Thoughts and Smiles – January 27, 2025

A pregnant woman asks her husband: "What are you expecting, a boy or a girl?" "

The husband replies: "If it's a boy, I'll teach him math, we'll work out together, teach him how to fish, etc." "

The woman, laughing, asks: "What if it's a girl?" "

The husband smiles and says, "If it's a girl, I won't have to teach her anything." She will teach me everything: how to dress, how to eat, what to say and what not to say. Very soon, she'll become like a second mom to me, and even without doing anything special, she'll always consider me as her hero. She'll understand when I tell her no and she'll still compare her future husband to me. No matter how old she gets, she will always want me to treat her like my little princess. She'll fight for me against the world, and if anyone hurts me, she'll never forgive them. "

The woman, a little intrigued, asks: "You mean your daughter would do all this, but not your son?" "

The husband says, "No, no! My son could do this too, but he will have to learn as time goes on. On the other hand, girls are born with these innate qualities. Being a father of a girl is a real pride for every man. "

Then the woman said, "But she won't be with us forever. "

The husband, tenderly, replies, "Yes, but we will always be with her, in her heart, wherever she goes." "

Girls are angels... They are born with unconditional love and caring, forever and ever.

Dedicated to all fathers who are lucky to have daughters.

One time I met a woman
With a basket on her arm
A basket filled with patches
And with fabric, thread and
yarn

I wondered why she had it all
And so I walked a while
Watching as she greeted
Other people with a smile

I saw her greet a woman
Hanging on by just a thread
And a girl who was
unravelling
With each and every step

I watched her as she stitched together
Parts all torn and frayed
And as she tied their loose ends
With the fabric she had made

And then I watched a man
Who told her that he couldn't cope
He spoke about the heartache
That had snatched away his hope

She listened to him calmly
As she measured out her thread
And then she gently held his arm
And carefully she said

"I'll hold you for a moment
And I'll treat your heart with care
And it will feel different,
But perhaps less empty there"

But as I stood and watched her
As she patched his broken heart
I noticed that her dress
Was quietly coming apart

I realised that the hat she
wore
Had six or seven holes
And the boots she wore upon
her feet
Had barely any soles

The tights she wore beneath
her dress
Were laddered and
threadbare
And the jacket round her
shoulders
Was in need of great repair

And now I saw it clearly:
That she spent her every day
Fixing other people
Making sure they were okay

Patching up and sewing
So that they could feel stronger
When they just couldn't keep themselves
Together any longer

But she too needed love and care
And she too needed help
Yet she was spending all her time
On everybody else

On making sure that they were fine
To chase their hopes and dreams
Whilst she slowly, without knowing
Came apart
right
at
the
s e a m s

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Becky Hemsley 2024
Lovely artwork by Annika Hiltunen

Margaret Hamilton, NASA's lead software engineer for the Apollo program, stands next to the code she wrote by hand that took humanity to the Moon in 1969.
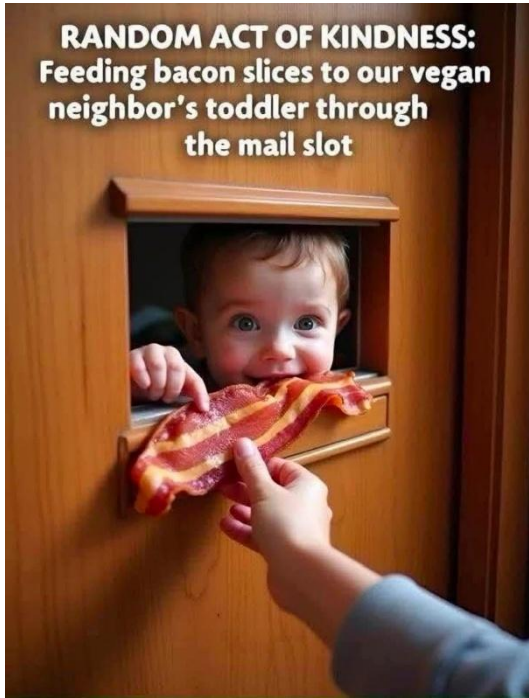

Hamilton's dedication to precision was vital in an era when programming was done with punch cards fed into room-sized computers. Her team's work on error detection and recovery became lifesaving during the mission. Just moments before the lunar module's descent, alarms went off, signaling an overload in the computer. Thanks to Hamilton's foresight in designing resilient software, the system prioritized critical tasks, allowing Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin to land on the moon. This moment highlighted the importance of her pioneering contributions to software engineering, a term she helped coin.

The Apollo 11 moon landing in 1969 remains one of humanity's most extraordinary achievements, and at its core was Margaret Hamilton, a trailblazing software engineer. As the director of the Software Engineering Division of MIT Instrumentation Laboratory, Hamilton and her team developed the onboard flight software crucial for guiding the lunar module safely. At a time when computer technology was still in its infancy, the task was monumental. The Apollo Guidance Computer had only 72 kilobytes of memory, a stark contrast to the vast storage capacities of modern devices.

Reflecting on the success of the mission, Hamilton recalled the overwhelming realization of their achievement. At just 32 years old, she had not only cemented her place in history but also laid the foundation for modern software engineering practices. Her work has inspired generations, demonstrating the power of innovation, perseverance, and collaboration. Today, Margaret Hamilton is celebrated as a symbol of ingenuity and determination, reminding us of the critical role of women in STEM fields.

RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS: Feeding bacon slices to our vegan neighbor's toddler through the mail slot

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Then he said: "Come in he doesn't bite."

And I bit him!!!

The brownies I started baking in my Easy~Bake Oven in 1979 are ready if you guys want one.

Me: No more. Your dog food bag says 1 cup.

The Dog: Well the oreo box surely doesn't say 16 oreos, Tricia, but here we are...
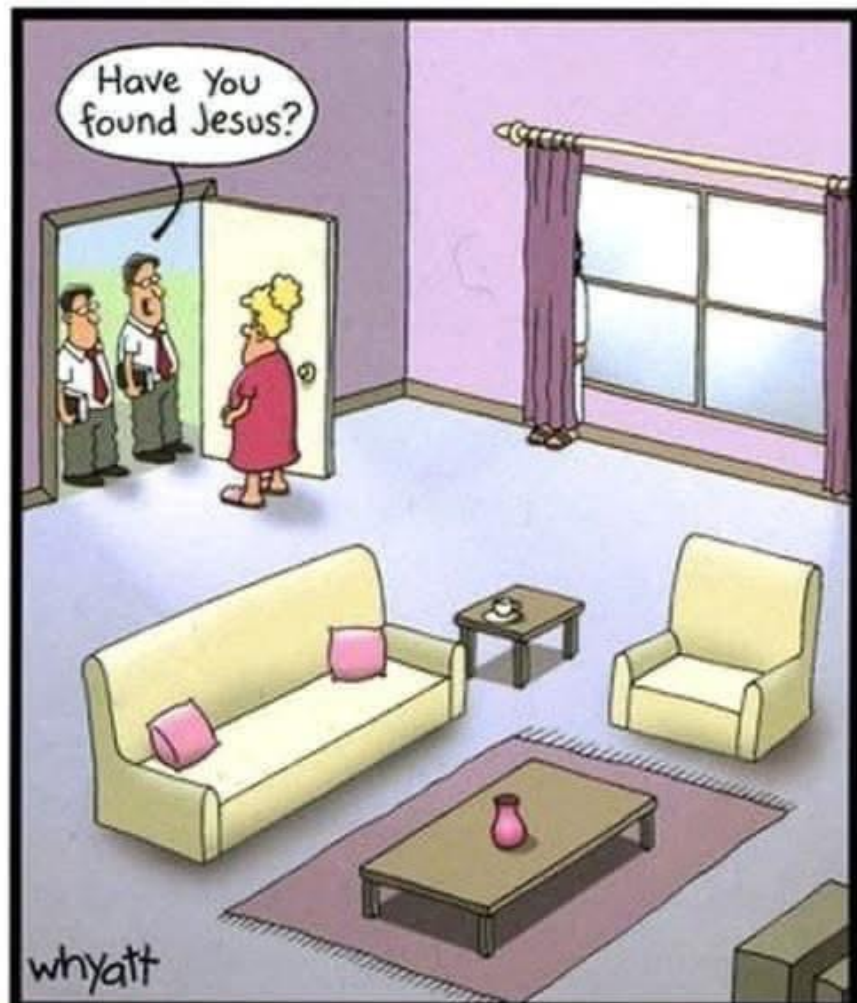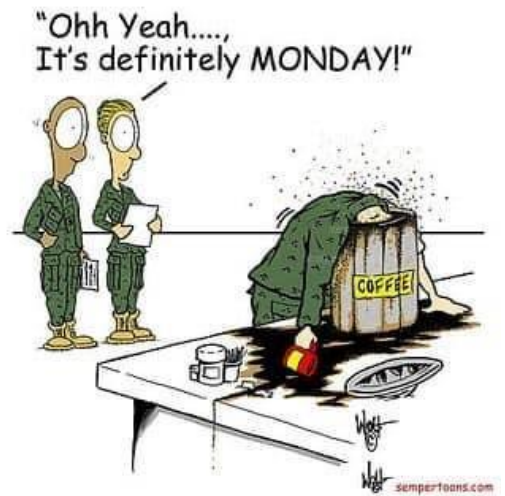
Blessings to you All!

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Check out "David's Blog" on the Sauble Beach United Church
website.
https://saubleunitedchurch.ca/category/davids-blog/

And last, check out this marvellous prayer and return to it now and again…

https://youtu.be/AhupZPb0GiI?si=HubImzqYgps0mb5R