

Thoughts and Smiles – October 28, 2024



"We fight, we fix, we love, we stay." That's called maturity. It's the ability to navigate the ups and downs of relationships with grace, humility, and a willingness to grow together.

Fighting is inevitable, but it's how we fight that matters. Maturity means learning to communicate effectively, to listen actively, and to resolve conflicts in a healthy and constructive way.

Fixing means taking responsibility for our actions, apologizing when we're wrong, and making amends. It involves the willingness to

compromise and find common ground.

Loving means choosing to prioritize the relationship, even when it's hard. It means showing empathy, compassion, and kindness, even in disagreement.

Staying means committing to the journey through the good times and the bad. It means recognizing that relationships are a journey, not a destination, and being willing to put in the work to maintain and strengthen them.

Maturity is not about being perfect; it's about being willing to learn, grow, and evolve together. It's about understanding that relationships involve ups and downs, twists and turns, and being willing to navigate them with courage, resilience, and love.

So, let's embrace the fight, fix, love, and stay. Let's choose maturity and cultivate healthy, fulfilling relationships that bring joy and happiness.

-Marius van Dokkum

As time goes by,
You will loosen your grip on that rock,
The one you always thought was home,
And you will realize that home is not a place,
It's a state of mind.
Let it go.

As time goes by,
You will learn to see yourself more clearly,
The girl who was always too much of one thing,
And too little of another, was actually
Everything she needed to be.
Let her out.

As time goes by,
You will let the simple things become the big,
And you will allow the big things to become the
simple,
And that readjustment will be,
The day you really start to live,
Let it be.

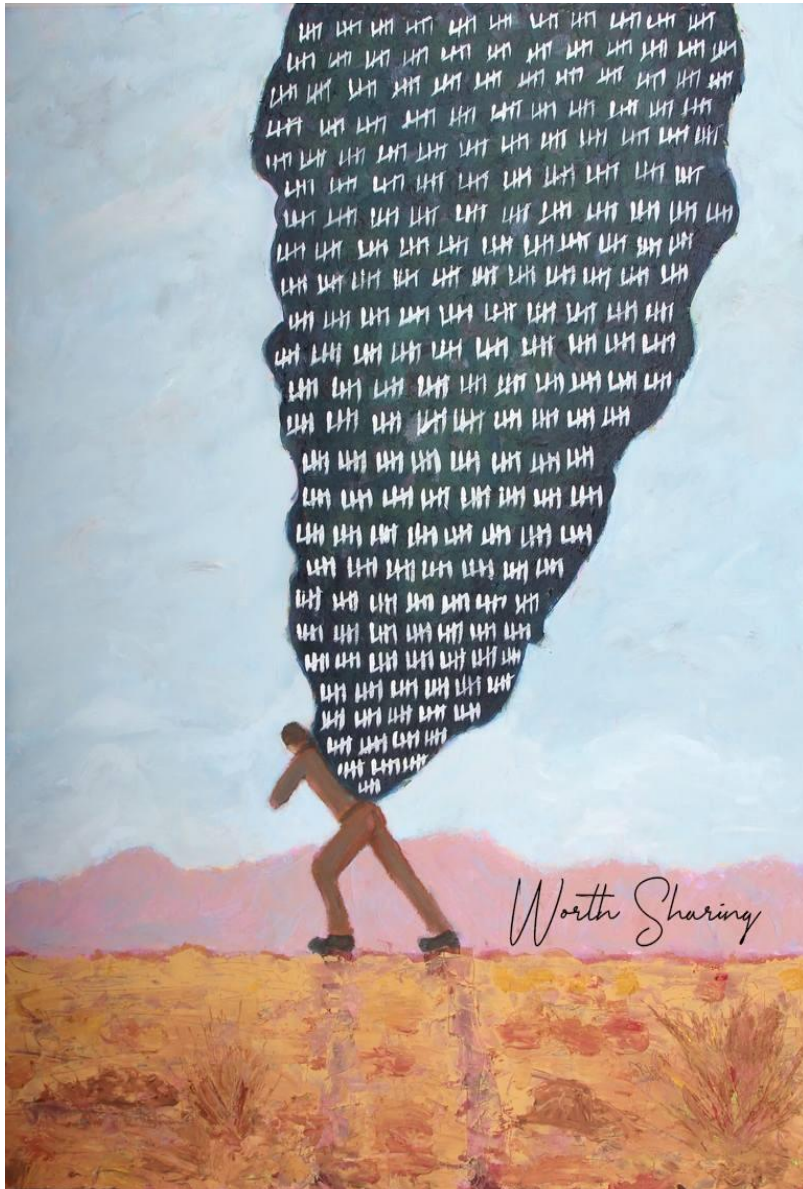
As time goes by,
You will be forced to say goodbye many times,
And your soft little heart will shatter but,
It will still beat and that will bring you,
All the purpose you need.
Let it beat.

As time goes by,
You will stop choosing wealth over peace,
You will stop choosing money over time,
And you will see that the treasures you need,
Are in the smiles and the laughter.
Let them in.

As time goes by,
The moments you remember when your life flashes past,
Are never the awful memories my friend, it's the joy,
The summer nights, the lazy days with loved ones,
The midnight chats and the morning hugs,
Let them happen. Let them all happen.

✍️ Donna Ashworth





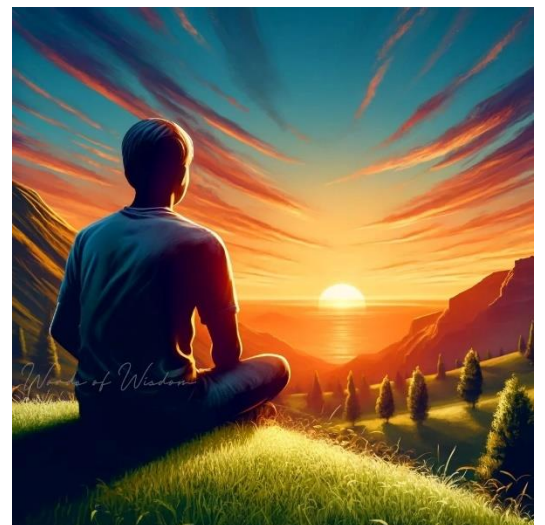
If you could erase all the mistakes of your past, you would also erase the wisdom and growth of your present.

Every misstep and challenge you've encountered has contributed to the person you are today. Each error has been a teacher, each setback a lesson, and each difficulty a stepping stone towards greater understanding and strength.

Your journey, with all its ups and downs, has shaped your perspective and resilience. Embracing your past, with all its imperfections, allows you to value the wisdom you've gained and appreciate how far you've come.

The lessons learned from your experiences are the true treasures that guide you and enrich your life.

True happiness comes from living day by day, finding joy in simple moments, and choosing gratitude over complaints. It's not about grand gestures but appreciating the small blessings in life. When you value the little things and let go of the need for more, you turn ordinary days into something truly special.





Robert Andrew Willis, DL (17 May 1947 – 22 October 2024) was an English Anglican priest, theologian, chaplain and hymn writer. Willis served as Dean of Canterbury from 2001 to 2022 and previously as Dean of Hereford between 1992 and 2000.

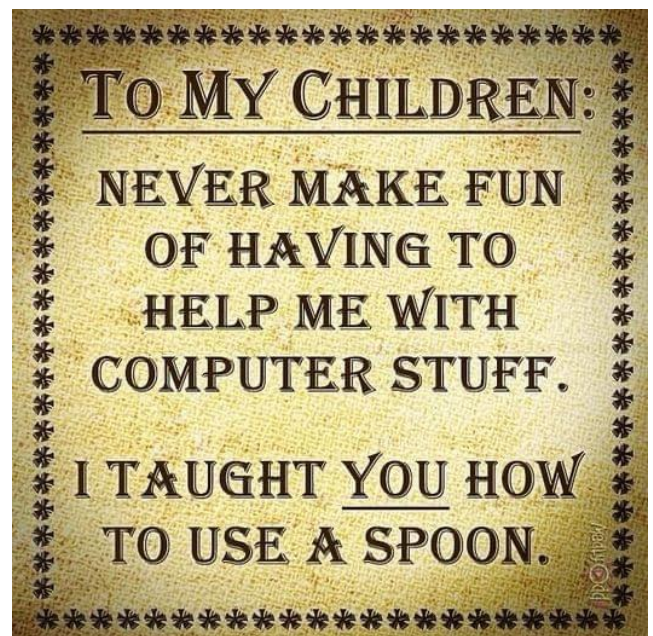
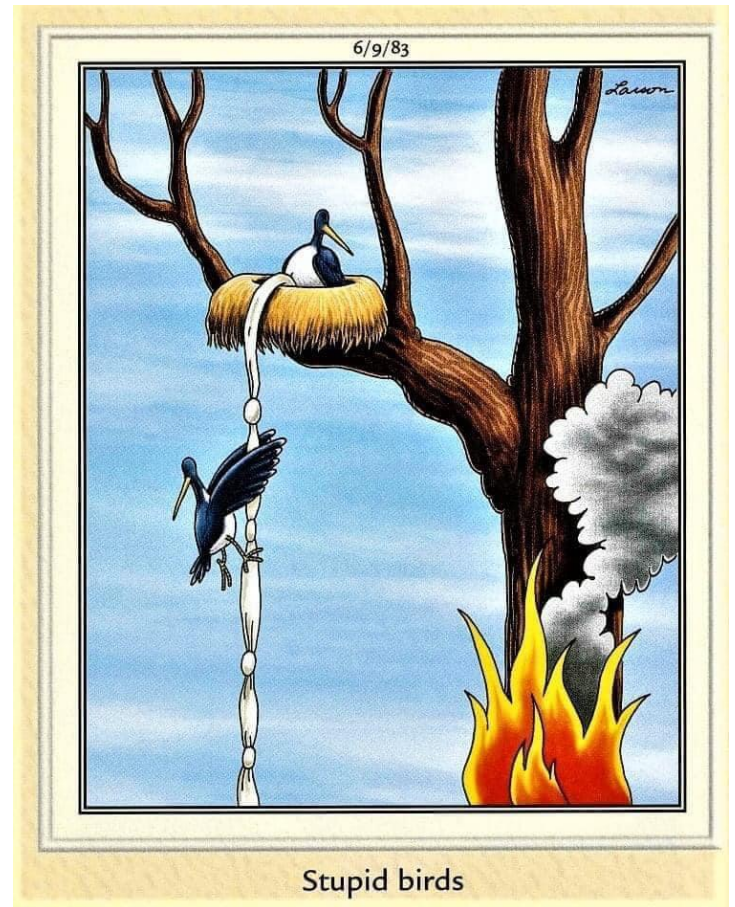
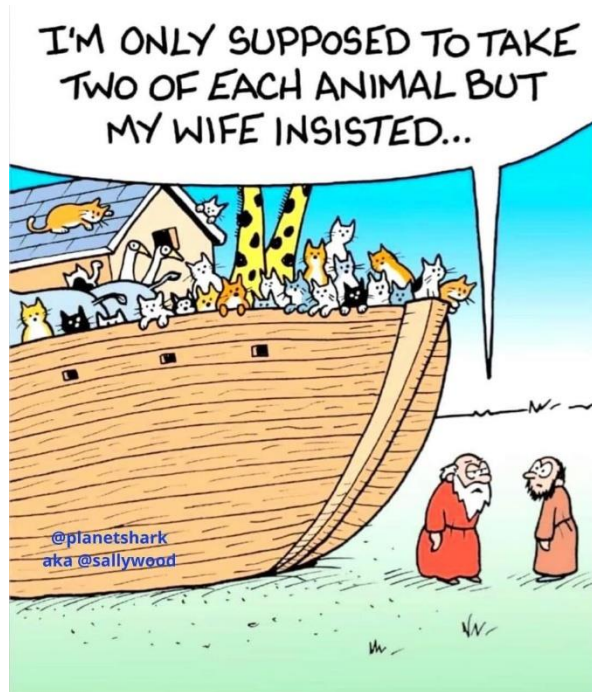
<https://youtu.be/V4WsJjZ-cgg?si=kvy-QkF98FOjwbZ8>

https://youtu.be/V4WsJjZ-cgg?si=2DDiOR0KjcmUa_t6

"We remember with deep respect and admiration the work and vision of Dean Emeritus Robert Willis, whose leadership during some of the most challenging times has left a profound impact. As the pandemic reshaped the world, Dean Willis invited us into a new worship experience with the 'Garden Congregation'—a service that brought a sense of community, comfort, and continuity from the beautiful Canterbury Deanery gardens. Through his gentle presence, insightful reflections, and love for creation, he reminded us of the quiet strength of faith and the boundless reach of fellowship. Dean Willis didn't just hold services; he brought people from across the globe into the life of Canterbury, offering solace, connection, and spiritual nourishment when it was most needed. His legacy will continue to inspire us to find grace in nature and to see our congregations as truly boundless communities."

The Garden Congregation – website:

<https://www.youtube.com/@GardenCongregation>



Have a terrific week!

Blessings to you all!

David Jones
Minister
Hepworth-Sauble Beach Pastoral Charge
226-568-3476 ipcress.jones@gmail.com

Check out "David's Blog" on the Sauble Beach United Church website.

<https://saubleunitedchurch.ca/category/davids-blog/>

**You better get right
with the Lord before
it's too late!**



WHEN YOUR INSURANCE WON'T COVER YOUR AMBULANCE RIDE BUT YOU HAVE CAA!





"I believe that imagination is stronger than knowledge. That myth is more potent than history. That dreams are more powerful than facts. That hope always triumphs over experience. That laughter is the only cure for grief.

And I believe that love is stronger than death."

— Robert Fulghum, All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten: Uncommon Thoughts On Common Things

Hang on to the hope of a child's heart.

***We all came here with one
and it still lives inside of each of us.***