

Crush The Old, Embrace The New

By Van Yandell

John 3: 5-6 "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

There probably aren't many of us that haven't wished we could start our lives or careers all over again. We could wipe our slates clean and have a new beginning. At times those thoughts are accompanied with the wish that "and know what I know now."

New Year's Day is a day in which many make resolutions to change something meaningful in their lives. The examples are many.

A mistake that many of us make is assuming that one particular day is the only day in the year we can have a new beginning.

Why can't any day be considered "My New Year's Day?" The only reason for the January first designation is because of the development of the calendar.

The Gregorian calendar is the calendar used in most of the world. It went into effect in October 1582. Named for Pope Gregory the Eighth, the Gregorian

calendar replaced the Julian calendar. Among the reasons was to establish a more accurate and consistent date for the celebration of the resurrection of Christ.

The crucifixion and resurrection of Christ coincides with the Passover (exodus of the Jews from Egypt).

Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox (first day of spring in the northern hemisphere). Other than that one date yearly, all other dates are up-for-grabs and for the most part unimportant. That of course doesn't include your birthday.

These things considered, you and I can begin our new lives (if we choose) any day of the year.

2 Corinthians 5: 17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

To consider "all things become new" seems a little scary at first. We humans attempt to avoid change. This may be intentional or unintentional but none the less, that's the way most of us are.

Changes in our lives are constantly occurring. However, in many cases those changes

are not noticed because they are gradual. Changes in our government, educational priorities, attitudes about personal appearance, eating preferences and many other aspects of our lives are very different from what they were a few short years ago.

Many changes are intentional because of the selling of products. Clothing styles must change occasionally so people will continue to spend their hard earned money.

From a practical and earth bound point of view, many things in our lives and surroundings do change. I can't help but think of the clothing styles from my generation and the current styles we see.

Our news sources have also changed. Huntley and Brinkley or Walter Cronkite of yesteryear apparently are gone forever. Trust and honor has been tried, tested and miserably failed.

In the 60's and 70's we heard about Russian propaganda in their newspapers, now we realize the same is happening in America. Credibility has suffered a slow death.

We do however find that new networks are emerging and the old ones imploding. A few

appear at this time to extrapolate honest and unbiased news. The point is to report the news as it is and allow the listener to form his/her own opinion.

To report the news without bias may be next to impossible in today's geopolitical environment. Polarization has found a new extreme.

Education priorities are changing. Whereas society taught all children should go to college, now we know there is a much higher demand in many areas for tradesmen than college graduates. Vocational technical schools offer training in skills in construction, manufacturing, health careers and other hands-on professions. Jobs are plentiful and the training time required is usually much less than a four year degree.

There is an area of change in which we do not have to go it alone. That area is in the spiritual realm. Matthew 28: 20 "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Christ Jesus promises not to ever leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13: 5).

Acts 3: 19 "Repent ye therefore, and be

converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."

A life not changed however, is a life not saved by the definition of many Christians. John 3: 16 clearly states, belief is the only absolute requirement for eternal salvation. With belief comes repentance.

Most in the area of evangelism would agree that the finding of Christ Jesus and the subsequent Bible study would induce change. Genuine repentance is the result of belief and would be the ultimate "crush the old, embrace the new."

God not only offers us the opportunity to begin again in this life but He also offers us eternity. We should never hesitate to begin our lives all over again. I love the saying, "Today is the first day of the rest of your life." The God of the Bible is the God of second chances.

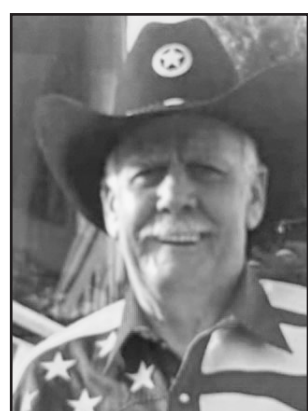
Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary. His email: vmy2121@outlook.com

Deaths And Funerals

Eddie Lord

Eddie Lee Lord, 81, of Henderson, Kentucky died on Saturday, February 1.

He was born Decem-



ber 28, 1943 to the late Russell and Thelma Gish Lord.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and retired from the Colorado Department of Transportation. He enjoyed gold digging and telling stories.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Irene Lord; four brothers, Harold Lord, Billy Lord, Timmy Lord, and Danny Lord; a sister, Brenda Gayle Byrd; and a granddaughter.

He is survived by two daughters, Tabitha Lord of Poseyville, Indiana and Linnie Lord (Mark) of Henderson; a son, Eddie Joe Lord (Angie); five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a sister, Sheila Gray (Danny) of Morganfield; and special friends and family.

As per Eddie's wishes, there will be no service. Memorial contributions can be made to Wounded Warrior Project or Shriner's Hospital.

Subscribe To The Sturgis News

Senator Mills Appointed To Fiscal Affairs, Government Operations Committee

Senate President Robert Stivers, R-Manchester, has appointed Sen. Robby Mills, R-Henderson to serve on the Fiscal Affairs and Government Operations Committee of The Council of State Governments Southern Office (CSG South).

As a committee member, Mills will collaborate with legislators from 15 southern states to address tax policies, government operations,

state budgeting, and financial oversight.

"I am honored to be appointed to the Fiscal Affairs and Government Operations Committee and look forward to working alongside fellow legislators to strengthen fiscal policy across the southern region," Said Mills "By sharing best practices and developing sound financial strategies, we can promote responsible governance

and economic growth for Kentucky and our neighboring states."

Founded in 1947, CSG South is the largest of four regional offices under The Council of State Governments, dedicated to fostering intergovernmental cooperation among its member states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South

Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. The organization's annual Southern Legislative Conference (SLC) provides policymakers with a platform to discuss key legislative initiatives and explore emerging solutions in governance. Mills's responsibilities as a committee member include:

- * participating in committee sessions and business meetings at the Southern Legislative Conference,
- * collaborating with state policymakers on fiscal strategies and government operations,
- * reviewing and voting on fiscal policy proposals affecting the region,
- * engaging in CSG South-sponsored legislative briefings, fiscal research initiatives, and policy development programs,
- * voting on key policy positions and committee leadership roles, and
- * engaging in CSG South's policy briefings, webinars, and leadership development programs.

Mills will serve for a two-year term ending December 31, 2026.

The 2025 Southern Legislative Conference will take place July 19-23 in Birmingham, Alabama. It will bring together policymakers to discuss education funding, workforce development, and strategies to enhance student success in the region.

Between You and Me x 2

By Monty Carter

The Amputation Of Grief

In his classic, "A Grief Observed," theologian C.S. Lewis offered candid and personal reflections on the death of a loved one, his wife, Joy. Lewis described the death of a loved one: "The death of a beloved is an amputation." Imagine losing a limb late in life. You have to learn how to live all over again. This is grief. The limb is never coming back and yet life goes on. How do you cope?

Lewis' thoughts and writings on this subject came to my mind immediately (this past week) when I saw the news of the horrible air collision in Washington, D.C. 67 lives vanished the moment the Army Blackhawk helicopter and American Airlines flight #5342 collided. It was less than the time to toast bread or text a friend. In one fleeting moment, 67 families were shaken to the core in a horrible tragedy.

As of this writing, just over 40 bodies have been recovered from the frigid, Potomac River. Over 50 divers have been on the scene searching the watery grave for lost loved ones and evidence. The NTSB, U.S. Army, FAA, local fire departments, and other experienced professionals are gathering as much evidence and data as possible. It will take time to get the right answers in what appears to be a series of mistakes. However, we need to leave the answers to the experts.

Grief is difficult under normal circumstances. Imagine grieving a loved one on a global stage. The victims are all over news outlets and social media around the world. The surviving families must grieve with the addi-

tional weight of a front page or lead story proportions. They cannot escape the public eye for much-needed privacy and solace. I cannot imagine what they are thinking or experiencing. Only those who've experienced a similar loss can begin to relate.

As a Christ-follower my mind runs to scripture for answers and comfort when bad things happen to good people. Three passages came to my mind as I thought about the families left behind:

Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Psalms 147:3 - He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Psalms 34:18 - The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

I hope they know they are not alone. To those who've lost a spouse, father, mother, sister, brother, daughter, son, uncle, aunt, niece, or nephew may the God of all comfort smother you in grace. May you be reunited with your loved one. May you feel the collective mourning of our nation on your behalf. May you sense the peace of God despite the chaos and noise.

There are no easy answers. I cannot explain this or other tragedies. But I trust God and the Apostle Paul's wonderful promise in Romans 8:38-39- "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Shalom, Monty

BIG HILL APARTMENTS
 307 Martin Street
 Providence, Kentucky 42450
Call (270) 667-5661
 For Hearing Impaired Only
 Call: TTY 711

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

Rental Assistance Available To Those Who Qualify
 Income Based Rent • On-Site Laundry
 24-Hour Emergency Maintenance
 Appliances Furnished
 Call and Schedule An Appointment For Your Forever Home Today!

This Institution Is An Equal Opportunity Provider




"Our family serving your family since 1881"

HENRY & HENRY MONUMENTS

We accept appointments for one-on-one consultation.

207 Sturgis Rd.
 Marion, Ky.
(270) 965-4514

602 US 62 East
 Eddyville, Ky.
(270) 388-1818

