Psalm 74:11 You have set all the borders of the earth, You have made summer and winter.

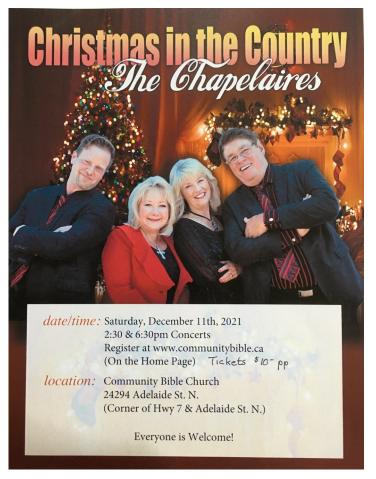
Legacy Link

Winter is a time of quietness and reflection, a "nesting" while much of the earth sleeps and waits for spring. Winter is the contemplative season. It invites us to sit by the hearth and dream about God, to shift our focus from creation to the Creator.

HARRIET CROSBY

A well-Watered Garden







"The very purpose of Christ's coming into the world was that he might offer up his life as a sacrifice for the sins of men. He came to die. This is the heart of Christmas."

Rev. Billy Graham

Jesus is the best gift of all

Canadian Beaver Tail Fried Pastries

Ingredients

1/2 cup warm water
5 teaspoons dry yeast
1 pinch sugar
1 cup warm milk
1/3 cup sugar
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 eggs
1/3 cup oil
4 1/4 to 5 cups all purpose flour
oil (for frying)
granulated sugar



cinnamon

Directions

- 1. In a large mixing bowl, stir together the yeast, warm water and a pinch of salt. Allow to stand a couple of minutes to allow the yeast to swell and dissolve.
- 2. Stir in the remaining sugar, milk, vanilla, eggs, oil, salt, and most of the flour to make a soft dough.
- 3. Knead 5-8 minutes (by hand or with a dough hook), adding flour as needed to form a firm, smooth, elastic dough.
- 4. Place dough in a greased bowl and cover with plastic or a damp towel. (If you are not using right away, you can now refrigerate).
- 5. Let rise in a covered, lightly greased bowl; about 30-40 minutes.
- 6. Gently deflate dough. (if refrigerated, let dough warm up 40 minutes)
- 7. Pinch off a golf ball sized piece of dough. Roll out into an oval and let rest, covered with a tea towel while you are preparing remaining dough.
- 8. Heat about 4 inches of oil in fryer. A wok works well or a Dutch oven. Temperature should be about 385 degrees F.
- 9. Stretch the dough ovals into a beaver tail shape, thinning and enlarging them and putting them into the hot oil, 1 or 2 at a time.
- 10. They will fry quickly. Turn once and fry till both sides are deep brown.
- 11. Lift the tails out with tongs and drain on paper towels.
- 12. Put a cup or two of sugar in a bowl with some cinnamon and toss to lightly coat. Shake off excess sugar.

ENJOY!

These pastries can also be drizzled with chocolate or used to make an ice cream sandwich. You can also use them as a base for a dessert with fruit and whipped cream.



Zachary and Miles enjoying their fresh Beavertails

It is well with my soul

When peace like a river attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll, Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Tho' Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come, Let this blest assurance control, That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

> It is well, with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

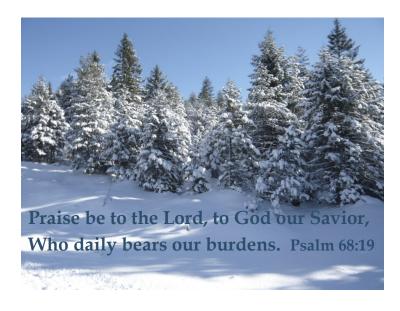
My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought, My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And, Lord haste the day when my faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll: The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, Even so—it is well with my soul.

Many of us have heard the story behind this well loved, familiar hymn written my Horatio Spafford in 1873. This hymn was written after traumatic events in Spafford's life. The first two were the death of his fouryear-old son and the great Chicago fire of 1871, which ruined him financially. He had been a successful lawyer and had invested significantly in property in the area of Chicago that was extensively damaged by the great fire. His business interests were further hit by the economic downturn of 1873, at which time he had planned to travel to England to help with D.L Moody's upcoming evangelistic campaigns. In a late change of plan, he sent the family ahead while he was delayed on business concerning zoning problems following the Great Chicago Fire. While crossing the Atlantic ocean the ship sank rapidly after a collision with a sea vessel, and all four of Spafford's daughters died. His wife Anna survived and sent him the now famous telegram, "Saved alone ...". Shortly afterwards, as Spafford traveled to meet his grieving wife, he was inspired to write these words as his ship passed near where his daughters had died.

Although this is a remarkable story, it is just part of the story of Horatio Spafford and his family. There is much more to know and I would encourage you to check out this 16 minute YouTube video that tells the bigger story through music and drama. It is part of a Christmas Concert with Hugh Bonneville (best known in his role as Robert Crawley on Downton Abbey) as narrator. The Tabernacle Choir music and the re-enacting of the continuing story is beautiful and inspiring. So set aside the time, sit down with a cup of tea, coffee or hot cocoa and a plate of "dainties" and be blessed by this Christmas Concert. I don't think you will not be disappointed. If reading this newsletter on line, click on the link below. Or you can go to youtube.com and in the search bar type in Hugh Bonneville It is well with my soul.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ReApJymYSiw&t=8s





The Meaning of '12 Days of Christmas"

There is one particular Christmas Carol that has always being baffling. What in the world does leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans and a partridge in a pear tree have to do with Christmas? It has been reported that the real meaning behind this carol is as follows.

From 1558 until 1929, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember.

- 1. The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.
- Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.
- 3. Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.
- 4. The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- 5. The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.
- 6. The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.
- 7. Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophesy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership and Mercy.
- 8. The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.
- 9. Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.
- 10. The ten lords a-leaping were the ten commandments.
- 11. The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.
- 12. The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

For every mile of road, there are two miles of ditches. Drive carefully this winter and always, because you are loved.



The **Legacy Ministry** (formerly Mid-Life and Beyond) exists to encourage and equip people in the demographic of approximately 50 plus. We recognize that there are unique interests, challenges and opportunities during this stage of life. We strive to provide activities and events for worship, teaching, service, fellowship and outreach. **The scripture we have adopted is Psalm 92: 12-15.**

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