



First Christian Church, Jenks, Oklahoma

Volume 9 Issue 7

Weekly Newsletter

February 28, 2010

The Daffodil Principle

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Several times my daughter had telephoned to say, "Mother, you must come see the daffodils before they are over."

I wanted to go, but it was a two-hour drive from Laguna to Lake Arrowhead. "I will come next Tuesday," I promised, a little reluctantly, on her third call.

Next Tuesday dawned cold and rainy. Still, I had promised, and so I drove there. When I finally walked into Carolyn's house and hugged and greeted my grandchildren I said,

"Forget the daffodils, Carolyn! The road is invisible in the clouds and fog, and there is nothing in the world except you and these children that I want to see bad enough to drive another inch!" My daughter smiled calmly,

"We drive in this all the time, Mother."

"Well, you won't get me back on the road until it clears - and then I'm heading for home!" I assured her. "I was hoping you'd take me over to the garage to pick up my car." "How far will we have to drive?" "Just a few blocks," Carolyn said,

"I'll drive. I'm used to this." After several minutes I had to ask, "Where are we going? This isn't the way to the garage!" "We're going to my garage the long way," Carolyn smiled, "by way of the daffodils."

"Carolyn," I said sternly, "please turn around."

"It's all right, Mother. I promise you will never forgive yourself if you miss this experience."

After about twenty minutes, we turned onto a small gravel road and I saw a small church. On the far side of the church, I saw a hand-lettered sign "Daffodil Garden."

We got out of the car and each took a child's hand, and I followed Carolyn down the path. Then we turned a corner of the path, and I looked up and

gasped. Before me lay the most glorious sight. It looked as though someone had taken a great vat of gold and poured it down over the mountain peak and slopes. The flowers were planted in majestic, swirling patterns, great ribbons and swaths of deep orange, white, lemon- yellow, salmon-pink, saffron, and butter-yellow. Each different-colored variety was planted as a group so that it swirled and flowed like its own river with its own unique hue.

Five acres of flowers.

"But who has done this?" I asked Carolyn.

"It's just one woman," Carolyn answered.

"She lives on the property. That's her home."

Carolyn pointed to a well-kept A-frame house that looked small and modest in the midst of all that glory. We walked up to the house. On the patio we saw a poster: "Answers to the Questions I Know You Are Asking" was the headline.

The first answer was a simple one: "50,000 bulbs," it read. The second answer was, "One at a time, by one woman. "Two hands, two feet, and very little brain." The third answer was, "Began in 1958."

There it was.-The Daffodil Principle.

For me that moment was a life-changing experience. I thought of this woman whom I had never met, who, more than thirty-five years before, had begun-one bulb at a time-to bring her vision of beauty and joy to an obscure mountaintop.

Still, just planting one bulb at a time, year after year, had changed the world.

This unknown woman had forever changed the world in which she lived. She had created something of ineffable magnificence, beauty, and inspiration.

Continued on Page 2

PRAYER REQUEST

Prayer Requests - Adam Lindsey arrived in Kuwait and is now in Mosul, Iraq, prayers for his safe mission and return to his family; Lee McDaniel during her transition time; Laura Rongey as she looks for a better paying job; peace and comfort for Cam Lindsey's 99 year-old granny and family this week; Tim Parson as he travels to Houston for heart biopsy; Harry's roommate at Grace Living Center as he recovers from heart attack; Holley's friend Alicia who has taken emergency custody of 3 younger brothers; Martha's co-worker who has breast cancer and that co-worker's grandmother who also has cancer; prayers for Barrie's aunt's family since her passing.

Continued Prayers - Cam's business associates as they deal with their children's health concerns; Billie Avey as she continues chemo treatments and Harry Avey as he finishes his rehab in Grace Living Center; Dee as she continues to recover from back surgery; Pam Newburn's friend, Laura Lange as she deals with her breast cancer; Ann Black as she deals with health concerns; elder relative of the Newburns, Margaret, who deals with getting a pace maker.

Ongoing Concerns - Grandma Jerry; Martha's brother Rick & his wife Mary Jane; Charlie Lyons' friend's dad, Les; the unemployed; Georgia's sister Jeanne; Shannon Taylor, Connie Ginn, Jenifer Nixon; Connie Ginn's sons; Melody Terry's niece; and Melody Terry as she recovers from broken foot; Lynette Sweet.

Joys - Our Master's Voice will be performing at Grace Living Center next Sunday (2-28) at 3:00.

Adam Lindsey

Feel free to correspond with Adam Lindsey while he is in Iraq at the following address:

Adam Lindsey
GCO RFS 278 ACR
Mosul - Marez - Iraq
APO AE 09334

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies Bible Study on Sunday at 5:00 in the Church Parlor. We will continue in our book "A Year of Living Biblically". I look forward to seeing everyone, Melissa



Serving Schedule

(February 28)

Elder- Bob Ginn

Deacons- Martha Rongey, Beverly Utter, Joe Steinberg

Greeters- Chris Harrison

Lay Leader- Bruce Lyons

Scripture Reader- Barrie Bohnwagner

WOW- Chris and Pam Harrison

Acolytes- Ashley Hengst, James Hengst

Sponsor-Pam Harrison

Cont. from page 1

The principle her daffodil garden taught is one of the greatest principles of celebration: learning to move toward our goals and desires one step at a time often just one baby-step at a time learning to love the doing learning to use the accumulation of time

When we multiply tiny pieces of time with small increments of daily effort, we too will find we can accomplish magnificent things. We can change the world.

"It makes me sad in a way," I admitted to Carolyn.

"What might I have accomplished if I had thought of a wonderful goal thirty-five years ago and had worked away at it one bulb at a time through all those years. Just think what I might have been able to achieve!"

My daughter summed up the message of the day in her direct way.

"Start now," she said.

UNKNOWN AUTHOR

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Sunday Activities:

9:45 AM Sunday School
10:45 AM Morning Worship

Monthly Events:

Gospel Music Night first Saturday of
every month at 7 PM
2nd and 4th Wednesday Prayer Group
6:30 PM

Visit us on the web:

www.fccjenksok.com



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