

A Child's Prayer by Siegfried Sassoon

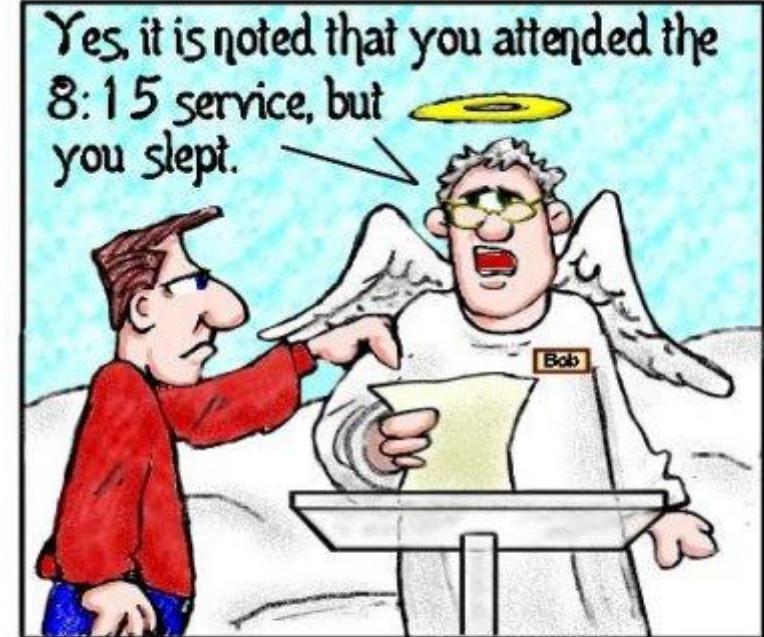
For Morn, my dome of blue,
For Meadows, green and gay,
And Birds who love the twilight of the leaves,
Let Jesus keep me joyful when I pray.

For the big Bees that hum
And hide in bells of flowers;
For the winding roads that come
To Evening's holy door,
May Jesus bring me grateful to his arms,
And guard my innocence for evermore.

Whitehead & Islandmagee Methodist Churches
Announcements for Week Beginning

Sunday 24 January 2016

THE BACK PEW - By Jeff Larson



Raymond was disappointed to learn that faithfully attending the 8:15am service did not matter alot at the Pearly Gates.

Rev Gary D Millar

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Society Stewards

Mr Ken Stewart (WMC) 93378812
Mr Brian Connor (IMC) 93353041

Sunday 24 January

10:30am WMC Worship
12:00pm IMC Worship

Rev G Millar
Rev G Millar

Monday 25 January

7.30pm IMC MWI

Audrey Dickson; Uganda project

Tuesday 26 January

8.00pm Dobson Room

WMC Bible Study

Wednesday 27 January

10.00am WMC House Group
7.30pm 2nd IPC Manse

Manse – 2 Balmoral Avenue
IMC Bible Study

Thursday 28 January

7.00pm Dobson Room

WMC Choir Practice

Sunday 31 January

10:30am WMC Worship
12:00pm IMC Worship

Family Service - Rev G Millar
Rev G Millar

Monday 1 February

7.30pm WMC MWI

Caroline Higginson will talk about her trip to an orphanage in Moldova



Northern Ireland Children's Hospice and *Anam Cara*, the national organisation that provides support services to bereaved parents and families, are hosting a Bereavement Information Evening in the Tullyglass House Hotel, Galgorm Road, Ballymena, Co Antrim, BT42 1HJ on

Wednesday 3rd February 2016 from 7:00pm-9:00pm. This event gives parents an opportunity to hear an experienced bereavement professional talk about the many challenges families may face after the death of their son or daughter. The guest speaker for the evening is Brid Carroll.

Northern Ireland Children's Hospice & *Anam Cara* will need to confirm numbers for room set up, we would appreciate if you could RSVP to info@anamcara.ie before Tuesday, 2nd February 2016 or call us on 02895213120.

World Development and Relief

is now on social media! Please follow us, like us and share our pages! You can find us on:

TWITTER @methodistwdr

INSTAGRAM @methodistwdr

FACEBOOK Methodist World Development and Relief

We would love to see more people learn more about the work of WDR and our partners, so please share these profiles as they will be kept up-to-date with news from our partners, photos of their work and ways in which you can prayerfully support them. We are also very excited to be able to share our new website! Have a look here: <http://methodistworlddevelopment.org>

We are so pleased with this new site and hope that it is accessible and helpful to you as you support the work of World Development & Relief. On it you'll find information about each of our partners, as well as Resources, and ways to Get Involved. Please share this website and encourage everyone to use it to keep up-to-date with what's going on! We hope that our new website and a social media presence will really help you as you continue to support and learn more about the work of World Development and Relief,

Laura Burtney, World Mission and Development Office, Administration and communications, <http://methodistworlddevelopment.org>

In Decision, Joni Eareckson Tada writes:

Honesty is always the best policy, but especially when you're surrounded by a crowd of women in a restroom during a break at a Christian women's conference. One woman, putting on lipstick, said, "Oh, Joni, you always look so together, so happy in your wheelchair. I wish that I had your joy!" Several women around her nodded. "How do you do it?" she asked as she capped her lipstick. "I don't do it," I said. "In fact, may I tell you honestly how I woke up this morning?"

"This is an average day," I breathed deeply. "After my husband, Ken, leaves for work at 6:00 A.M., I'm alone until I hear the front door open at 7:00 A.M. That's when a friend arrives to get me up. "While I listen to her make coffee, I pray, 'Oh, Lord, my friend will soon give me a bath, get me dressed, sit me up in my chair, brush my hair and teeth, and send me out the door. I don't have the strength to face this routine one more time. I have no resources. I don't have a smile to take into the day. But you do. May I have yours? God, I need you desperately.'"

"So, what happens when your friend comes through the bedroom door?" one of them asked. "I turn my head toward her and give her a smile sent straight from heaven. It's not mine. It's God's. And so," I said, gesturing to my paralyzed legs, "whatever joy you see today was hard won this morning." I have learned that the weaker we are, the more we need to lean on God; and the more we lean on God, the stronger we discover him to be.

[Joy Hard Won, Citation: Joni Eareckson Tada, "Joy Hard Won," Decision (March 2000), p.12, used by permission]