

Independent Assemblies

May 2008 Newsletter



*“Honor ... your
mother, as
the LORD
your God
has
commanded
you”*

Deuteronomy 5:16

Whereas our Lord Jesus has said, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature,” we, the members and churches of the Independent Assemblies, do associate ourselves together, and pledge ourselves to fulfill this command by giving ourselves to the service of our Lord through the operation of the Spirit, and submitting to His direction, we shall minister the “Good News” of Christ through every avenue made available unto us by God. And our lives shall be spent in this purpose and Holy calling that our Lord may be glorified on that Day that He shall gather His people unto Himself. We are not a denomination, nor do we have any desire to become one. We are simply a Fellowship of Ministers and Churches brought together by God’s Love and our common beliefs.

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Email: mickey.keith@gmail.com

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P.O. Box 2248, Claremore, OK 74017 - 918/341-8344 - Fax:
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***Robert O. Johnson, Director of World
Missions***

910 North 9th, Blackwell, OK 74631 - 580/363-2734 - Fax:
580/363-1042
Call (Toll free) 1-877-898-3171 - Email:
roj@clarionmissions.org

Jerry Edmon, Board Member

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webmaster@independentassemblies.org

Please send all Credentials Applications, Church & Ministry Applications to the President's Office. Send all Renewal Fees, Offerings, Missions Funds, etc., Newsletter Articles and Address Corrections to the Secretary/Treasurer's Office.
Annual Credentials Fees: Exhorter- \$50.00, License- \$65.00, Ordination- \$75.00
Reinstatement Fee: \$10.00
Annual Church Fees: Fellowship Churches- \$50.00, Member Churches - \$100.00
Annual Ministry Fees: (Not-for-Profit)\$100.00

2008 Interstate Meetings & Events

**May 12 - CALVARY TEMPLE - Edmond OK. 1801 S. Kelly,
(405)348-2334
Pastor, Rev. Dale Drain**

**June 9 - GROVE CHRISTIAN CENTER
Grove, OK 918/786-4497 Pastor David Knox**

**July 14-16 - I. A. MINISTERS CONFERENCE
Bricktown Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK**

**August 11- FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH
Whitefield, OK - 918/967-2554
Pastor, Rev. Bill Fitzer**

**September 8 - CAPITOL HILL FULL GOSPEL
Moore, OK - 405/793-7727
Pastor, Rev. Jim Robertson,**

**September 11 & 12 - IA Golf Scramble
Purcell, OK - Call Ken 405/527-6030**

**October 13-15
FALL MISSIONS CONFERENCE
THE TABERNACLE -Blackwell, OK
580/363-2734 or 363-4210
Pastor, Dr. Robert Johnson**

**November 10-12 - AVANT HOUSE OF PRAYER - Avant, OK -,
918/263-2955
Pastor, Rev. M.E. Anthony, Jr.**

December 8 -MENDING HEARTS CHURCH

Newalla OK - 405-386-4351
Pastor, Rev. David Tompkins

Ordination services are held at the April, and September Meetings and the Annual Ministers Conference.

Southeast Okla. District

Rev. Billy Hunter, District Rep.
Antlers, OK, 580/298-2740
email: cffantlers@yahoo.com

Southwest Okla. District:

Rev. Donnie Miller, District Rep.
Cyril, OK 580/464-2224 or 512-3657
email: revd@tds.net

Northeast Okla. District

Rev. Mac Blackwell, District Rep.
Locust Grove, Ok - 918/479-6057
email: mblackwell@sstelco.com

North Central Texas District

Rev. Daniel Sue, Regional Rep.
Kemp TX, 903/498-4704
Cell 214/205-8647
email: sued7@ednet10.net

May 19 - Malachi Ministries, 507 North I-35E, Waxahachie, TX,
972-923-9203
Pastors Diana & Phillip Downs

June 23 - Radiant Life Church,
1910 Southeast 14th St.
Grand Prairie, TX 75051 - 972/262-7887,
Pastor Jim Snyder

Aug 18 - New Life Ministries, 101 S. Main St., - Red Oak, TX -
972-617-1135
Pastor Mark Lowrey

Sept. 23 - Unassigned

Oct 20 - Abundant Harvest, 1008 Mill Run
Road, Athens, TX
903-675-1223 or 903-681-0262
Pastor Marc Jones

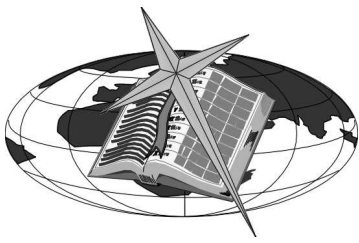
Nov 17 - Yearly Pastors Planning Meeting

South Central Texas District

Regional Rep. - Rev. JERRY EDMON
512/281-5316 - Fax 512/281-5956
email- Jedmon1234@aol.com

Midwest Regional District

Regional Rep. - Rev. MARK MAYNARD
618/931-4106
email: For-markm@juno.com



Arkansas District

Rev. Charles Kendrick, District Rep.
Alexander, AR. 501/303-0831

Special Dates for 2008

May 5-11 Christian Family Week

May 11 - Pentecost

May 11 - Mother's Day

May 18 - Trinity Sunday

May 26 - Memorial Day

June 14, Flag Day

June 15, Father's Day

June 20, First Day of Summer

June 2008 Interstate Meeting

Grove Christian Center, Grove Oklahoma will be hosting the IA fellowship meeting Monday, June 9th starting at 2:30 pm. The afternoon speakers will be Craig Rogers, of Harrison, Arkansas and Leland Mooney, Grove Oklahoma. We will serve dinner at 5:30 to all the guests. The 7:00pm speaker will be Pastor Charles Clevenger, Tri-State Faith Center, Cardin, Oklahoma. We look forward to seeing you in Grove to experience a time of refreshing in His Presence. Pastors David and Rhonda Knox welcome the members of IA to our home!!

We are located on the corner of Hwy 10 east and Shundi Road. Our phone number is 918-786-4497 or e-mail: gchristiancenter@sbcglobal.net

Go to our website for hotel listings,
www.grovechristiancenter.org

North Central Texas District

Pastors Diane & Phillip Downs invites everyone to the May meeting of the North Central Texas District on Monday, May 19th hosted by Malachi Ministries, Waxahchie, TX. The meeting will be held at 7:00 pm located at 507 N. I-35E. Call for more information 972/923-9203

**Don't Miss Our
9th Annual Ministers' Conference**

Registration is now beginning for our July Ministers' Conference . This year it will be held at the beautiful Bricktown Hotel & Convention Center in Okla. City. The date will be Monday - Wednesday, July 14-16. Our keynote speaker will be Pastor Bob Rodgers, Louisville KY.

Dr. Ted Estes is our conference coordinator again this year. Contact him at 918/341-8344, email: pastorted@lifechangerchurch.com

Display space is available for ministries, missionaries, and vendors. Contact Jan Calvert. 405/503-9369, email: jcb@coxinet.net

The brochures were mailed several weeks ago. If you did not receive yours or need a few more, contact Ken Anderson, (see back of newsletter). Please use the registration form in the brochure and register as soon as possible. We are looking forward to seeing you again in Okla. City this year.

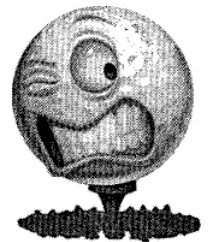
Materialism - Acquiring More ---- William Randolph Hearst was a very wealthy newspaper publisher who had an incredible collection of art. The Hearst mansion in northern California is a testament to his insatiable desire for artistic treasures. On one occasion he learned of some artwork he was determined to obtain. He sent his agent abroad to search for the treasure. After months of investigating, the agent reported that the treasure had been found. To further sweeten the find, Hearst learned that the relic wouldn't cost him a dime. He already owned it. The rediscovered piece was in Hearst's warehouse with many other treasures that had likewise never been uncrated. The desire for acquiring more can sometimes blind us from what we already possess.

* Illustrations for Biblical Preaching, Michael Green, editor, 1989, p. 394

2008 2-man Golf Scramble



The Golf Scramble that was planned for May 8 & 9 was rescheduled for September 11 & 12, 2008 due to a major reconstruction of a petroleum refinery in southern Oklahoma. Out of state workers have booked up the motels in the area through the month of May, making it impossible to reserved the rooms needed for our event. Contact Ken Anderson for more information. If you are a golfer interested in email updates, send me your email address.



Remember to remember

One Memorial Day, some children were asked what the holiday meant to them.

"That's the day the swimming pool opens!" answered one eager boy. What he didn't realize or appreciate was that he can freely go to the pool because more than one million people have put their lives on the line to preserve America's democracy. Many of them have died so citizens of other countries might also enjoy the privileges of political, social and economic freedom.

Memorial Day is our opportunity to pause and remember the sacrifices of many of America's best citizens. They made the supreme sacrifice on our behalf, so please remember to honor these heroes on May 26.



Make plans for Summer Camp 2008

Camp Fire is an exciting, life changing experience for Jr. and Sr. high students. It will be June 9 - 12 at Camp Bond in Tishomingo. Cost is only \$125 per camper and includes all lodging and food. Guest speaker is Elijah Tindall and worship will be led by Nathan Isaacs and The Riders. Camp director is Drew Isaacs and the camp is sponsored by Grace Community Church in Konawa, OK. We currently have many churches from OK, TX, and Arizona coming.

For more info call - 580-925-3545 and talk to Pastor Drew or Nathan.

*Never a trial that He is not there,
Never a burden that He doth not bear;
Never a sorrow that He doth not share -
Moment by moment I'm under His care.*

California School Head Assures Homeschoolers "No Policy Change"

"The California Department of Education policy will not change in any way as a result of this ruling. Parents still have the right to homeschool in this state," Supt. Jack O'Connell has stated.

After the Court of Appeal for the Second Appellate District in Los Angeles ruled on February 28 that parents had to be credentialed teachers to educate their own children—effectively making most of the state's estimated 166,000 home schools illegal – the statement from O'Connell is encouraging now for the homeschool community, said Michael Farris, chairman of the Home School

Legal Defense Association (HSLDA).

"But the court decision must still be overturned before homeschool freedom can be restored in California."

The Court of Appeal ruling shocked the homeschool community because in one sweeping decision it effectively outlawed homeschooling. "We hope the statement from O'Connell puts the brakes on any enforcement action," said Farris.

HSLDA will be pursuing several legal options, including seeking review by the California Supreme Court and petitioning the same court to depublish the opinion in order to return California to being a state where a family can legally homeschool without fear. "We have just started the legal battle to restore homeschool freedom in California," Farris said.

Already a resolution has been introduced in the State Assembly condemning the court's opinion and asking the State Supreme Court to "depublish" it.

While the legal opinion resulted from a case involving 2 children in one family in one court's jurisdiction, it potentially could become a recognized precedent far beyond that district and even beyond state borders.

Harris also said plans are being laid for a national campaign pushing a constitutional amendment on parental rights.

-----Information drawn from HSLDA Weekly Updates

Do Churches Still Have Constitutional Rights?

Daniel Sue called our attention to a website that all Christians should seriously check out. He says, "I believe that we need to get involved for our rights as leaders to our churches and ministries by speaking up and not letting Senators take our rights away."
<http://www.believersstandunited.com/>

Senator Grassley of Iowa has asked six Pentecostal-Charismatic ministries to turn over to him a broad range of private church documents and information. In the case of one of the ministries, he has also asked for a list of the names and addresses of every minister whom the Church has paid to speak or perform music at the Church since 2004. The Senator has given no meaningful assurances that the information he receives will be kept from public disclosure. So what is really going on? What is the Senator up to? Why are some of the churches resistant to this? Why does this represent a threat to freedom of religion in America? What does this mean for the future of the church? – Take some time now to contact your senator.

A Mother's Day Sermon

By Frank Pressly

“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ‘Honor your father and mother,’ which is the first commandment with a promise, ‘that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.’ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord” (Eph. 6:1-4).

It has seemed to me appropriate that for Mother’s Day we should take the Fifth Commandment as the basis of our thought.

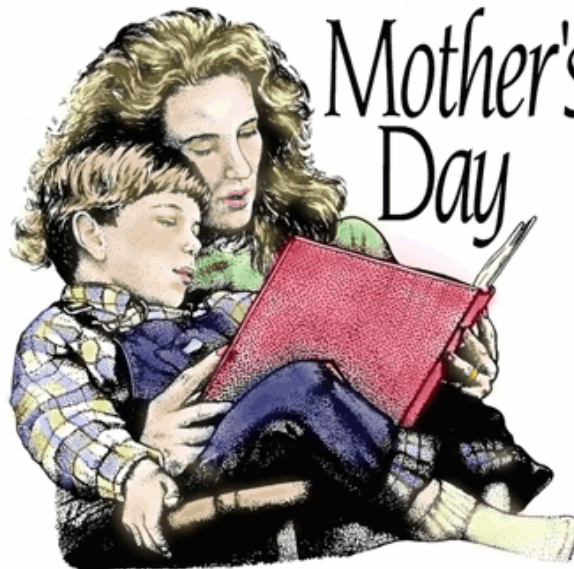
This is not in any way to detract from the centrality of the mother in the home. Neither am I endeavoring to bring the father in for a share of the tribute and honor which should rightly go to the mother on this day.

I turn to this commandment because in it is embodied the very basis and essential significance of Mother’s Day.

From the beginning, the church and the people of God have paid tribute to the high and noble estate of motherhood. Even while our first parents were still in the Garden of Eden, recognition of this was made. Adam named his wife “Eve” because, as he said, “She is the mother of all living.” Immediately after their expulsion from the garden, it was prophesied, “The seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent’s head.”

Someone has said, “When you tell the story of any great man, you must begin with his mother.” The love and influence of the mother is the central and supreme influence of the home. A Chinese proverb expresses this most clearly. It goes something like this: “When a child goes away from home, he carries his mother’s hand with him.”

It is doubly significant that the one who was chosen to influence our Lord most in earthly life was the one who was with Him all the way from the cradle to the grave. During His boyhood and youth, He was subject to her as well as to Joseph. What greater tribute could be paid to the dignity and motherhood than this?



significant that chosen to Lord most in earthly life was alone was the with Him all the cradle to During His youth, He was as well as to greater tribute the dignity and motherhood

In the Fifth Commandment: “Honor thy father and thy mother,” we would not be wrong if for emphasis on this day, we would say, “Honor thy mother.” This commandment stands

at the head of the second table of the Law. It is the first and fundamental statute in our duty to man. Here, we have laid down for us the very warp and woof of society in general and of Christian society in specific.

Without Christian homes, there cannot really be a Christian church. Without dedicated, consecrated Christian mothers, there cannot really be Christian homes. The Christian religion is a religion of the home. The home was the place God chose where His Son could be raised. He chose the nurture and instruction and discipline of the home as the place where His Son should grow and develop into perfect manhood. He didn't choose the Temple or some institution. He chose the home.

In Christianity, there is no substitute for the home. Neither the government, nor society can take its place. Parental authority, parental honor, and parental love must be guarded and kept at all cost. The tragedy of our day is not that we don't have good children. We have the finest, most promising children of any generation. They are way ahead of us in so many respects. Neither is the tragedy of our day in the fact that we don't have good institutions. We have some of the finest, best-equipped institutions that the world has ever known.

The tragedy of our day is in this: That the sanctity, authority, and love of the home have been violated in so many areas. All too often the home has become peripheral and not central in the life and training of our children. If we would seek knowledge and love and happiness for ourselves and for our children, then the place to begin is in our homes and in our families.

This commandment is a command to children.: "Honor thy father and thy mother." This is not an arbitrary command. It is the most natural, reasonable necessity of society. It is as it should be. If any man or woman has a right to our honor, it is our parents. Think of the love and care which they have given us through all our infant days. Think of the expense and time and effort which they so generously gave. This is especially true of mothers. In time of sickness or injury, she would drop all else that we might be cared for.

Not only is it the parents' right to receive honor, this is best for the child. It is remarkable that of all of creation, the most helpless and dependent creature is the human infant. We have ordered day-old chicks and were amazed to see how completely their instincts were developed to eat, drink, scratch and care for themselves. But for us humans, it takes months, even years, before we can do one thing for ourselves.

All of this is in order that the child might have the love and discipline of the home, and so be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The real purpose of the Fifth Commandment is not to safeguard the honor of parents; it is

rather for the sake of children. Children are happier and safer if they obey and honor their parents.

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right. Honor thy father and mother which is the first commandment with promise."

A famous child specialist has recently written: "When it comes to a serious illness, the child who has been taught to obey stands four times the chance of recovery than the undisciplined child who will not obey." I know there are those in every crowd who think their parents are old fogies. They think of them as impossible squares.

One mother overheard two children talking. One said, "What in the world can we do about our parents?" The other said, "There's really nothing we can do. By the time we get them, they are so old and set in their ways, you can't change them!"

Well, let's not try to change them. Let's honor them. And today, and every day, remember to honor them. So today and every day, let's pay special tribute to mother.

(Editor's note: This Mother's Day sermon was recently found tucked inside a folder with Frank Pressly's name written on the outside. Pressly served as a missionary for the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Pakistan for 24 years, with his wife, Sarah Hunter Pressly, by his side, until Pressly's ill health forced them to return home in 1971. He died in 1972.

PulpitHelps - May 2008

How to have a successful nervous breakdown

by John Eldred Smith

Three times the prophet Elijah was fed by divine supply. He rebuked kings and raised the dead. He prayed down rain and fire. And yet, after all these signs and wonders, it is Elijah that shows us how to have a successful nervous breakdown. The story is found in I Kings, chapter nineteen. In the previous chapter, Elijah contested with the prophets of Baal. Afterwards he had them slain. Because of this, the 19th chapter begins with Jezebel threatening the life of Elijah. Elijah was intimidated.

(1) The first thing you must do to have a successful nervous breakdown is to feel threatened. Magnify the problem. Make a mountain out of a mole hill (verses 2 and 3 Amplified Bible). "Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not your life as the life of one of them (the slain prophets of Baal) by this time tomorrow. Then Elijah was afraid and arose and went for his life and came to Beersheba of Judah [over eighty miles, and out of Jezebel's realm] and left his servant there."

(2) Next, run from the problem. Want to be alone. Change churches; change jobs; change cities. Move to another State (verses 3 and 4). Forsake the assembling of the saints. (You know that if one can put 1,000 to flight, two can route

10,000). "But he himself went a days journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a lone broom or juniper tree and asked that he might die."

(3) Feel sorry for yourself (verse 4). Sing the blues. Nobody loves me – nobody seems to care. It's hopeless. "He said, It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am no better than my fathers."

(4) Become inactive. Become a couch potato. Stay in bed. Develop the blahs. You must have no vision, no goals, no destiny. Be negative, constantly down-hearted (verses 5 and 6). As he lay asleep under the broom or juniper tree, behold, an angel touched him and said to him, Arise and eat. He looked, and behold, there was a cake baked on the coals, and a bottle of water at his head. And he ate and drank and lay down again."

(5) Get scared. Blame others (verses 10, 14). Don't be renewed in the spirit of your mind. Don't bring every thought captive and subject to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. Every weapon formed against you shall prosper. Woe is me. "He replied, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken Your covenant, thrown down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. And I, I only am left; and they seek my life to take it away." There you have it. Follow the example of Elijah and you are guaranteed to have a successful nervous breakdown. Hallelujah!

(John and Iris Smith are the pastors of The Sanctuary Church in
Lexington, Ok.)

We Welcome These New Members

Troy Netherton - Fairbury, IL
James Chatman, Sr. - Forest Park, IL
Samuel D. Bristow - Athens, TX
Steven White - Blackwell, OK
Clydene Williams - Perry, OK
Lon D. May - Leavenworth, KS
Hank L. Rogers - Athens, TX
Jeffery Q. Williams - Miami, OK
Geoffrey Paul Taylor Buffalo - Miami, OK
Travis W. Wofford - Claremore, OK
**Higher Ground Church & Ministries, Inc. - Pauls
Valley, OK**
Lifeway Church - Norman, OK
Freedom To Soar Ministries - Cyril, OK



Brother Joe G. Jernigan

has pastored in Shamrock, Texas, for 31 years. He is currently pastoring Calvary Christian Fellowship, which is the church that he and his wife, D'Anna, founded. He is also Official Chaplain of the Sunday Social' on XM Satellite Radio channel 171, hosted by Bill Mack, also a Shamrock, Texas, native and a personal close friend of Brother Joe.

Brother Joe currently has five (5) CD's available. You can see them on his website: www.joegeorgemusic.net He ministers to many truckers and their families, as well as pastoring a growing church. He has been a member of

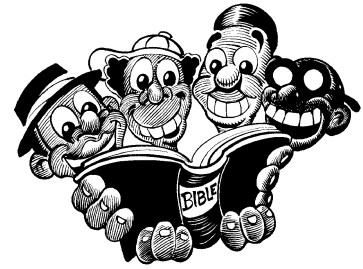
Independent Assemblies for the past two years. He can be reached at Calvary Christian Fellowship phone: 806-256-3090 Or write him at P. O. Box 686, Shamrock, Texas 79079.

Congratulations to Pastor Gary and Sharon Brown



They have moved their church, Praise Fellowship in Sapulpa, Ok to a new location. They are remodeling and restoring an old historical building in downtown Sapulpa. This is a huge building with a full gym in the basement, a prayer tower, lots of rooms and beautiful stained glass. The plan is to reach out to hurting people and

this building has that potential. Prayers are very much needed and appreciated. This is the former First Assembly of God at 201 S. Water, Sapulpa, OK 74066. (See the picture of the building in the email issue) If you live in the area and are looking for a good home church, check them out. Their phone number is 918/227-5034 email: sharon@terrygartside.com



Murphey's Laws Of Computing

1. When computing, whatever happens, behave as though you meant it to happen.
2. When you get to the point where you really understand your computer, it's probably obsolete.
3. The first place to look for information is in the section of the manual where you least expect to find it.
4. When the going gets tough, upgrade.
5. For every action, there is an equal and opposite malfunction.
6. To err is human . . . to blame your computer for your mistakes is even more human, it is downright natural.
7. He who laughs last probably made a back-up.
8. If at first you do not succeed, blame your computer.
9. A complex system that does not work is invariably found to have evolved from a simpler system that worked perfectly.
10. The number one cause of computer problems is computer solutions.

*“A Merry Heart
Doeth Good
Like A
Medicine”*

PROVERBS 17:22

A man was taken to court for stealing an item from a store. The man said to the judge, "Your Honor, I'm a Christian. I've become a



new man. But I have an old nature also. It was not my new man who did wrong. It was my old man." — The judge responded, "Since it was the old man that broke the law, we'll sentence him to 60 days in jail. And since the new man was an accomplice in the theft, we'll give him 30 days, too. I therefore sentence you both to 90 days in jail."

Two attorneys went into a diner and ordered two drinks. Then they produced sandwiches from their briefcases and started to eat. The owner became quite concerned and marched over and told them, "You can't eat your own sandwiches in here!" — The attorneys looked at each other, shrugged their shoulders and then exchanged sandwiches.

What do a hurricane, a tornado, a fire and a divorce have in common?
They are four ways you can lose your house!

After watching the movie Cinderella, five-year-old Sarah started using her pinwheel as a magic wand, pretending she was a fairy godmother. "Make three wishes," she told her mother, "and I'll grant them." — Her mom first asked for world peace. Sarah swung her wand and proclaimed the request fulfilled. — Next, her mother requested for a cure for all ill children. Again, with a sweep of the pinwheel, Sarah obliged. — The mother, with a glance down at her rather ample curves, made her third wish, "I wish to have a trim figure again." — The miniature fairy godmother started waving her wand madly. — "I'll need more power for this!" she exclaimed.

"I want my children to have all the things I never could afford - then I want to move in with them."

Reverend Boudreaux was the part-time pastor of the local Cajun Baptist Church, and Pastor Thibodaux was the minister of the Covenant Church across the road. They were both standing by the road, pounding a sign into the ground, that read:

'Da End is Near! Turn You self Around Now! Before It's Too Late!'

— As a car sped past them, the driver leaned out his window and yelled, — 'You religious nuts!' From the curve they heard screeching tires and a big splash... Boudreaux turns to Thibodaux and asks, 'Do ya tink maybe da sign should jus say 'Bridge Out'?'

Three weeks after her wedding day, Joanna called her minister. "Reverend," she wailed, "John and I had a DREADFUL fight!" — "Calm down, my child," said the minister, "it's not half as bad as you think. Every marriage has to have its first fight!"

"I know, I know!" said Joanna. "But what am I going to do with the BODY?"

"Are people more violently opposed to fur rather than leather because it's much easier to harass rich women than motorcycle gangs?"

Man: Just look at that young person with the short hair and blue jeans. Is it a boy or a girl?

Bystander: It's a girl. She's my daughter.

Man: Oh, please forgive me, sir. I had no idea you were her father.

Bystander: I'm not. I'm her mother.

My mother was away all weekend at a business conference. During a break, she decided to call home collect.

My six-year-old brother picked up the phone and heard a stranger's voice say, "We have a Marcia on the line. Will you accept the charges?"



Frantic, he dropped the receiver and came charging outside screaming, "Dad! They've got Mom! And they want money!"

*That's All
folks!*