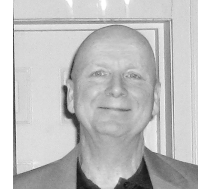


# Lo The d Ou Righteousness

## Be Thankful

Elder Charles Moore



turkey at Thanksgiving! Instead of thinking about how little we have, we need to count up what we

Dr. Dale Robbins writes, "I used to think people complained because they had a lot of problems. But I have come to realize that they have problems because they complain. Complaining doesn't change anything or make situations better. It amplifies frustration, spreads discontent and discord, and can invoke an invitation for the devil to cause havoc with our lives."

Have you ever drawn up a list of all the things in your life that are not going right and felt that unshakable despair and been filled with resentment for anyone who dared suggest you needed a new perspective? I have. And I can assure you, complaining makes us miserable. In fact, God Himself tells us how very deadly complaining is when He inspired the Psalmist to record this truth: "I complained and my spirit was overwhelmed." (Psalm 77:3)

Complaining is the archenemy of thanksgiving. The simple fact is that two cannot co-exist in the same heart. And so I challenge you to quit complaining for a whole month. Just try it. When you feel tempted to complain,

instead of filing your complaint, file your praise. It will change your life. **"Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe."** (Philippians 2:13) Sounds like good advice.

Some years ago, the cartoon pictured Charlie Brown bringing out Snoopy's dinner on Thanksgiving Day. But it was just his usual dog food in a bowl. Snoopy took one look at the dog food and said, "This isn't fair. The rest of the world today is eating turkey with all the trimmings and all I get is dog food. Because I'm a dog," he said, "all I get is dog food." He stood there and stared at his dog food for a moment and said, "I guess it could be worse. I could be a turkey."

Brothers and sisters, whenever we think life is unfair to us, we need to think again. We could be a

do have and give thanks! If we have problems, we need to look behind those problems to discover that those problems can reveal some of our deepest blessings.

Even though I have problems, *I am thankful for.....*

*....the taxes I pay because it means I'm employed.*

*....the clothes that fit a little too snug because it means I have enough to eat.*

*....my shadow who watches me work because it means I am out in the sunshine.*

*....a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home.*

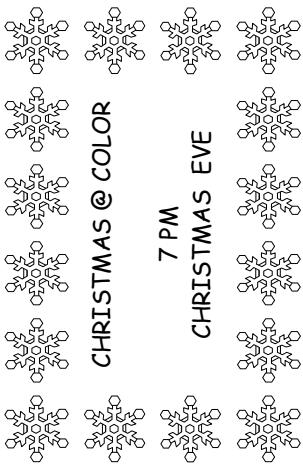
*....the spot I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking.*

*....my huge heating bill because it means I am warm.*

*....all the complaining I hear about our government because it means we have freedom of speech.*

*....the lady behind me in church who sings off key because it means that I can hear.*

(Continued on page 2)



....the piles of laundry because it means my loved ones are nearby.

....the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means that I'm alive.

....the weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive.

The above list came from items circulating on the internet.

God wants nothing more than for us to be people of thanksgiving and gratitude. Alan Perkins says, "A thankful spirit is one of the key distinguishing marks of a Christian. It sets us apart from the world, it makes us different." **"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever." (Psalm 118:1)**

Once, there was a young man who was feeling very proud of himself. As a brand new college graduate he had taken the C.P.A. Exams and passed with flying colors. Now he was a full-fledged Certified Public Accountant.

His father had been an immigrant to the U.S. and now owned his own little business. Filled with self-importance, the young man began to criticize his father's way of keeping books. He said, "Dad, you don't even know how much profit you've made. Over here in this drawer are your accounts receivables. Over there are your receipts and you keep all your money in the cash register. You don't have any idea how much money you've made."

The father answered, "Son, when I came to this country the only thing I owned was a pair of pants. Now, your brother is a doctor, your sister is an art teacher, and you are a C.P.A. Your mother and I own our home. We have a car and we own this little business. Now add that up, subtract the pants and all the rest is profit."

Brothers and sisters, I encourage you and myself as well: **ADD IT UP!** That's exactly why we need our national Thanksgiving holiday. Add it all up. Everything else is profit. **"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1Thessalonians 5:18)**

**Cyber News** Diane Begeman



October began with our annual Business Meeting and Retreat Weekend. We had several outlying members and friends

that came for all or part of the weekend. Those that were able to visit were Sonya Pease, Laurie Eckles, Vicki and Darran Chapman and Vickie Velasco. We had a great time getting reacquainted. The weather was great!

I talked with Rip and his younger brother who was 87 years old passed away. You are in our prayers Rip. Peggy Charles had been traveling to and from Traverse City helping to care for her mother. Sadly I report that Peggy's mom, Mrs. Baldwin passed away. I was not able to attend the funeral but heard it was a wonderful celebration of her life. We continue to keep you all in our thoughts and prayers.

Carrie, Joel and Caleb DeHaan announced the birth of their son and little brother, Jeremiah David on October 23rd. Mom and baby are doing fine.

Jim and Deborah Stoner made a trip here to visit with Geneva. We had a great visit with them. Jim always has a few new to us jokes to tell.

Sadly I report that on October 30th Geneva Begeman passed away. We celebrated her life and what a wonderful life she lived. She touched so many lives and was loved by so many people. She had a great influence on so many people.

Tim, her oldest son wrote her eulogy and read it at her funeral, Elder Moore brought us the message, Roy Gee read the scripture. The Gospel was told that day and the hope we have that we will see Geneva again one day.

I will try and keep up on the news.

Until next month remember this---

Nothing *is impossible*, the word itself says

*I'm possible.* (Audrey Hepburn)

## Michigan Report

Tim Begeman



This month as I have been driving many times from Gary Indiana to home because of work I have been enjoying the wonderful colorful fall flora. The month has been filled to the brim with brobdingnagian (giant) implicating events involving our little church.

We started off the month with our annual Fall Retreat and church business meeting. We all had a blessed time of feasting, fun and fellowship throughout the whole weekend. The board met on Thursday night and discussed and adjudicated on many topics for the future outreach of our church. We started off Friday night with a time of testing all of our detective skills. We had a paper sign taped to all of our backs that had a character or object from the bible written on the sign. By just asking each other yes or no questions we had the task of trying to find out what the sign said on our backs. The more obscure signs were strategically placed on the people that have showed their prowess in biblical games in past years which proved to be very challenging and frustrating to those skilled players. The Sabbath meeting was well attended and it was nice to see Jamie Carothers, Erin Gill and their children that morning. We finished off the day with a gathering at the Moore's for some snacks and deep conversations. We ended the weekend with our United Business Meeting and voted on different items on the agenda. The lovely and talented Diane Begeman was elected as the new Representative at Large.

Kathy Smeltzer and Kay Nevil were asked to teach at Sally Smith's class at her church's school for a week in October. They were both fervently welcomed by all the eager pupils. Kathy and Kay also received gushing thank you notes from all the students. I think I overheard that they were going to frame some of the more vehement notes.

Charlie Moore finally got some well needed hearing aids this month. Now if he can only remember to put them on each morning without vociferous prompting from his lovely wife Aurine.

My mother Geneva, lost her battle with cancer at the end of October. As she was declining in health through the month she had many well-loved visitors. With every new visitor her face would light up momentarily when strength allowed. The day she died my dad, Dale, got to say his goodbyes through a phone call that morning. She will be terribly missed by all who depended on her wise loving council and input, not to mention all the important jobs she did.

The same week that my mom went into the hospital for the last time my Dad had a stroke that landed him in the hospital in Ann Arbor. He is now recovering with physical rehabilitation at Hickory Ridge rehab facility in Temperance Michigan. Please pray that he makes a quick and utter recovery in the near future.

You can delegate authority, but not  
responsibility.

-Stephen Comiskey

**CHURCH OF THE  
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**THANKSGIVING OUTLOOK**

Turkeys will thaw in the morning, then warm in the oven to an afternoon high near 190 F. The kitchen will turn hot and humid, and if you bother the cook, be ready for a severe squall or cold shoulder.

During the late afternoon and evening, the cold front of a knife will slice through the turkey, causing an accumulation of one to two inches on plates. Mashed potatoes will drift across one side while cranberry sauce creates slippery spots on the other. Please pass the gravy.

A weight watch and indigestion warning have been issued for the entire area, with increased stuffiness around the beltway. During the evening, the turkey will diminish and taper off to leftovers, dropping to a low of 34 F in the refrigerator.

Looking ahead to Friday and Saturday, high pressure to eat sandwiches will be established. Flurries of leftovers can be expected both days with a 50 percent chance of scattered soup late in the day. We expect a warming trend where soup develops. By early next week, eating pressure will be low as the only wish left will be the bone.

*by Elliot Abrams, excerpted from the book, "Weather Prognosticators and the Media: Fallacies, Facts, and Fun in Forecasting," by Norm MacDonald*



*Geneva Hamilton Begeman*

*June 10, 1935 - October 30, 2013*

*Geneva June was born in Fleming County Kentucky to Alvis and Clora Mae (Howell) Hamilton on June 10, 1935. No one was more thrilled about this than her 4 year old sister Imogene.*

*Geneva's early years in the hills of Kentucky weren't always easy. There was not a lot of money for extras when she was small, but she hardly even noticed because she was so rich in family love and support. Her close ties not only to her parents and sister, but to her dear aunts, uncles, and cousins remained with her for a lifetime. To help keep those close ties and family bonds, she and her sister Jean began publishing the Hamilton Family Newsletter 21 years ago.*

*When Geneva was in the third grade her dad got a job in Ohio and moved the family first to Springfield and then on to New Carlisle where she went on to graduate from Tecumseh High School as salutatorian of her class. This move proved to be pivotal in her life. Her new neighbor Esta Slaughter, a devout Christian woman and Sabbath Keeper, began inviting her to attend church with her family. Geneva, who from a young age was drawn to the Lord, loved this weekly fellowship. Through the Slaters she met the Begeman family and eventually began corresponding with handsome young Dale Begeman. Thus began a loving relationship that has become a wonderful example to all who have come to know them.*

*Geneva and Dale were married on June 6, 1954 just two weeks after she graduated from high school. They moved directly to Ida, Mi and into the new house on Jackman Rd. that Dale had built. For the next 59 years they enjoyed a wonderful life together. In 1955 their first son Timothy arrived followed by Jeffrey, Brian, Michael, and James. Being the mother of five young sons certainly kept her busy. When Geneva married Dale she was embraced by the entire Begeman clan who she came to love as her own. They worshipped, worked and vacationed together, creating many cherished memories over the years. As time passed Geneva and Dale's family grew and grew. She welcomed each daughter-in-law with open arms and a listening ear. She dearly loved each and every one of her 13 grandchildren and made a wonderful picture filled scrapbook for each grandchild that celebrated special family times and individual accomplishments.*

*Central to Geneva's life was her love of God and desire to serve Him. In 1966 both Geneva and Dale became charter members of the United Church of the Lord Our Righteousness. At that time Geneva was appointed United Church Treasurer, a position that she held for the remainder of her life. Over the years she served the church in many ways. She was a longtime local board member often serving as chairman. She was the primary organizer of special church events (she made up a lot of menus in her life), she wrote the Cyberspace Newsletter column as well as was the unofficial church historian and photographer. She was a beloved and gifted Sabbath School teacher to so many of our young adults through the years. While she held a variety of jobs at the C.O.L.O.R. Youth Camp, for the last 35 she was our head cook. There are many campers young and old that can attest to her wonderful cooking - especially her potato soup and macaroni and cheese. Elder Moore recently stated that Geneva was the heart and soul of our church and that was so true. She cared deeply about others and was known to shed a tear or two for them in concern or thanksgiving. Her deepest desire for all was that they know the Lord. She and Dale both loved Christian music and enjoyed many years of belonging to the Michigan Concert Choir and the friendships that brought. A big highlight these past 19 years was attending the Southern Gospel Convention. She also enjoyed her ladies Bible study group for over 15 years.*

*Her story would not be complete without mention of her Godly wisdom and practicality. Many times she mentored young wives and mothers (and others), giving them encouragement and hope. The common sense way she had of tackling any project was one reason so many sought her guidance and insight. We will miss her greatly, but are comforted to know that because of Christ's sacrifice on the cross we who share her faith will one day see her again.*