

SUNLAN & The Light Bulb Lady

BEMYVALENTINEANDGIVEMESUNSHINE

I walk in to my house, turn on all the lights and still cannot make it bright enough to chase a way the winter blues. How come?

THE RIGHT LIGHT TO CHASE THE WINTER BLUES

Is a light that is very close to the light nature created Early man lived by light, sun up - go to work, Sundown-go to sleep. Today, we are expected to work before sunrise and after sunset we are home doing the family thing. We go from one dark cave to another.

Our lights let us see what we are doing but do not provide Sunlight Sulan has several sun like like lights in the play room to help Light up your life. **More next month...**

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RELIGION

The Value of Children



BY ETHEL J. BATES
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The very fabric of the values and ideology, that transfers into the meaning of safety and stability for our children has been unraveled.

According to Psalms 127:3-5 children are valuable. Too often children are seen as liabilities rather than assets. But the Bible calls children "a gift from the Lord." We can learn valuable lessons from their inquisitive minds and trusting spirits. Those who see children as a distraction or nuisance should instead see them as an opportunity to shape the future. We dare not treat children as an inconvenience when God values them so highly.

Apart from religious influence, the family is the most important unit of society. However, the family and the home can never exert their proper influence while ignoring the Biblical standard. The Bible calls for discipline and recognition of authority. If children do not learn this at home, they will go out into society without the proper attitude toward authority and law. There is always the exceptional child, but

most tell us that the child is largely what the home has made him. The only way to provide the right home for your children is to put the Lord over them and fully instruct them in the ways of the Lord. These include discipline, love, service, honesty, integrity and prayer. You are responsible for the home you provide for them.

"Train up a child in the way it should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it (Prov. 22:6)."

This proverb is a favorite in training to honor authority, obey and follow instruction. It discourages rebellion, stubbornness and disobedience. It exhorts parents to practice consistent discipline and corporal correction in rearing children, and to recognize that children are trained to obedience by these and not by "time-outs."

"My son, keep your father's commands and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them upon

your heart forever; fasten them around your neck, when you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you, for these commands are a lamp, this teaching is a light."

The very fabric of the values and ideology, that transfers into the meaning of safety and stability for our children has been unraveled, shaken, distorted and destroyed. Parents snipped the thread of family values by following the dictates of a government that abolished public prayer and stopped praying in the home. Our children are abused and misused by the very ones on whom they are dependent for their care and survival.

I want us to look primarily at the government of the United States of America because we were leaders in the world. We were leaders in military might, leaders in strong moral fiber, leaders in affluence and

leaders in sending the most missionaries out. We are still leaders. We are leaders in crime, leaders in drugs, leaders in teen pregnancies and leaders in illiteracy. We are leaders in pornography, leaders in abusing children and leaders in debt. We are also fast losing in our preeminence of sending forth missionaries. What on earth happened? We stopped praying!

Sin has affected the government, leaders and society in general. Deceit and dishonesty has ruined the family - the core of society. We must turn back and resurrect those teachings and principles that were handed down from our forefathers, the wisdom that shaped our own morals and character and the wisdom which defines the foundation for integrity in today's children and coming generations. Return!

"Come with fasting, weeping and mourning, don't tear your clothing in your grief, instead, tear your hearts. God is gracious and merciful. He is not easily angered. He is filled with kindness, and is not eager to punish you (Joel 2:12,13)."

Ethel J. Bates is a minister for the Allen Temple CME Church in Portland.

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Everyone's Welcome.....

Post-Holiday Slump in Food Donations

Union Gospel

Mission: Donations have declined

Like many charitable organizations, Union Gospel Mission experienced an increase of food donations over the holiday season. The food donations have since dropped

off in January.

"Right now, we're low on canned and boxed foods," said Gary Freeman, the Food Service Director and also a member of Union Gospel Mission's LifeChange recovery community.

Meals for the homeless and needy happen all year round, even though most donation activity oc-

curs during the holiday season.

Every weeknight, Union Gospel Mission serves between 40 and 100 dinners during an evening chapel service. Union Gospel Mission provides an average of 10 food boxes per week to needy individuals and families seeking an emergency temporary food source. Union Gospel Mission provides for all the meal needs of the LifeChange community—30 men and women who live and work at Union Gospel Mission for two to four years as they overcome addiction and build new lives.

"In a week we go through about 30 cans of corn, 20 cans of green beans, 50 cans of soups and chili and a variety of boxed foods to support the chapel service meals, food box distribution and LifeChange meals," Freeman said.

Those interested in donating may call Union Gospel Mission at 503-274-4483, or drop off donations at 15 NW Third Ave., between Burnside and Couch streets on the west side of the Burnside bridge. Online donations may be made at www.ugmportland.com

Obituaries

William Kinney Sr.

William Kinney Sr. died Jan. 13 at the age of 81.

Kinney, a native of Morrilton, Ark., lived in the Portland area for 51 years. He was a retired US Postal Service employee.

He attended Smith College, was a World War I army veteran and a member of the Lions Club and American Diabetes Association. Kinney attended the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Pauline Ross; his sons William Kinney Jr., Mark Timothy Kinney and Paul David Kinney; his daughters Hazel Joyce Kinney and Sharon Kinney; a daughter-in-law, Julie Kinney; 20 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Jan. 21 at Caldwell Colonial Chapel. Remembrances can be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Please send submissions for Obituaries attn. "Editor" to ads@portlandobserver.com

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| Andrus, Alexander Philip Turner 8-31-02 | Hampton, Alvin 3-8-02 | Pritchard, Gina 3-21-02 |
| Avritt, Logan 7-11-02 | Henry, Alma Jean 12-30-02 | Robinson, Edna 9-10-02 |
| Baker, Joan 10-30-02 | Hill, James C 1-9-02 | Roberts, Marguerite 9-2-02 |
| Belcher Sr., Paul 12-31-02 | Holloway, Jimmie 6-4-02 | Rodriguez, Arnold Aguilar 6-13-02 |
| Bell-James, Asia 11-20-02 | Holloway, Pamela 10-5-02 | Scott, Charlie 4-9-02 |
| Berg, Jorge 12-17-02 | Horton, Louise 7-29-02 | Sims, Darryl 12-22-02 |
| Blackson, James E. 11-13-02 | Howard, Willie 12-22-02 | Sims, James Lee 8-26-02 |
| Bower, Forrest 2-7-02 | Jackson, Velma 3-6-02 | Smith, A. Clarence 4-17-02 |
| Bradley, Cheryl 9-1-02 | Jacobs, Marla Betty Jean 9-16-02 | Smith-Beaty, Rhodda Trudy - 3-9-02 |
| Bright Jr., Franklin 8-26-02 | Johnson, Carol 1-5-02 | Smith, Jackie Lee 4-30-02 |
| Brown, Virginia 6-25-02 | Johnson, Debbie 1-11-02 | Steen, Mikal 9-9-02 |
| Bryant, Maggie 4-1-02 | Johnson, Ethel 12-20-02 | Thomas, Cressie 12-2-02 |
| Campbell, Fannie (10-28-02) | Kane, Sophie 2-20-02 | Thompson, Hewey 11-6-02 |
| Cannon, Rev. Eddie 7-6-02 | Landers, Joseph 4-18-02 | Thompson, Jerry Woop 1-30-02 |
| Carter, John 5-18-02 | Leinhard, Sharayah 8-11-02 | Towner, Clydie Mae 10-24-02 |
| Cole, Kimberly 8-5-02 | Lindley, Bennie 2-12-02 | Turner, Maggie 8-9-02 |
| Collins, Norman 7-1-02 | Livingston, Glen 3-29-02 | Waller, Belinda 10-25-02 |
| Crawford (Sr), Ronnie 12-8-02 | Marks Sr., Richard 2-20-02 | Weaver, Jerry 2-26-02 |
| Draughn, Alphonso 11-30-02 | McConnell, Jurial 11-10-02 | Williams, Gwen 10-17-02 |
| Gibson, Osceola 3-2-02 | McNack, Barbara 12-14-02 | Williams, John 10-21-02 |
| Goldsby, Albert 3-3-02 | Nichols, Anita 12-15-02 | Willis, Linda 11-16-02 |
| Gould, Vernice 4-17-02 | Nichols, Theodore 6-2-02 | Wilson, Anita 4-24-02 |
| Gultry, Billy 12-25-02 | Parr, Hattie 4-7-02 | Wilson, Anthony 3-21-02 |
| Hall, Howard Lee 1-9-02 | Pendergraph, Dannie 1-29-02 | Wright, Esaw 6-28-02 |

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