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# HENLY TODAY

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## A WORD FROM PASTOR DON: CATCHING A SECOND WIND

Strange the things that sometime come to mind. I have never been a runner. Consequently the thought of catching my “second wind” seems alien to my natural thought processes. I guess you could say, I am not wired that way. Or maybe I am?

I have a friend who runs. He does it for fun. He does it for relaxation. He does it because he says it is good for his health. That is also the reason he doesn't eat cookies or Bluebell ice cream.

Reportedly, “catching your second wind” is the flush of relief when your muscles finally get the oxygen they need. Increased oxygen utilization combined with a decrease in lactic acid production creates euphoria in the middle of a race.

As I write these words, I hear the movie theme song “Chariots of Fire” inside my head. The movie is a 1981 British film based on the true story of two athletes in the 1924 Olympics: Harold Abrahams, an English Jew who runs to overcome prejudice, and Eric Liddell, a devout Scottish Christian who runs for the glory of God.

Liddell, who won gold in the 400-meter race (against all odds, having trained for only 100 meters), said: “I believe that God made me for a purpose ... But He also made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure. To give up would be to hold Him in contempt. You were right. It's not just fun. To win is to honor Him.”

Since I don't run, I also have never “hit the wall” running. Isn't that what they call it when you experience a sudden fatigue and loss of energy caused by chemicals in the liver and muscles? Yet, I have hit the wall emotionally and spiritually.

One day recently, I felt emotionally and spiritually drained. I had hit the wall. Seeking the solace of nature, I went for a walk to talk with God. I don't remember what I said to God, and I don't really remember what He said to me. Maybe it was simply the gift of springtime, and God visually spoke to me through nature.

What I do remember is the sense of euphoria that filled my being with the message, “It is well with my soul.” Perhaps you, too, have had a day or two like that over the past six or seven weeks, while life figuratively has been in a holding pattern because of the Coronavirus pandemic.



Liddell, who was born in China and returned there as a missionary after the Olympics, is also credited with saying: “Circumstances may appear to wreck our lives and God's plans, but God is not helpless among the ruins. God's love is still working. He comes in and takes the calamity and uses it victoriously, working out His wonderful plan of love.”

I am hanging on to that message. I think it is the formula for catching my second wind.

Don

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**“Circumstances  
may appear to  
wreck our lives ...  
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still working.”**

## FAMILY FOCUS: CINDY MURCHISON

It was the Psalmist who said: “I will lift up my eyes unto the Hills, from whence cometh my help. “My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.”

For the past 15 years, Cindy Murchison has made that same discovery in the hills she calls home. In fact, she refers to the home she shared with Mike Farley, her husband, (until his untimely death two years ago) as Heaven on the Hill.

The ambience and tranquility in their part of the Texas Hill Country is found two miles down a caliche country road that opens up to something beyond a million-dollar view. In the serenity of that environment, the home Mike and Cindy shared resembled a sanctuary because God was in that place.

Cindy Murchison isn't a stranger to adversity. She is also a testimony to the abiding presence of Christ in the midst of the storm. Cindy's demeanor is one of hopefulness and joy because she takes seriously the promises of God. She knows from her own life experiences the proven dependability of God and His promises to never leave or forsake her.

One would never know from Cindy's countenance that she ever had a care in the world. She is a picture of poise and grace. She doesn't dwell on things that contribute to anxiety and stress. She simply gleans the life lessons, and quietly credits God for His support.

Cindy is a cancer survivor. She is also not a stranger to the pain that no parent ever wants to face: the death of a child. As a wife, she lovingly provided encouragement and support to see Mike through the many hurdles and difficulties associated to Parkinson's disease and the threat it posed.

Cindy enjoys close family ties. Her daughter and grandson moved from Denver to Dripping Springs to be closer to Cindy following Mike's death.

Cindy also maintains a close, loving and supportive relationship with Mike's children and grandchildren. They are a close-knit and loving family. Cindy is also very close to her sister and cousin, and they have traveled the world over in the past year.

In the early years of her life, Cindy knew the pain of a difficult childhood. Reportedly, she was very, very shy in those early years and didn't blossom into the articulate, relational and social coach that she has become until she was in her thirties.

Cindy worked as an event planner for 20 years – including a role as an event planner for Governor Ann Richards. It was at that time she met Mike Farley. He was the comptroller for Governor Richard's campaign. It was a love-at-first-sight experience for both of them. World travel was part of the event-planning curriculum, and she still loves the adventure.

For the past 20 years, Cindy has worked for the owner of the Oasis as his personal assistant. Mike worked as the CFO of the company. Consequently, for all those years, the two were privileged to not only work together but also share the minimum of two hours a day travel time in the car.

Henly Baptist Church has been blessed through this family. We treasure Mike's memory, and we benefit from Cindy's continued involvement.



**Henly Today** is a monthly publication of Henly Baptist Church. Pastor and Executive Editor: Don Forrester. Our mission is to report on and encourage participation in all church activities, share stories of our church family, and to support the fulfillment of our church's 100-year-plus mission "to be a spiritual lighthouse in the community through the practice of Christ's teachings, evangelism, outreach, and social and benevolent ministries." Please send your news, comments and address updates to: [HenlyToday@gmail.com](mailto:HenlyToday@gmail.com).

## HAVE YOU HAD A GOD WINK?

A “God Wink” is an event or personal experience, often identified as coincidence, that is so astonishing that it is seen as a sign of divine intervention, especially when perceived as an answer to prayer.

We think now is a great time to hear – and be inspired by – these experiences! Please share the story of a time in which the Lord has worked something out for you or a friend in which it was very clear to you that God’s hand was in it. This is a suggestion offered by a member of our own Henly family of faith. Please be assured that all information will be shared anonymously.

Send your God Wink recollections to [HenlyToday@gmail.com](mailto:HenlyToday@gmail.com). We can’t wait to hear from you!

## OUR LEGACY IN COLOR AND LIGHT

If ever there was a need for the gentle reminder that Christ stands with us in the midst of life’s difficulties, it is now. Matthew writes that Jesus rebuked the winds and the waves and it was completely calm. His disciples were amazed and asked, “What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!”

Overwhelmed by fear, the disciples had awakened Jesus. They cried out, “Lord, save us! We’re going to drown.” He replied to them, “You of little faith, why are you so afraid?” He then calmed the wind and the sea.”

Many of us have not been strangers to the concept of fear over the past several weeks. Perhaps fear of the unknown continues to be a source of anxiety. Will tomorrow ever seem as good as before schools were closed, companies shut down, churches closed and fear of contagion painted us into a corner that left us with a stay-in-place mandate and mindset?

The stained glass window of Christ Calming The Storm was presented to Henly Baptist Church by Alan and Janetta Kleier in honor of their parents, Henry and Florence Kleier and E.L. and Opal Topper. Janetta is Treva’s sister.

Janetta said of her parents, the Toppers, “My siblings and I were blessed with parents who loved their children, each other and our God. We had a simple life, but our parents worked hard to provide for our needs. We were raised going to church twice on Sunday and every Wednesday night. Most of our friends were the kids at church and our extended family included their parents.”

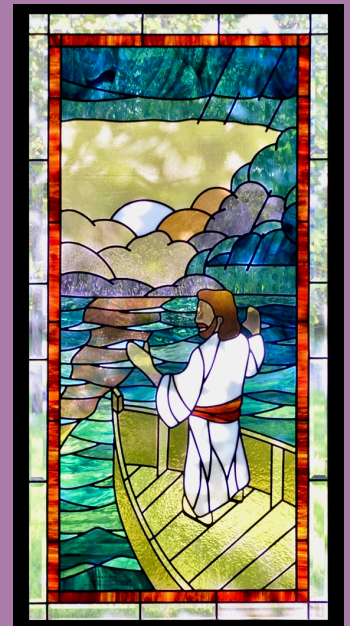
“After seven years as a single parent I asked God to send me a husband as much like my Daddy as possible. Soon, I met Alan and quickly knew he was sent by God. Although we were raised miles apart, our parents were so much alike.”

Alan adds, “As Janetta said, we were raised differently, yet similarly. I was raised in a Catholic family and educational background. Church on Sunday, church every day before school and confession on Saturday. Raised to know that Jesus died for us, forgave our sins and that our future is ours to choose.”

Of their dads, Alan said, “The stained glass honors our fathers’ Navy service, but it also depicts God’s plan for us – life where we look forward to new challenges each day.

Although God never promised us a life without storms, with God’s help we can achieve what our lives were meant to accomplish. We look toward the future and admire God’s beauty and His world around us.”

- Don Forrester



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## Connecting Through Zoom

**10am Sundays** - Sunday School: The Book of John

**7pm Wednesdays** - Men's Bible Study: *Ten Men of the Bible* by Max Lucado

**7pm Thursdays** - Family of Faith Connection: A time just to visit. We are calling it Happy Hour because face-to-face shared time is indeed happy.

If interested, contact Don Forrester at [HenlyToday@gmail.com](mailto:HenlyToday@gmail.com) or (202) 770-9490.

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## Because You Asked

Folks have asked where to mail their tithes and offerings. They may be mailed directly to Evelyn DeMoss, Church Treasurer, at 17651 Panorama Drive, Dripping Springs, TX 78620 or to Henly Baptist Church at 200 Henly Loop, Dripping Springs, TX 78620. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Henly Baptist Church  
200 Henly Loop  
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