

Church News



Turning around a bad day

We have all had some days that we would label as bad. Bad because of accidents, mishaps, breakdowns, sicknesses — it is a list that seems to have no end. I am grateful that I have had far more good days than bad, yet I experience snags along the way from time to time. In those moments when frustration or even heartache seem to be the rule of the day, we are faced with a choice: do we allow the difficulty to determine our outlook, or do we look for ways to turn the bad day around and find good in it?

As I look back over the decades, I realize that there has been some wasted time along the path of my life simply because I allowed some mishap or other anomaly to hide the joy and gratitude that should outshine the hardship. I doubt that I am the only person to be guilty of such.

Many years ago we lived in an old rental house in northeastern North Carolina. One afternoon an electrical storm came up, leaving one circuit of the house without power. I am no electrician, but I know enough



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to check the breaker box for tripped breakers — or fuse box for blown fuses as in this case. After taking a look, I was bewildered to find that everything was fine in the fuse box. We were scheduled to go out with some friends that evening, but I opted to cancel our plans because of the electrical problem. I do not know how my denying my wife of a night out for supper was supposed to correct the problem; I just allowed something that I could not do anything about to spoil a good day. (As it turned out, I finally resorted to getting an electrician to come. I suppose he had been to that house before; within minutes he went to a separate fuse box in a closet, replaced a fuse, charged me fifty dollars to replace a thirty cent fuse, and went on his way! Now that really made a bad day!!)

There is an example in Scripture

that offers some insight into turning around a bad day and bringing good out of it.

In Acts 16, the Bible records the account of two men, Paul and Silas, who were thrown in prison for doing the work of God: "After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. Upon receiving such orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks" (Acts 16:23-24, New International Version). Their circumstances were far more severe than my blown fuse and their response to what they faced was far better than mine.

Paul and Silas were having a bad day by anyone's definition. Interestingly, they dealt with it in a most unnatural way: "About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them" (verse 25). What a wonderful way to turn around a bad day.

Among the things that we can learn from this account is the power of refusing to allow circumstances, even unfair ones, to take away the joy that God puts in our hearts. A bad day can be turned around by acknowledging that God is worthy to be praised no matter what.



Out on a Limb . . . By BO McLeod

Thinking about the good old days, remember when "nomination in a Democratic Primary is tantamount to election"?

Remember when the candidates spent their time in rural areas, trying to get that good old county unit?

Now they do their politicking in the cities, when there's room for it, what with all the street demonstrations, pickets, and marches.

Well, it's been a dull show so far, maybe now we can get down to which party will control the state house, when we have one Democratic nominee to pit against Po' Bo.

And at once, let the winning candidates get out in shirt sleeves and Bermudy shorts, taking down the posters and signs placed there by the candidates who lost. This is not exactly the

way it should be done, in one way of looking at it, but the poor losers won't be wanting to see any cards and posters that failed, and it's cruel to expect them to go out and remove 'em.

To the winners belong the spoils, so let them get out and take the spoils down.

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Folks don't get upset much any more. So much happens so quickly, you get to where you can ho-hum anything.

Still, if you happen to look up and see green, red and blue clouds, within the next day or so, and just in case you should notice that it's a little different from the average-type cloud that you've become accustomed to, have no unusual fear. It's only our National Aeronautics and Space Administration having a little fun.

They'll be shooting barium-containing rockets up there, and the rockets will be releasing some chemicals that are expected to give colorful clouds as long as 1,000 miles.

Oh, they say they're doing it to test electrical disturbances and wind conditions, a way up yonder, but I can see through that. It's a chance to have a little fun, and I'm all for it.

However, I hope the thing doesn't catch on. I hope we can return to our old-timey clouds within a few days, with or without natural colors. Green, red and blue clouds are all right for a change, but only for a change and a rare one at that.

What with so much modern art, space age color charts and strange ideas of what is and ain't - yep, folks, I mean ain't - fashionable,

there is no telling what kind of sight we'll have to endure, if they start re-coloring the sky.

The old kind was good enough for the old folks. It's good enough for me.

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It doesn't take much to make Al Ronge impossible. He's that most of the time, and when he comes close to picking a score he's worse than ever. He said the Seminoles would beat Randolph by seven points, and they did, and Al is trying to take credit for it.

Well, I'm going to try to change his mind, since it's so rusty, so let's get on to the Headland outlook:

Watch those folks from Geo. Wallace country, Indians, Al says, they're tough, but you can beat 'em if you make 13 points and they make 7.

As a weekly celebration of the 2020 Seminole County Centennial Year, enjoy this selection of long time editor Bo McLeod's *Out on a Limb*, reprinted from the September 8, 1966 edition of the *Donalsonville News*

Church Briefs

Lake Seminole Baptist Church has resumed in person services Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Social distancing and masks encouraged. A blood drive is scheduled for Thursday, October 15 from 3:30-7:30 at the church. All donors will receive a free a OneBlood Halloween T-Shirt, a wellness checkup including COVID-19 antibody test, blood pressure, temperature, iron count, pulse and cholesterol screening. Mark your calendar and plan to come and join us!

Reynolds Chapel United Methodist Church news - Reynolds Chapel has resumed their Sunday morning worship service which begins at 10:30 a.m. Bible Study has also resumed on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Social distancing is being practiced as well as the wearing of masks. Pastor Jeff Spicer brought the message which focused on the truth that even as Christians, we will all experience a "time of darkness" in our lives. Yet God is the "Great Rewarder" and He can lead us into the light. Our job is to ask ourselves how we can become better Christians, inspire others, and glorify our God. The congregation was uplifted by a lovely duet with Pastor Jeff and his mother Annette Spicer. It was titled "Trust in Me." Please come join us in church. We look forward to worshipping with you. We are located at 2676 Burke Rd. Have a safe and blessed week.

A note from Seminole County Warpath on Cancer

I hope everyone is well and safe! This has been an unusual year for all of us. For SCWC we have not been able to do any type of fundraisers since we had our last one in February with the Father/Daughter dance. Which I must say, was a success.

We were not able to do the Bingo or do our biggest fundraiser with the t-shirt sales, which should be going on now. Steven Stewart is working on a gospel sing for us on October 24th; I hope each one can come out and support our local gospel singers and SCWC. Concessions will be provided. It will be at Chris Thomas' barn.

We do, however, continue to help cancer patients in Seminole County with gas, groceries, medical bills or electricity. Our organization has been very blessed with outside donations to be able to continue helping these patients.

If you would like to make a contribution to SCWC "in memory" or "in honor" of someone, please make your check payable to SCWC and mail to 200 West 10th Street, Donalsonville, GA 39845. We will send an acknowledgment to whomever you would like. Right now this is our "virtual" fundraiser.

Thank you all for your support since 2013. Here we are seven years later and still going strong. God has truly blessed our organization!

Submitted by Jan Taylor



Share with us

Your upcoming Special Services and Special Events

We reach more Seminole Countians than anyone else!
Submit your Church News to
news@donalsonvillemews.com
or call us at 229-524-2343

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Wanted

Concrete or resin basins, large concrete planters, large pots and bowls are wanted for a BetterWay Initiative landscaping project in downtown Donalsonville.



Anyone wishing to donate any of the above items, or make a monetary donation to go toward the purchase of above items, contact David Maxwell, BetterWay Initiative Chairman at david@donalsonvillemews.com or 229-524-2343

Donations can be made in memory of or in honor of someone special. The names of all donors and honorees will be listed as BetterWay patrons and displayed prominently location in the project area.



Join us as we Salute Seminole County's First Responders

In appreciation for their tireless dedication and service, the *Donalsonville News* will salute again this year each and every one of our very own First Responders in a September 24th Special Edition. Join us. Full, half, quarter and eighth page ad sizes are available for your special and personal message of thanks.

The edition's advertising sales deadline is September 17 at 5 p.m.