explained that several weeks ago her dad had died in this very same ER. In trying to protect him, I told my son that Grandpa had gotten sick ... we took him to the hospital ... and Jesus came and took him to Heaven. Thus, the hysterical cries of the very scared child, "Don't tell Jesus."*

I have often wondered what they did finally tell this small boy about his grandfather. This was certainly not the kind of "faith statement" that would engender trust and comfort in a child. The reality is that most of us learn our theology as a child from those around us. Rarely is it ever used, or even questioned, except in the case of a crisis.

So, I am back to where I began this narrative wondering what kind of God hurting people "believe" in?

A God you really, really hope isn't listening?

A God who capriciously "takes" children?

**By the way, God did not take your child – but your child was received into His loving arms. AND, I pray that you might come to know this God who loves us through every pain, every loss, every tear, every dark and seemingly endless moment. For you see, all because of Easter, God knows all about our dark nights of the soul.**

*"Weeping may linger for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning" [Psalm 30:5b].*

*Bro Gary*

## CHAPERONE NEEDED FOR MOUNTAIN T.O.P.

BY: Emalie Egan

How many times have you looked for a truly inspiring and joyful service opportunity?

We need one more adult who is ~~not too easily annoyed~~ willing to go with our ~~loud and boisterous~~ enthusiastic UMYF group to Mountain T.O.P. for the week of June 6-12. Your registration is fully paid, and we will be ~~completely amazed~~ eternally grateful to you if you join Mitzi for this assignment. Mitzi has ~~survived~~ enjoyed each of her mission trips with the youth group.

Speak to Mitzi if you are interested in joining this amazing mission experience.

Call Emalie for ~~counseling~~ more information. 403-8455.

## Wednesday Bible Study in May

Did you know that the Church did not have an “official” Bible [Canon] until the 4<sup>th</sup> century? Did you know about the “*other*” Christian writings that were very influential to the faith of the early believers? These writings have been eye-openers revealing the diversity found among the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> century believers,

showing that there was no “simple, pure” faith;  
identifying the numerous gospels and writings being circulated;  
revealing an amazingly wide range of beliefs and practices.

By the year 200, the majority of churches, under the leadership of the church at Rome, began to reject **all** teachings considered heretical and unorthodox. There would be **only one** “*true faith*.” To depart from that was to be thrown out of the church.

**Why is this important?** It reveals to us what the early Christians thought about and struggled with as they developed their faith – and what, for the most part, has come to be our faith.

Excerpts of these materials will be provided for our study together.

You may just discover that some of these “ideas and teachings” sound very familiar ...

*Bro Gary*

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL IN MAY

Our study of Matthew gave us opportunity to look in on what it meant to become a community of faith. Written late in the 1<sup>st</sup> century, it allowed us to walk along with Jesus and his disciples as questions were asked and faith was being formed. Matthew ended his Gospel with “The Great Commission” – “*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.*” It is to this that we will turn in our study of **THE BOOK OF THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**.

**ACTS** is the story of the fledging community of faith as it re-defined itself into a world-wide community. As one writer observed, it is the story of courage amidst conflict and crisis as the early Christian community “*bursts forth from the chrysalis of Jerusalem, the religion of Judaism, to migrate and take up residence in Rome, the political capital of the world.*”

COME JOIN IN THIS STUDY as we re-experience with the early apostles what it means to really believe that “... *you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*” COME ALONG ON THE JOURNEY with Peter, John, Stephen, Saul, Paul, Philip, James, Barnabas, Timothy, Lydia, and many others as lives are changed, communities transformed. Luke ends his story of the ACTS OF THE APOSTLES with Paul imprisoned in Rome; but even that does not stop Paul from “... *proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.*”

*Bro Gary*

## PENTECOST SUNDAY

Pentecost is a Christian festival on the seventh Sunday after Easter, celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles of Jesus Christ. This year Pentecost is May 23.

According to Scriptures in the Book of Acts, the Church came into being on the day of Pentecost. As 120 worshipers, including the Disciples, were fasting and praying in an upper room in Jerusalem, the Holy Spirit descended upon them in a violent rushing wind that was heard throughout the city. Small flames of fire rested upon their heads, and they began to speak in other languages. As crowds came to investigate the commotion, the Apostle Peter spoke to them about Jesus and exhorted them to repent. From the crowd of Jews and converts, 3,000 realized the truth of his words and became followers of Jesus.

There are many Pentecost traditions. In some churches, baptisms are performed throughout the day. Pentecost is also known as Whitsunday, because of the white garments worn by those who are baptized. In most Pentecost services, priests or church officials wear red vestments. Sanctuaries are decorated with banners depicting flames, wind, and doves. Churches in Italy disperse rose petals from the ceiling to symbolize the tongues of fire described in the book of Acts. French churches blow trumpets throughout the service to suggest the Holy Spirit coming with a violent rushing wind.

On Pentecost, our tradition at Hickory Bend is to decorate our sanctuary with special banners, display the red paraments, and folks wear something red.

This year, as we celebrate this special day, remember to wear something **RED!**

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## Flamingos Invade Middle Tennessee! Yes, again!

BY: Emalie Egan

Don't let Flamingo Pests Take Over your Home! Say goodbye To Flamingos! It's flamingo season once again! Flamingos can be much more than a nuisance. Flamingos can become a threat to your property and potentially your mental health! In fact, one flamingo can cause more anxiety than any other plastic pest! That's why flamingo control is so important around your home.

**The Advantage of the HBUMYF Method Over other Flamingo Removal Services.** Flamingo control with the HBUMYF method can help you — not only with the removal of flamingos—but also help prevent unwanted flamingo presence later. (For environmentally sensitive customers, we will remove the flamingos to the ecosystem of your choice. \$10)

- Industry-leading removal technology
- Over 200 minutes of flamingo control experience
- Extensive training in all areas of flamingo control
- Flamingo insurance is available –
- Environmentally sound removal available for an extra \$10 to the environment of your choice.

(Remember that flamingos can lurk unseen until our cracker-jack team of inspectors drives them over to your house out into the open.)

**One Call Can Solve It All.** Call 403-8455 if flamingos invade your property. Call us now to receive your FREE Flamingo Control Estimate. An associate will call to ensure that HBUMYF is helping to protect your home. (Flamingo Insurance is included in Club 52 membership.)

## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

Isaac Williamson will be five years old in July and will be attending kindergarten at Andrew Jackson Elementary School. Isaac plays soccer at the YMCA for the Green Terminators which he enjoys a great deal. He scored his first goal last week. Isaac also enjoys other outdoor activities such as camping, fishing and riding his four wheeler. Isaac also loves his home here at Hickory Bend.

Berlin Egan will be attending kindergarten at Pennington Bend Elementary (where her Hummie currently works). Berlin wants to ride in the front seat of the car when she grows up. She wants to be a mommy and watch cooking shows and drive because that's what mommies do. They cook and take care of children.

Trinity Buttrey will start kindergarten at Dodson Elementary School in Hermitage, Tennessee. She is also in the Encore program. Trinity wants to be a scientist when she grows up.

Chris Rucker is graduating on May 2, 2010, from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice.

Lane Watson will be graduating from Hillsboro High School on May 24, 2010. Lane has attended Hillsboro for the past four years. He played football for four years and baseball for three years. He has been active in a Boy Scout Adventurer troop for the past three years that is dedicated to studying and re-enacting World War II battles. He was honored by receiving the Faculty Award at Hillsboro High. He was chosen for this award by the HHS faculty for his leadership, work ethic, and overall willingness to go above and beyond to do his best. Lane plans to attend college. He is undecided, but has narrowed his choices to either Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C., or Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN. He plans to major in education and would like to teach and coach sports. His alternate major would be in architecture. He loves math, art and sports.

We offer our congratulations to these young people who are beginning this new path in their life's journey. May God bless them and watch over them.

## REMINDERS. . . .

### INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Send your information (committee reports, meeting dates, tidbits, etc.) for the newsletter to: keithdb@att.net or give them to Debbie Keith. The deadline for any article is on the calendar.

### LOG YOUR COPIES

Anyone using the church copy machine to make copies should enter their information (date, name, what the copies are for, number of copies) on the log sheet in the office. This helps us determine what kind of usage we're getting out of our toners.

### PLEASE KEEP OUR MAILING LIST UP-TO-DATE

Please notify the church office by mail, phone, or e-mail if you or a family member move or will be gone for a season (such as going south for the winter), or if your email information changes. We want to keep in touch with ALL our members and friends!

### DON'T FORGET TO

Visit our website - hickorybendumc.com to check for important church news and informa-

## Reasons why English is so hard to learn.

- 1.The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2.The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3.The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4.We must polish the Polish furniture.
- 5.He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- 6.The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- 7.Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- 8.A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- 9.When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- 10.I did not object to the object.
- 11.The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- 12.There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- 13.They were too close to the door to close it.
- 14.The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- 15.A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- 16.To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- 17.The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- 18.After a number of injections my jaw got number.
- 19.Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
- 20.I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- 21.How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in an eggplant. no ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. Sweetmeats are candies, while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. And if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square. A guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. You park in the driveway but you drive on the parkway. You ship by truck and send cargo by ship. How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm goes off by going on. When the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

And finally, how about when you want to shut down your computer you have to hit "START!!

## April 2010 Stewardship

DATE	ATTENDANCE	OFFERING
3/28/10	83	\$1,306.50 General Fund \$ 70 Lenten Extra Giving \$154 Wed Night Meals \$165 Easter Memorials \$ 25 Summit Meal \$100 Reynolds Memorial
4/04/10	62 (Early Svc) 112 (Worship Svc)	\$3,559.50 General Fund \$ 61 Hardship Fund \$ 139 Wed Night Meals \$ 30 Lenten Extra Giving \$ 20 Easter Memorials \$ 128 Youth Missions \$ 55 Reynolds Memorial
4/11/10	86	\$2,031.20 General Fund \$ 124 Wed Night Meals \$ 10 Hardship Fund (Piggy Bank) \$ 27 Youth Missions
4/18/10	74	\$ 1,469.77 General Fund \$ 11 Hardship Fund (Piggy Bank) \$ 35 Seekers' Class Mission Child
4/25/10	88	\$1,669 General Fund \$ 296 Wed Night Meals \$ 2 Youth Missions



## RECIPE CORNER

### *Santa Fe Soup*

(feeds a crowd -- a favorite at UMYF)

Brown 2-3 pounds of ground beef  
 Brown 2-3 large yellow onions  
 Brown 1-2 cups of chopped celery (optional) or use  
 celery salt to taste  
 Drain the beef/onion/celery mixture

Add one large can of crushed tomatoes  
 Add two packages of taco seasoning  
 Add two packages of Hidden Valley Ranch dressing  
 seasoning  
 Add 5-10 cans of various beans like black beans, chili  
 beans, white beans, kidney beans, black eyed peas, or  
 red beans. Make sure you have lots of color.  
 Add 1-3 cans of shoe peg corn or yellow corn (not  
 creamed)  
 Add about a quart of water.

Cook on low for several hours or in a crock pot over-  
 night.

To serve, put corn chips in the bottom of a bowl, Top  
 with shredded cheese. Pour hot soup over the  
 cheese. Top with sour cream and chopped green on-  
 ions.

Submitted by Emalie Egan

### *Jim Adair's Barbecued Spareribs*

Choose ribs with a lot of meat on them. For a dry rub,  
 liberally sprinkle each rib with equal amounts of fresh-  
 ground black pepper, fresh-ground coriander seed, and  
 garlic powder. Bake covered for 2 hours at 325 degrees.  
 Uncover and bake half an hour longer.

For sauced ribs, lightly sprinkle each rib with equal  
 amounts of fresh-ground black pepper, fresh-ground  
 coriander seed, and garlic powder. Bake covered for 2  
 hours at 325 degrees. Uncover and coat ribs with store-  
 bought honey barbecue sauce or your favorite barbecue  
 sauce. Bake uncovered 30 minutes longer.

*Our thanks to Emalie and Shari for sharing their reci-  
 pes with us!*

# GOOD GRUB CAFE

## Good Grub Going Out of Business

Jim and Shari Adair have enjoyed cooking for Wednesday night meals for the past five years and look forward to eating other folks' cooking. May is the last month on the Adairs' watch, so come out and enjoy some of your favorite dishes.

**May 5:** Barbecued Spareribs (dry rub or sauced), Jim Adair's Favorite Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Corn Bread, Brownies

**May 12:** Chicken Enchiladas, Spanish Rice, Re-fried Beans, Fiesta Corn, Pound Cake with Strawberry Sauce or Rum Sauce and Cool Whip

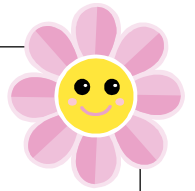
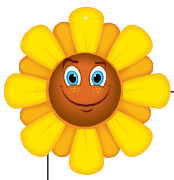
**May 19:** Ham Noodle Bake, Pan-fried Sweet Potatoes, Broccoli-Cauliflower Salad, Fresh-baked Rolls, Strawberry Chiffon Pie

**May 26:** Spaghetti or Rotini with Homemade Marinara Sauce, Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread, Berried Delight

Remember that first-time customers get a reduced price (\$3), so bring your friends. All proceeds above the cost of food go to the new entrance building fund.

## MAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

DATE	SCRIPTURE	READER	CHILDREN'S SERMON	NURSERY VOLUNTEERS	COMMUNION STEWARDS
5/2/10	Acts 1:1-11	David Keith	Cathy Caldwell	Stephanie Buttrey Meagan Troster	Serve: Bilbrey Family Set Up: Caldwells
5/09/10	Acts 2:37-47	Brianna Caldwell	Bro. Gary	Margaret Williamson Brianna Caldwell	
05/16/10	Acts 4:1-18	Teressa Watson	Emalie Egan	Ethel Burnett Victoria Egan	
05/23/10	Acts 4:23-33	Shari Adair	Mitzi Anderson	Robbie Williamson Samantha Perkins	
05/30/10	Acts 5:27-42	Jeannie Gleaves	Shari Adair	Betty Whitaker Mary Watson	
6/06/10		Miranda Bilbrey	Cathy Caldwell	Courtney Brown Lauren Rucker	Serve: Liz, Debbie, Kelly, Josh Set Up: Buttreys



# MOTHERS DAY HUMOR

## Mother's Dictionary of Meanings

- Dumbwaiter:** One who asks if the kids would care to order dessert.
- Feedback:** The inevitable result when the baby doesn't appreciate the strained carrots.
- Full Name:** What you call your child when you're mad at him.
- Grandparents:** The people who think your children are wonderful even though they're sure you're not raising them right.
- Hearsay:** What toddlers do when anyone mutters a dirty word.
- Independent:** How we want our children to be for as long as they do everything we say.
- Show Off:** A child who is more talented than yours.
- Sterilize:** What you do to your first baby's pacifier by boiling it, and to your last baby's pacifier by blowing on it and wiping it with saliva.
- Top Bunk:** Where you should never put a child wearing Superman jammies.
- Two-Minute Warning:** When the baby's face turns red and she begins to make those familiar-grunting noises.
- Whodunit:** None of the kids that live in your house.

\*\*\*\*\*

For two solid hours, the lady sitting next to a man on an airplane had told him about her grandchildren. She had even produced a plastic-foldout photo album of all nine of the children. She finally realized that she had dominated the entire conversation on her grandchildren. "Oh, I've done all the talking, and I'm so sorry. I know you certainly have something to say. Please, tell me... what do you think of my grandchildren?"

\*\*\*\*\*

Son: "Mom, teacher was asking me today, if I have any brothers or sisters who will be coming to school."  
 Mom: "That's nice of her to take such an interest in you. So what did she say when you told her that you're the only child, my dear?"  
 Son: "She just said... "Thank goodness!"

\*\*\*\*\*

## Things my Mother Taught Me

- Logic:** "Because I said so, that's why."
- To Appreciate A Job Well Done:** "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning!"
- Religion:** "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."
- Time Travel:** "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
- Foresight:** "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
- Irony:** "Keep crying and I'll \*give\* you something to cry about."
- The Science Of Osmosis:** "Shut your mouth and eat your supper!"
- Contortionism:** "Will you \*look\* at the dirt on the back of your neck!"
- Weather:** "It looks as if a tornado swept through your room."
- Hypocrisy:** "If I've told you once, I've told you a million times - Don't Exaggerate!!!"
- The Circle Of Life:** "I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."
- Behavior Modification:** "Stop acting like your father!"
- Envy:** "There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do!"
- Medicine:** "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they're going to freeze that way."
- To Think Ahead:** "If you don't pass your spelling test, you'll never get a good job!"
- ESP:** "Put your sweater on; don't you think that I know when you're cold?"
- To Meet a Challenge:** "What were you thinking? Answer me when I talk to you...Don't talk back to me!"
- Humor:** "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."
- Become an Adult:** "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."
- Genetics:** "You are just like your father!"
- Roots:** "Do you think you were born in a barn?"
- Wisdom of Age:** "When you get to be my age, you will understand."
- Anticipation:** "Just wait until your father gets home."
- Justice:** "One day you will have kids, and I hope they turn out just like YOU..then you'll see what it's like."

.....  
A Mother's Love  
 .....

I loved you enough to ask where you are going, with whom, and what time you would be home.  
 I loved you enough to insist that you save your money and buy a bike for yourself even though I could afford to buy one for you.  
 I loved you enough to be silent and let you discover that your new best friend was a jerk. I loved you enough to make you pay for the toy you had taken and tell the clerk' " I stole this yesterday, and I want to pay for it."  
 I loved you enough to stand over you for two hours while you cleaned your room, a job that should have taken 15 minutes.  
 I loved you enough to let you see anger, disappointment, and tears in my eyes. Children should know that their parents aren't perfect.  
 I loved you enough to let you assume the responsibility for your actions even when the penalties were so harsh, they almost broke my heart.  
 But most of all, I loved you enough to say NO when I knew you would hate me for it. ... Those were the most difficult battles of all. I am glad I won them, because in the end, you won too .



# Happy Mother's Day





## ENCOURAGEMENT

A man was sleeping one night in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light, and God appeared. The Lord told the man he had work for him to do, and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. The Lord explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might...

So, this the man did, day after day. For many years he toiled from sunup to sundown, his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock, pushing with all his might!

Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain. Since the man was showing discouragement, the adversary (Satan) decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into the weary mind: (He will do it every time)!

'You have been pushing against that rock for a long time and it hasn't moved.' Thus, he gave the man the impression that the task was impossible and that he was a failure. These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man.

Satan said, 'Why kill yourself over this? Just put in your time, giving just the minimum effort; and that will be good enough.' That's what the weary man planned to do, but decided to make it a matter of Prayer and to take his troubled thoughts to the Lord.

'Lord,' he said, 'I have labored long and hard in Your Service, putting all my strength to do that which You have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimeter. What is wrong? Why am I failing?'

The Lord responded compassionately, "My friend, when I asked you to serve Me and you accepted, I told you that your task was to push against the rock with all of your strength, which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push. And now you come to Me with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed. But, is that really so? Look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back shiny and brown; your hands are callused from constant pressure, your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. True, you haven't moved the rock. But your calling was to be Obedient and to push and to exercise your Faith and trust in My Wisdom. That you have done. Now I, my friend, will move the rock."

At times, when we hear a word from God, we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what He Wants, when actually what God wants is just simple obedience and faith in Him. By all means, exercise the Faith that moves mountains, but know that it is still God Who moves the Mountains.

When everything seems to go wrong . . . just P.U.S.H.  
When the job gets you down . . . Just P.U.S.H.  
When people don't do as you think they should . . . just P.U.S.H.  
When your money is 'gone' and the bills are due... just P.U.S.H.  
When people just don't understand you . . . just P.U.S.H.

P = Pray  
U = Until  
S = Something  
H = Happens

(Author Unknown)