

The Nightmare after Christmas

By Dr. James L. Snyder

Technically, Christmas is over... all over our living room floor, that is. Piles of wrapping paper in this corner and empty boxes in that corner, and colorful ribbons from here to there, all evidence that Christmas must have been a success this year.

My wife and I have come through various phases when it comes to Christmas.

Phase one; we spent our first Christmas in our own little apartment. Married only six months, all we had was each other. I must confess this was the cheapest Christmas we ever had. All I had to do was buy one Christmas present for my new bride.

Phase two; it was not long until the sound of little feet pattering down the hallway changed our Christmas forever. We had approximately three children; I say approximately because they ate like a herd of elephants. I know, I had

to pay the grocery bill. But Christmas at that time was a wonderful event of excitement and surprises. So Christmas was now becoming a more expensive item in our family budget.

Phase three; is where we are at now. The children are all grown up and have children of their own. Now it is time for the grandchildren to come storming through the front door and be amazed by all of the gifts underneath the Christmas tree. It is almost like reliving your childhood.

I must say that I enjoyed each phase at the time. Each phase seemed to get better and better.

Those who opposed the Christmas season must not have enjoyed the Christmases such as my wife and I have enjoyed. Having wiggly, squiggly, and giggly grandchildren all over the living room floor opening up their gifts and making a mess is an experience no one

should miss.

As I was pondering our past Christmas, I thought about how much goes in preparing for Christmas. There is the shopping... the parties... the wrapping of presents. Reflecting on the past Christmas, it came to my mind that we often spend too much, eat too much and laugh too much on our way to Christmas day. So much is put into getting ready for Christmas that there is a great let down the day after Christmas.

There is no silence quite as loud as the silence that dominates the house the day following Christmas.

But I got to thinking. Santa Claus has the easiest job in the world. He does not have to stick around the day after Christmas. He does not have to worry if people like what they got for Christmas. Nor does he have to contend with returning gifts. I never know what to get anybody.

Christmas is not for fretting and worrying about if you got the right present for the right person. Rather, Christmas is to enjoy the experience of simply giving. Not so much what you give, as it is the act of giving itself.

It was God who set a standard for Christmas. The Bible tells us, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Setting back in my easy chair with my hot chocolate, I exchanged the nightmare for the satisfaction I felt in giving to people I loved.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, Ocala, FL 34483, where he lives with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com. Website is www.jamesnyderministries.com.

OBITUARIES

Sue Carol Gossage

Sue Carol Gossage, 77, Russell Springs, passed away Wednesday, December 29, 2021, at Russell County Hospital.



She was born October 10, 1944, in Greenwood, Indiana, daughter of the late Dorothy Watters Manuel. She enjoyed gardening, working in her flowers and her dogs. She loved spending time with her family.

She is survived by her life partner, Randy Coe, Russell Springs; sons, Kermit (Mitzi) Gossage, Jr. and Keith (Carolyn) Gossage, both of Russell Springs; daughters, Lesa Roberts, Arizona, Tiffany Reynolds, Chicago, and Kelly Gossage, Bowling Green; grandchildren, Amber (Kenny) Patton, Taylor Gossage, Caitelyn Gossage, Austin Gossage, Amanda (Kelly) Roberts-Deaton, Christopher (Susie) Roberts, Brittany (Manny) Rodriguez and Morgan Benavidez, and her great-grandchildren, Leila Roberts, Bryan Roberts, Jack Deaton, Elaine Rodriguez, Molly Rodriguez, Everly Roberts, Max Deaton, Todd Deaton, Karter Patton, Emma Patton and Ella Patton.

A graveside service was held 3:00 p.m., Friday, December 31, 2021, in Russell Springs City Cemetery, with Bro. Billy Silverman officiating. Pallbearers were Kevin Posey, Dustin Posey, Austin Gossage, Kermit Gossage, Jr., Keith Gossage and Josiah Silverman.

Bernard Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Russell County Church Directory

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." -Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)

- 3trees Church**
270-866-8811
270-250-7904
Russell Springs Location
3515 KY- West 80
- Campbellsville Location
1 Living Grace Drive
(First Wednesday of each month)
- Battlefield Baptist Church**
954 W. Steve Wariner Dr.
Russell Springs
- Beckham Ridge Separate Baptist Church**
Hwy 1729
- Bernard Ridge Church of God**
241 Stephens Ridge Rd.
Russell Springs
- Bethel United Baptist Church**
Decatur Road, Dunnville
- Bethel United Methodist Church**
Bethel Church Road
Jamestown
- Bethesda Community Fellowship**
3109 S. Hwy 127
Russell Springs
- Bethlehem Separate Baptist Church**
West Hwy 80
Russell Springs
- Cedar Springs United Baptist**
- Clearfork Baptist Church**
760 Clearfork Rd. Eli, KY
(270) 866-7683
- Clear Springs Missionary Baptist Church**
Est Hwy 619, Bernard Ridge,
Russell Springs
- Coffey's Chapel United Methodist Church**
Eli, KY

- Coffey's Friendship Separate Baptist**
Off S. Hwy 55 (1/2 mile on Coffey's Schoolhouse Rd)
- Coffey Grove Separate Baptist Church**
1330 Blankenship Road
Jamestown
- Concord Wesleyan Church**
6033 S Highway 1680
Jamestown
- Creelsboro Church of the Nazarene Creelsboro Christian Church**
4286 S. HWY 379
Jamestown
- Cross Creek Church**
1673 N. Main St. Jamestown
- Cumberland Baptist Church**
627 E. Cumberland Ave.
Jamestown
Bus Ministry Available:
(270) 343-3738
- Fairview Baptist Church**
E. Hwy. 80
- Fairview Separate Baptist Church**
4313 N Hwy. 55
Jamestown
Bro. Doug Baldwin, Pastor
- First Baptist Church of Russell Springs**
392 E. Hwy 80,
Russell Springs
Sunday
- Faith Temple Full Gospel Church**
West Hwy 80 (Royville)
- First Apostolic Church**
3563 E. Hwy 80
Russell Springs
- First United Methodist Church of Jamestown**
157 N. Main Street
Jamestown
Phone: (270)-343-4187

- Freedom Christian Church**
Sun. School 10 a.m.
Worship Service 10:45
Wed. Service 6:30 pm
Garrett Crawford, Pastor
Avery Gengelbach, Youth Minister
- Friendship Baptist**
E. Hwy 80
- French Valley United Methodist Church**
2272 Hwy 379
Russell Springs
- Good Tidings Baptist**
W. Hwy 76 – Russell/Adair line
- Grace Family Fellowship**
170 Stephens Ridge Rd.
Russell Springs
- Grace Independent Baptist**
Dowell Road
Russell Springs
Phone: (270)-866-2554
- Greater Hope Christian Fellowship**
N. Hwy 127 Russell Springs
- Grider's Chapel United Methodist Church**
3913 Highway 1058
Jamestown
- Hayes Chapel Church**
1353 W. Hwy 619
Russell Springs
- Holy Spirit Catholic Church**
406 N. Main Street
Jamestown
- Jamestown Christian Church**
65 S. Main St., Jamestown
- Jamestown Church of the Nazarene**
132 S. Main St., Jamestown

- Jamestown Community Church**
312 Monument Square
Jamestown
- Jamestown First Baptist Church**
165 W. Cumberland Ave.
Jamestown
- Jamestown Seventh-Day Adventist Church**
100 Freedom Church Road – Junc. 55 & 127 Jamestown
Phone: (270) 507-9434
- Liberty Baptist Church**
Wilson Street,
Russell Springs
- Main Street Church of God**
- Manntown United Methodist**
- Mt. Calvary Baptist Church**
Damron Creek Road
Russell Springs
- Mt Eden United Baptist Church**
Mt. Eden Road
- Mt Hope Separate Baptist Church**
Jamestown
- Mt. Olive Baptist Church**
Phone: (270) 585-9299
- Mt. Pleasant UMC**
3944 W Hwy 92
Russell Springs
Phone: (270) 343-2100
- Mt. Vernon Baptist Church**
S. Hwy 619, Jamestown
- New Victory Baptist Church**
460 Arles Hale Rd.
Russell Springs
- Oak Grove Separate Baptist Church**
Blair School House Road

- Old Liberty Community Church**
W. Hwy 92
Russell Springs
- Ono Community Church**
Hwy. 1611
- Pine Grove Separate Baptist Church**
Below Eli
- Pine Grove United Baptist Church**
Gosser Ridge Community
- Pine Top Church of Christ**
Pine Top Rd. Russell Springs
- Poplar Grove Baptist Church**
North 127
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**
250 French Valley Court
Russell Springs
Phone: (270) 866-4656
- Rockhouse Christian Church**
- Royville Friendship Church**
West Hwy 80
Russell Springs
- Russell Springs Christian Church**
Main & College St.
Russell Springs
- Russell Springs Church of the Nazarene**
1442 W. Steve Wariner Dr.
- Russell Springs Lighthouse Church**
86 Owenstown
Schoolhouse Rd.
Russell Springs
- Russell Springs United Baptist Church**
Junction 80&127
- Russell Springs United Methodist**
226 Jamestown St.
Russell Springs
Phone: (270) 866-5180

- Sano Baptist Church**
3005 Hwy 1729
Russell Springs
Phone: (270) 343-4378
- Sewellton Church of God of Prophecy**
253 Ballinger Road
Jamestown
- Solid Rock Church**
189 West Drive
Russell Springs
Phone: (270) 866-4097
- Springs of Free Life Church**
635 Main St.
Russell Springs
Phone: (270)-866-8748
- The Church of God**
P.O. Box 2121 – Hwy 1729
Russell Springs
- Union Baptist Church**
3525 Gosser Ridge Road
- Union Chapel United Methodist**
Pastor: Dennis Kiser
Phone: (270) 566-1596
999 Hwy 1058
Jamestown
Worship 9:30
Sunday School 10:30
Follow us on social media!
- Welfare Baptist Church**
Middletown, Hwy 127
- West 80 Church of God**
3733 W. Hwy 80
Russell Springs
- Whites Chapel Separate Baptist Church**
- Willow Oak Church of Christ**
Half-Acre Road
- Word of God Church**
240 Hopper Street
Phone: (270) 866-2696

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