FERNWOOD NEWS

Steinbach Housing





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This is a story that happened 15 years ago but it has always stayed with me since then.

On the way back from work every evening, more often than not there would be a homeless man standing at the exit of the freeway. He looked to be in his late 40's but was probably a lot younger. He had shoulder length straight black hair a short beard, and he was of average stature.

His eyes were what struck me the most about him, they were brown and they had a sparkle. Like an inside light that was beaming out of his eyes. His eyes, I thought, represented the man in general. People say they can tell a lot from a person's eyes. It was certainly true in his case. He always waved at every car, he was always happy and smiling and sometimes almost dancing.

Every day after work I would remember to gather any spare change, and put it aside to give to him if I saw him. A feeling of joy would come over me every time I saw him, as I came off the ramp. He had that effect.

I'd quickly roll down my window and give him the coins. Occasionally the red light would be on for a minute and we would ask each other about our day. His answer would always be the same, "I'm blessed!".

I knew what his answer was going to be every time, yet I would still ask. It amazed me that even in his situation of being homeless he was so positive, and his answer would remind me of how blessed I was. A single mother of four amazing kids, with a place to call home and with a job to provide for my kids.

Then one day I was called into my boss's office and was told that I was being laid off due to the economy. A feeling of worry engulfed me, and for the rest of that day all I could think of was "how am I going to provide for my kids, how am I going to pay rent, what am I going to do?"

Needless to say that on my way home that day I was very sad and upset. I didn't remember to look for my spare change and keep it ready like I usually did. I wasn't feeling the joy as I got off the ramp where the homeless man would be. Yet there he was as always, as I turned the ramp. He set his eyes on me, while still smiling and waving at others.

I'd hoped to catch the green light, but I missed it. While I was waiting for the red light to turn, he strolled over to my car. He had a big smile he looked me straight in the eyes and said "today I will give you a dollar". He then reached into his pocket and pulled out a dollar bill. I was blown away. I burst into tears. I wanted to jump out of my car and hug him!

You see that day he gave me more than a dollar bill, he taught me a valuable lesson. No matter what material things are taken from you, no one can take away your choice to be joyful. My ride home was smooth sailing, I had lost my job, had no savings, but I knew I was blessed!

Every time I'm faced with challenges, I think of the homeless man's valuable lesson and remember that I am blessed.







No Video on your TV?

Follow the steps below

Step 1
Make sure your TV is on

Step 2
Make sure your Shaw Cable box is on

Step 3

Using the TV remote (the remote that came with your TV when you bought it) turn it to channel 3 If this works, do not proceed to step 4

Step 4

Using the TV remote (the remote that came with your TV when you bought it) press the input or source button until you see a picture

If this doesn't work, please call Eva at 204-326-2547



The Funny-Punny Page!

THE LOOK, PLU ASXING SANTA...

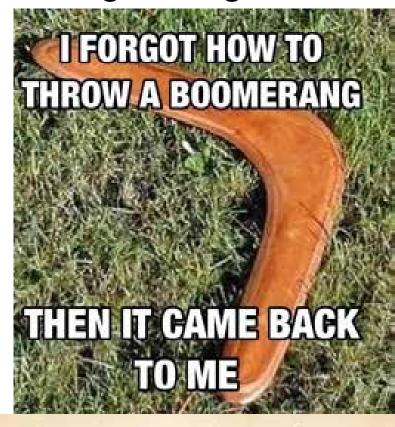


TO GIVE COVID THE BOOTH

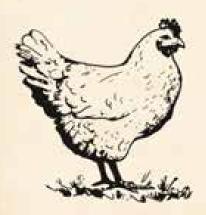
MY FRIEND WENT BALD YEARS AGO BUT STILL CARRIES AROUND AN OLD COMB WITH HIM

UnKNOWN PUNster @2019

HE JUST CAN'T PART WITH IT



What do you call a chicken staring at lettuce?



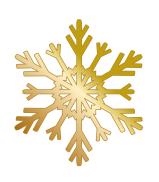


Chicken sees a salad.

ONE MINUTE YOU'RE YOUNG AND FUN.
AND THE NEXT YOUR TURNING DOWN THE STEREO IN
YOUR CAR TO SEE BETTER!



JANUARY 2021 FERNWOOD MENU



S	Μ	Т	W	T	F	S
					Kitchen Closed HAPPY STATEM YEAR	2
3	Orange Juice Breakfast Omelet Hashbrowns Biscuit Bran Muffin	Iced Tea Chicken Drumsticks Mashed Potatoes Peas & Carrots Cheesecake	6 Kommest Borsht Brown Bread Fruit Crumble Bars w/ Ice Cream	7 Cranberry Juice Meatballs Mashed Potatoes Cucumber Salad Pecan Tarts	Apple Juice Chicken Burgers House Salad Cherry Cha Cha	9
10	Tomato Juice Sweet & Sour Breaded Pork Chops O'Brein Potatoes Mixed Veggies Banana Dessert	Apple Juice Lazy Cabbage Roll Casserole Garlic Bread Caeser Salad Layered Lemon Dessert	Taco Soup Buns Chocolate Pie	Fruit Punch Lemon Butter Chicken Mashed Potatoes Carrots Cookies	Cherry Juice Fish Rice Cranberry Coleslaw Tapioca Pudding	16
17	Iced Tea Sweet & Sour Veal Rice Lettuce Salad Buttermilk Fruit Salad	Cranberry Juice Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Carrots Cream Puff Dessert	20 Cream of Potato Soup Brown Bread Fruit Tarts	Orange Juice Ranch Chicken Mashed Potatoes Peas Pineapple Sunshine Cake	Fruit Punch Hotdogs Layered Salad Trifle	23
24	Cherry Juice Cottage Cheese Perogies Farmer Sausage Peas Strawberry Sauce Ice Cream Sandwich	Apple Juice Roasted Chicken Bubbat Mashed Potatoes Peas & Carrots Keylime Squares	27 Chicken Noodle Soup White Bread Coconut Cream Pie	Tomato Juice Pork Cutlets O'Brien Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Sour Cream Coffee Cake	Cranberry Juice Taco Bake Rice Tossed Salad Dreamsicle Salad	30

From the Chaplain's Desk

"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." (Isaiah 43:18-19)

Another year has passed, and another new year begins. We enter every new year, leaving behind a year full of memorable events and looking forward with certain expectations to a year yet to be lived and experienced. In 2020, Covid-19 seemed to overshadow everything else that happened in the world or our homes. There were still children born, wedding and birthdays celebrated; people got sick, and some have passed away. But all that seemed to happen behind doors, and neighbours and friends could not be part of our lives.

So, we move into the new year with mixed feelings and emotions. Today's verse tells us, "Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old." But there are events and people we want to remember, events and people that became dear to us; they became a part of who we are. And so, we journey on, looking back and anticipating what lies ahead.

Scriptures promise us new things and inspire us to observe. "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" What a wonderful encouragement for the new year; so full of excitement and mystery. It almost feels like Advent.

So, what are you looking forward to in 2021? Is it a big birthday? Or a wedding anniversary? Maybe the birth of a new great-grandchild will be announced, or you plan to move to a new place. Whatever the new thing will be, as Christians, we have the assurance that every good gift comes from above. For some of us, the new year might begin just like the old year ended, with grief and suffering. For all of you, the Lord has a promise too. "I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." May these words be an encouragement to you, and may you find rest for your soul in His presence.

May the new year help you leave behind that which is too heavy to bear, and may your path be lined with beautiful memories. May the new year bring the good news of "a new thing" and refreshment for those who find themselves experiencing a wilderness of life. For everything, there is a season, and for every season, there is a promise.

Ron Babel, Chaplain



JANUARY 2021 ACTIVITY IDEAS



S	W	т	w	т	F	S
					Find three good things to look forward to this year.	Mail a note of encouragement or write a letter to an old friend or to your pastor.
3 Select and start reading a new book from the Fermwood Library	Read through a book of the Bible, start to finish in one day.	5 Call a friend or family member and let them know what you appreciate about them.	Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough.	7 Find a new movie or show to watch on TV.	If it's nice outside take a walk and enjoy the fresh air!	7 Take some time to stretch. Do it sitting in a chair, or lying in bed.
Do a puzzle. There are plenty to borrow from the shelves in the Library.	11 Write down a favourite childhood memory.	Call a friend or a family member and share the memory you wrote down yesterday!	Clean up or organize a shelf or cupboard in your apartment.	Drink an extra glass of water with each meal.	Phone a friend and ask for a new recipe to try.	Bake some cookies to put in the freezer.
Say something positive to everyone you meet today.	Listen to a radio station you've never listened to before!	Try a new TV show or a new radio station.	20 Color a picture. Call Eva if you would like an adult colouring page.	21 Sing your favorite hymn	Call a friend or a family member and encourage them, a little encouragement goes a long way!	23 Make some time for self care - do something kind for yourself.
24/31 Take five minutes to sit still and think of things you are thankful for.	25 Make a big pot of your favourite soup. Can some in jars or put it in the freezer for later.	26 Sort through a junk drawer or organize a pile of papers. Feel the satisfaction of having things tidy!	Eat healthy food today, food that really nourishes your body.	28 Have your favourite dessert!	Construct a family tree! How many generations back can you record?	30 Do an act of kindness today.