

# THE Anchor News

Serving the Central Texas Community

*Celebrating 13 Years!*

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Free



## Local funeral director Sherri Evans celebrates three years in Waco

Mortician or undertaker—these are just a few names for today's funeral director. Most kids don't dream of being in that profession, but Sherri Evans did. Not even 30 yet, she is the location manager, funeral director and embalmer at Connally Compton Funeral Directors on the corner of Waco Drive and New Road. Connally Compton has been in the Waco community for over 100 years, the funeral home features a large chapel with seating for 240, an events room used for meals, funerals and celebrations of life and a large visitation rooms to accommodate the families. At Connally they strive to provide a service that truly reflects a life lived as well as adapting to the various types of traditional and non-traditional families.

When Evans was growing up, there was probably not



**SHERRI EVANS**

any one thing in particular that would give people the heads up about Evans' choice to work with "the dead." Evans enjoyed her childhood. She was born in Norfolk, Virginia to parents, Joseph Sr. and Sherri Evans. She and her brother, Joseph, Jr. were the only children to that union. Growing up in Oklahoma City, she attended a small Christian school in NE Oklahoma

City. She played many sports including track, volleyball but her love was basketball. In high school, she was the junior princess and the senior queen, and graduated as salutatorian. The church was a large part of her life growing up, as well was music, as her family and especially her father, Joseph, had heavy musical backgrounds. In high school her parents had their own church, where Evans played the drums.

Seeing her today as outspoken as she is, you wouldn't know she was a shy little girl, maybe even a bit odd. When strangers talked to her, she spoke with them through her doll, Little Dolly, and in the doll's voice. She was full of imagination growing up. She and neighborhood friends en-

See **EVANS** pg. 2

## New aesthetic medicine clinic opens in Waco

Typically, people with darker skin types must travel long distances for effective laser services for the skin. Well, travel no more! The Anchor News is introducing a new business, Revitalize Skin Care & Aesthetics. Revitalize is a new cosmetic and skin care clinic located in Salons by JC in the Central Texas Marketplace in Waco, Texas.

Having opened in October of this year, the company offers certified specialists who provide laser services for the removal of unwanted hair, sun spots and spider veins in patients of all skin types. They also offer physician-administered botox and dermal filler



**DR. VIKAS AND PRITI PATEL**

injections, certified microneedling, PCA chemical peels and other services in conjunction with a free consultation process, customized to the needs of the individual.

Dr. Vikas Patel, is the medical director for Revitalize. He personally administers all the cosmetic injections. His wife, Priti (which means "love"), is certified in laser and cosmetic services. The Patels' Indian heritage gives them first-hand knowledge of how sensitive dark skin types can react to laser and chemical peels. With the latest in laser technology, hair removal at Revitalize utilizes two different lasers. Without burning the skin, which is typical for dark skin treatments, these hair removal methods specifically

See **CLINIC** pg. 11

## Just Have Faith: What to Do When You Cannot See What You Hope For

Just Have Faith: What to Do When You Cannot See What You Hope For finds the connections between the shared understandings of faith common to all Christians and the particulars of one woman's journey as she strives to live by faith in her business and professional life, her home and family life, and her ministry and community life. Fanny Minnitt, a veteran and retired educator, asks and offers an answer to the basic question, "What is faith?" In a conversational and highly approachable manner, she draws upon the insights of the Scriptures, Christian writers, and her own experiences to explain the basics of faith and to apply those understandings to the various venues in which most people seek to live out their faith in God.

Just Have Faith does not avoid facing the fact that sometimes most—if not all—people confront challenges that test whether they have a faith in God that can withstand trials. By looking honestly at these moments, Fanny suggests to readers how they can surmount the hurdles that will come.

Just Have Faith traces the roots of faith in God and describes the ways that the branches of faith offer Christians support at work, with family, and in service to others.

Fanny Minnitt, a veteran and retired teacher and administrator, now serves as



**FANNY MINNITT**

a licensed minister and is an Empowerment Speaker. She earned an undergraduate degree in business administration and a master's degree in education from Tarleton State University, Stephenville, Texas. She is a former Contributing writer for The Anchor News in Waco, Texas. She and her husband, Theodore, have one adult son and one grandchild.

Join Fanny on December 21 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at Buy-The-Book Coffee House for a "Just Have Faith Empowerment Minnitt." Located at 930 S. Cedar Ridge, Duncanville, Texas, the event is in combination with the BTB Business Forum Built for Thinkers. Attendees will receive a free, light lunch. For more information, contact Brenda Land at 214-497-4996.

Buy it as a paper back for \$12.95 at iUniverse.com, Amazon.com & BarnesAndNoble.com, or for \$3.99 for Nook book at Barnes & Noble.



Photo by Any Given Day Photography

## J.L. AND LINDA CRAWFORD

A co-owner of *The Anchor News*, J.L. Crawford is the director of operations for the paper. He is also an instructor at McLennan Community College, a Bible teacher, and a LegalShield Manager. Linda Crawford is co-owner and editor of *The Anchor News*. She is an instructor at McLennan Community College, a Bible teacher and a conference, workshop and motivational speaker.

### From the Crawfords...

It's that time of the year again -- time to say good-bye to the previous year and hello to the new. We have so much for which to be thankful as we give praise to our Father for sending his Son. Because of His sacrifice, we can have a close relationship with the Lord, resulting in a healthy, prosperous, joyful life here on earth. It is awesome that we serve such a Mighty God, one who gives us the opportunity to serve others and to lead others to Him. Merry Christmas Happy People! It's all about HIM! We hope you enjoy the business profiles in this month's Anchor -- the last issue for 2015!

## EVANS

Continued from page one

joyed playing outside in "the fields" as they called it. Going back to her home now, she realizes it just looks like a small area compared to looking at it through a child's eyes. She and her friends climbed trees, fished, explored, and tried to stay out of trouble. One year while playing outside, they accidentally set a tire on fire, nearly setting the entire field on fire. Fortunately, the fire department put the fire out before it got out of hand.

Evans also enjoyed all things dealing with science. In middle school, she volunteered with the Omniplex, a science museum in OKC. One of her many fascinations included her interest in the disease Ebola. She, at first, wanted to be a top level Hot Zone specialist dealing with highly contagious viruses but that later changed to being a brain surgeon. Her cousin, who was in medical school, took her and her brother to her college when they were little kids and they got to touch a petrified human brain. From that interest, Evans found out about pathology, which eventually led to her interest and curiosity with the funeral industry.

Going from being completely afraid of the dead to a full fascination with the science and love of this industry, before the age of 10, Evans knew this is what she was going to do—become a funeral director. Although a career in sports was one of

her passions, a knee injury led her to go into this field of study directly after high school. Even though no one in her family was this line of work, her parents encouraged her and stood by her never saying anything negative to sway her in another direction.

Everyone, however, did not meet her with the same positive outlook and encouragement. It was at her paternal grandmother's funeral that the funeral director there told Evans how women couldn't do this job and how hard it was for them to even try. His words became a driving force in her completion of mortuary school. She was the 2008 recipient of the 100 Black Women in Funeral Services Scholarship and became a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. In 2009 she received her Bachelor of in Science in Funeral Services with a minor in creative writing from the University of Central Oklahoma.

At 19 she started working as an apprentice at a local area funeral home, which was bought out by the company she now works for and has for the last ten years, Service Corporation International. Many people did not believe in her, including some people she worked with but she continued to press on believing in herself. Evans has been a first at many funeral homes-- the first female, the first and only black female funeral

director working there, for example. Some people did help her along the way.

Evans's success did not come easy. She remained hungry to succeed and completed her apprenticeship. During her non-paid practicum work, she had to work her regular hours to live and get her other hours anyway she could. Sometimes she worked on into the early morning to get cases, but to her it was worth it. In 2009 she became fully licensed, passing the National Board Exams.

In late 2012 Evans made her way to Waco. It was here she excelled with her company winning various awards, becoming one of her company's top funeral directors. She has won the location and market Living the Brand award, an award given to the associate who exemplifies the company's standards and excels in going above the call of duty.

The last three years she has been a Century Club award recipient and last year she was inducted into the Circle of Excellence. This is a top honor that only 25 people received out of 8000 candidates. Outside of this she has received the Dignity Honors bonus each quarter for maintaining high JD Power scores.

This business requires much hard work from a person and is very stressful. However, what Evans enjoys most is taking care of the families. For most, it is the

worst day of their lives and for Evans, her goal is to always give the best to each family no matter what. Embalming is equaling fulfilling for her, as giving families a memorable picture of their loved one is always her desire. She is skilled in restorative art, cosmetics, and hair and loves to take care of that for her families.

When death calls, she is there, even for her own family when her maternal grandmother passed away in 2014 and her father who suddenly passed this September. She took it as the biggest honor as well as the biggest challenge to get them both ready and take care of the details of their funerals.

Outside of her job, Evans enjoys spending time with her two cats, Mimi and Meko and her dog Woo Woo. Hiking, reading, writing, watching movies and playing video games are some of the things she does to unwind.

Overall, Evans is living out her dream. She truly loves what she does. It's more than a job. It's a ministry to her. She desires to be the best and has many other goals she wants to accomplish in this field of work including owning her own funeral home one day. For now, she is dedicated to serving her Waco families with class and excellence. Evans's motto is "success is certain," and she strives to live that every day.

# THE Anchor News



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#### PURPOSE

*The Anchor News*, dedicated to serving the community and surrounding areas, focuses on positive news and accomplishments of minorities.

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Anchored on the principles of scripture, *Anchor News* will at

no time publish information that is potentially libelous material or intentionally malicious, derogatory or irrelevant.

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#### LETTERS AND ARTICLES POLICY

The comments and opinions of our readers are welcomed. Letters

and articles should be e-mailed. Letters should be no longer than 200 words and must include a name and phone number. Article submissions should be no longer than 450 words and should include an original head shot (in jpeg format) along with your name, address and phone number. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, space, potentially libelous material and copyright infringement. We also reserve the right to refuse derogatory, irrelevant and malicious submissions.

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# Waco's Best Kept Banking Secret!

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MEMBER FDIC

## Griffin offers commercial and residential cleaning services

Meet Boss Cleaning Services. Boss Cleaning Services was created by Owner and Operator, LaTricia Griffin. Even though Griffin had always worked in the medical field, she cleaned houses on the side for a few select clients. This year, Griffin decided to step out on faith and use her skills to her fullest potential. She started her own cleaning business, Boss Cleaning Services. As a result, Boss Cleaning Services became a reality, and in just a few months, her name precedes her.



LATRICIA GRIFFIN

During a recent visit to Business Networking International (BNI), a member overheard her business name. He walked over to her and she, "I don't know your name, but you offer excellent services. It's all over Facebook," he said.

Griffin does not want to give her perspective clients a general estimate on a cleaning job. Free estimates are available; however, when you contact BCS, Griffin will make a personal visit to your business or residence to give you a good, fair and specific quote. This way, there are no surprises and she keeps her prospective clients in the know. Her services extend within a 40-mile radius.

Services include the following: Residential and Commercial Cleaning, Make Ready / Move-In / Move-Out, and Deep Cleaning Griffin even offers special appliance cleaning and deep cleaning of area rugs. Ask her about these services when you make your inquiry. Cleaning frequency varies. Choose from on-call, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, and seasonal cleaning. Ask about Boss Cleaning Services first cleaning and client referral program.

Contact LaTricia Griffin for more information at 254-981-1235 or email her at bosscleaningservices1@gmail.com.

## Protect yourself when shopping online during the holidays

J. L. CRAWFORD, LEGALSHIELD MANAGER

(NewsUSA) - The allure of Internet deals and the pure convenience of "click and ship" continue to drive shoppers online this holiday season. An estimated \$44 billion will be spent online purchasing holiday gifts in 2008, up more than 12 percent over 2007.

Although more money will be spent online this holiday season, consumers are concerned about security risks when making purchases over the Internet. According to a CA-sponsored survey, 72 percent of consumers in North America think retailers do not spend enough on online security and privacy.

To help ease consumer worry, security experts at CA, Inc. offer the following tips to help consumers protect themselves online this holiday season.

- Secure, then shop. Before connecting to the Internet, be sure to install anti-virus, a firewall and anti-spyware programs.

- Update, Update, Update. The bad guys constantly update their techniques, so con-



J.L. CRAWFORD

sumers need to update their protection. Make sure your firewall, anti-virus, anti-spyware and operating software are up-to-date.

- Never shop on an open wireless network. Open networks are easy targets for hackers to break into your computer and capture financial information.

- Know who you're dealing with. Get the name and physical address of any online-retailer before submitting personal or financial information. When shopping online auctions, check the track record of the seller before bidding.

- Never e-mail your personal or financial information. E-mail is not a secure method of sending information like your credit card, bank account or Social Security number.

- Look for secure payment processing. When a Web site processes your payment information, be sure the URL address changes from HTTP to SHTTP or HTTPS. This indicates that the purchase is encrypted or secured.

- Be alert and be suspicious. Identity thieves count on the holiday rush to catch consumers off guard with bogus e-mails that seem to be coming from a legitimate organization such as the bank, the IRS or UPS. These "phishing" scams can lure shoppers into divulging personal information. Be suspicious of anyone asking for additional personal information or asking you to click on links in an e-mail.

*LegalShield can help you with your legal issues. Preexisting problems are covered, so give me a call at 254-717-4927. Hurry. With LegalShield, "...we can help you worry less and live more." Please see the ad in this issue of The Anchor News. J.L. Crawford, Manager.*

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## Mary E. Evans

Author



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# A life in Christ: Jesus, shelter for our souls

BY PAM TURNER

In 2010, an earthquake measuring 7.0 on the rector scale hit the small island of Haiti causing widespread devastation and loss of lives totaling over 220,000, leaving an estimated 1.3 million people displaced. In the capital city of Port-Au-Prince there were over 188,383 homes damaged or destroyed. Haiti is one of the poorest countries in the world with a population of over 10 million souls.

Poverty and disease have been an issue for this country for decades. It's estimated that unemployment is at nearly 80% with an average income of \$2.00 per day. In the United States unemployment runs about 6 to 8% on average. We spend more on pet food in a day than what these poor souls try to live on. There's no doubt that Americans are a



PAM TURNER

very blessed people.

When I hear of this kind of news, I always have to stop and thank God for his many blessings. I take a moment and ask myself what could be worse than living in a country where your shelter is mainly made of cardboard and plastic

tarps. I often think about being homeless, of having no place to call my own or a warm bed to crawl in at night or no place to gather and enjoy my family for birthdays and holidays. I don't worry about it and I am not fearful, but I do think about it.

I thank Jesus each day for the sacrifice He made for all of us at Calvary, all of us including the poor destitute people of Haiti. I also want to thank Him for his three years of ministry, a time when He had no place to call His own. In Matt. 8:19-20 we read how a teacher of the law came to Jesus and pledged he would follow Him where ever He went. In verse 20 Jesus replies, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nest, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." In the word of God, when Jesus refers to himself as the Son of Man, this is the name that links him to the earth and to his mission. He loved to refer to himself as the Son of Man, and He gladly gave up the comforts of life to fulfill his mission—to heal the sick, open the eyes of the blind and set the captive free, to bring the good news of salvation to mankind.

You see, Jesus didn't put a lot of emphasis on possessions. The soul of a man and making a way for mankind to live in eternity with Him was to Him worth the sacrifice of His life. So when I have a fear of losing a man made shelter, I have to stop and remind myself that by believing in Jesus Christ and believing on the blood He shed at Calvary to cover my sins, I always have a shelter for my soul.

Do you have a longing for more in your life, that possessions and "stuff" doesn't seem to fill? It's as if you are searching and you don't know what you're looking for! Let me encourage you to seek Jesus Christ, who we now call King of Kings and Lord of lords. He's our Lord and the SHELTER OF OUR SOUL! Allow Him to be your SHELTER.

*Pam Turner is a freelance devotional writer. She is a member of High Point Church in Waco.*

## Waco physicians to give away three sets of hearing aids

The Physicians and staff at Waco Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) would like to announce our new physician Dr. M. Ben Brindley, MD to our practice. Dr. M. Ben Brindley is a board certified Otolaryngologist. Dr. M. Ben Brindley is indeed Dr. Mace Brindley's son. We are also kicking off our 4th Annual Give The Gift of Hearing campaign. Dr. Holland, Brindley, Tandy & Brindley are honored to give back to our community with 3 state of the art hearing aids. We want to thank our community for your patronage and proud to the only Physician based Audiology Team in Central Texas.

### OBAMACARE IMPLICATIONS

Waco ENT and Baylor Scott & White have 4 doctors that do a monthly free medical clinic at the Family Health Center for those who do not have insurance. In private practice these doctors are able to do this but the future is uncertain as to whether they will be able to continue doing this under Obamacare. The giveaway is one way to help change at least 2 people's lives for free, while they still can.

### THE HEARING AIDS THEMSELVES

These hearing aids are valued at \$6600.00 each, are digitally state of the art and offer a number of advantages over their less sophisticated counterparts, including:

Binaural Processing - the hearing aids' ability to communicate with each other to help give the brain the best information possible from listening in different environments

Spatial Sound (binaural compression and noise management) - giving the ears natural cues that the brain needs to localize sound, break down noise and organize conversation clues.

Speech Guard - helps the hearing aids give clearer speech cues by maintaining the characteristics of speech.

Additional features like automatic directionality, increased bandwidth and wireless connectivity for use with bluetooth and other accessories all help give the wearer the best chance for improved hearing in a wide range of lis-

tening environments.

### HEALTH RISK OF HEARING LOSS

Those with untreated hearing loss face:

- Increased social isolation - more rapid loss of personal connections with family members.

- Higher incidents of depression

- Accentuation of dementia and dementia-like diseases such as Alzheimer's - greater incidences of cognitive dysfunction

- More rapid loss of being self-sufficient and providing self care

- Lower quality of life

### ADDITIONAL FACTS

- Men are more likely than women to experience hearing loss

- Average 20% less income than individuals with treated hearing loss.

- Are 37% more likely to suffer an on the job injury

- Family and friends are also negatively affected

- 20% of the US population aged 12 years and older has hearing difficulties severe enough to impact communication

- About 60% of deployed military service men and women have noise induced hearing loss (NIHL), tinnitus (ringing in the ears) and other hearing injuries

A person with untreated hearing loss may experience or do these types of things: Avoid weekly social gatherings, card games, coffee shop/ donut shop, Lady Bears Basketball, dinner out with family and friends. This causes feelings of isolation and depression.

An active mind is a healthy mind; isolation and lack of communication has been shown to have a negative impact on mental abilities. "Frank Lin and Colleagues (2011) at John Hopkins found a strong link between degree of hearing loss and dementia. Individuals with mild hearing loss were twice as likely to develop dementia as those with normal hearing, those with moderate hearing loss were three times more likely, and those with severe hearing loss had five times the risk." (From a February 14th, 2012 article in the ASHA Leader)

# Temple of Christ Church

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## Church Services

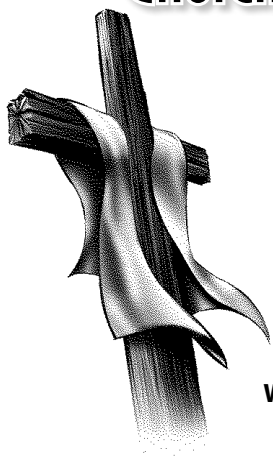
**Sunday School**  
10:00 AM

**Morning Worship**  
11:15 AM

**Sunday Evening**  
6:00 PM

**Monday Bible Study**  
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

**Wednesday Prayer Worship**  
7:00 PM



*Pastor Matthew Reed and Wife Helen*

# Thanksgiving Reflections

BY MONA DUNKIN

Of all the preparation that goes into the holidays perhaps the most lacking is that of grace.

It was wonderful. Here is the short version:

Family gathered. We joyfully greeted each other. We laughed together. We played games. We cooked. We prayed. We ate. We watched sports and movies.

We joked. We worked puzzles, did projects and went on adventures. We ate. And in the midst of all the fun and love, we managed to irritate each other. We misunderstood and hurt each other's feelings. Thanks to grace, we parted on loving terms.

Mid-week I had attended the Bosqueville Church's Annual Thanksgiving Fellowship with Rev. Ron English as the speaker. His topic was grumblers. Supporting Scripture was



MONA DUNKIN

the Exodus and the Israelite's continual complaint against God's planning, protection and provision. How easily we can see their pettiness. I mean, shoes that last for forty years. No cooking, thanks to their daily supply of fast food.

Rev. English narrowed it

down to our daily lives with each other and 'their' pettiness that is so annoying. His parting challenge was for extra-ordinary grace. "It's Thanksgiving and they're coming – or you're going – and you know what they're like – be thankful."

As the long weekend progressed, the phrase "you know what they're like" returned to me again and again. How I wished 'they' had heard that sermon.

In a flash of insight, I heard a still small voice say, "You know what you're like. Now you have something you can work with. Be thankful."

My prayer became, "Loving and Gracious Father, thank you for this day and every second in it. Exactly as it is, exactly as I am, exactly as they are."

Not magically, but mysteriously – in that unknowable working of the invisible - from that moment on, the stress and irritation was gone.

Not only is this a reflection on Thanksgiving but also preparation for Christmas - And for New Years. And for every day still to be lived on planet earth. Sometimes we need to look back in order to move forward.

I know all too well that one flash of insight is not sustainable unless consistently remembered, practiced and applied. I choose to reflect on being thankful in and for all things thereby transforming my understanding of situations – and other's actions, motives and intentions - into gracious responses.

*"If" is a word in the middle of life*

*That burdens the soul and brings much strife.*

*When thinking back on your yesterdays*

*Causes the mind to become ablaze.*

*Wondering "What if..." and "If only I'd..."*

*And from the outcome you want to hide.*

*For hindsight is better than foresight they say*

*And many a folk comes to rue the day.*

*But in light of the information as you understood*

*You made the decision you thought was good.*

*-Mona Dunkin 1980*

NEED A SPEAKER? Mona Dunkin is a Motivational Speaker, Corporate Trainer and Personal Success Coach. Read past articles at [www.monadunkin.blogspot.com](http://www.monadunkin.blogspot.com). Contact her at [mona@monadunkin.com](mailto:mona@monadunkin.com) or at 254-749-6594.

## Let NeighborWorks Waco help you buy a home

BY ALLISON ABEL,  
PROGRAM SPECIALIST

If you have been thinking about purchasing a home of your own but aren't sure if home-ownership is for you, we want you to know that you CAN do it, and we can help! NeighborWorks® Waco is a non-profit organization whose mission is to build stronger neighborhoods through home-ownership and other quality housing opportunities. Since 1993, we have assisted over 1,500 families in purchasing their first home!

Becoming a home buyer may be difficult (and even frightening), but it doesn't have to be! NeighborWorks® Waco offers competitive mortgage products for first mortgages, and down payment and closing cost assistance at low interest rates. Even if you have some credit challenges and little or no savings, we may have a mortgage product for you! We tailor the loan to fit your needs, so that your monthly payments will be affordable over the long term.

Homeownership Education at NeighborWorks®

Waco equips you to be a successful home buyer (and homeowner). Our courses offer a variety of topics including the home buying process, managing money, and even basic home maintenance. Purchasing a home may be the biggest investment you'll ever make – especially true when you have the knowledge and skills you need to do it the right way, and when you approach this opportunity fully prepared to make the most of it.

Not sure if you're ready to own? No problem! We provide quality and affordable housing through our Rental Program. We understand that not every client is ready for home-ownership when they walk through our door. That's why we created the rental program for families that are knocking on the door of home-ownership. It's our goal to prepare you for home-ownership by providing you with counseling and educational opportunities, while also providing you with a quality home to live in. Through this program, we hope to prepare families for home-ownership as soon as they are ready.

## Living a Dynamic Champion's life



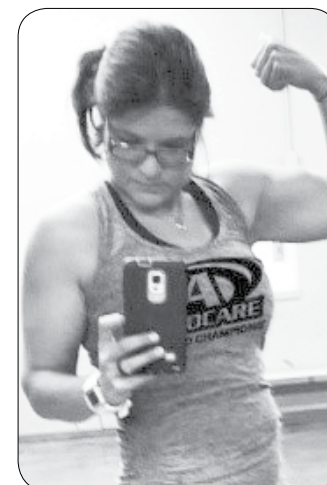
COURTENAY BEFORE

We are the Dynamic Champions and we firmly believe there is a Dynamic Champion in you.

We were introduced to AdvoCare in 2013. As a Personal Trainer I was immediately impressed with the products and the way my performance at the gym changed with just some Spark and Catalyst.

In 2013 my husband and I decided to start the 24 Day Challenge together. During the challenge we had some amazing results. We lost a combined total of 23 pounds and 21 inches. Right from the start we felt more alert, more energetic, happier and better able to function.

I lost jean sizes, toned up and had amazing energy. My husband was losing weight, gaining strength and staying injury free. Our journey is not over! We still continue to use the products daily and still continue to see the



COURTENAY AFTER

Champion inside arise!

For us AdvoCare has been life changing. I love seeing the integrity and faith that AdvoCare carries as a company and would love for you to be a part of this too. I thrive on building relationships with other adults and helping them strengthen their purpose in life.

If you are looking for someone to help you feel better, look better, live healthier, and live a Dynamic Champions life, please contact me. Programs are not one-size-fits-all, they need some customization to suit your goals and needs. That's where I can provide you that personal guidance. It's all part of the challenge program. Personal training also available, contact me today!

Contact Courtenay Hicks, Independent AdvoCare Distributor, at (254) 379-0677 or at [dynamicchampions@yahoo.com](mailto:dynamicchampions@yahoo.com).

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# The Altar Call

BY MARSELO  
"SELO" LOZANO

You ever stop and wonder why altar calls are such an important part of a church service? So many different denominations with endless traditions and rituals.

As we meet week after week in our local places of worship most of us never realize that some our traditions have become religious activities with no direct biblical background. I had a friend visit my church once and they observed the service with an outsider perspective. They saw many things and asked why we did this or what did that mean? I laughed because as a prior "none church goer" I used to ask similar questions. But as I was inducted into the traditional culture of the church I was like many other believers, I stopped asking and started doing.

Many times the lack of questions can lead to religious behavior and thinking. Many times in the bible Jesus would challenge the status quo and actions of the spiritual leaders of his time. We can also read as Paul is challenging hypocrisy within the church as well.

As I read the scriptures I struggled to find in the Old Testament where people responded to altar calls. I then looked and studied the New Testament and didn't see altar calls in any of the gospels or the book of Acts. However, I did notice that people responded to the messages and miracles being shared in Acts 2:41, Acts 5:14 and Acts 4:4.

Now as a 22nd Century church goer and Christian we could assume there was an altar call given. In many Anglican churches they had an altar in front of the communion table, and ministers often encouraged parishioners to come to the altar if they needed prayer or encouragement.

George Whitefield, who historians identify as the key preacher of the Great Awakening, refused to speculate on how many of his listeners had been converted! Thus establishing "The Altar Call". He is quoted as saying, "There are so many stony-ground hearers which receive the word with joy." Whitefield also



MARSELO "SELO" LOZANO

said, "That I have determined to suspend my judgment till I know the tree by its fruits."

At the turn of the nineteenth century American Methodist preachers wanted a way to help determine who of their listeners had been converted. Methodist preachers inherited this tradition of Whitefield's but latter changed its purpose, calling rather those "under conviction" to come forward to the altar. In 1801, a Methodist preacher Peter Cartwright told women at a camp meeting that if they promised "to pray to God for religion," they might take a seat at the altar.

In the 1830s "The Altar Call" gained popularity with the preaching of Charles G. Finney. His "new measures," then, set out to make regeneration as easy as possible. "A revival is not a miracle," Finney wrote. "It is a purely philosophical result of the right use of the constituted means." In other words, preachers might create revival if they used proven methods, chief of these being the "anxious bench" or "seat of decision" or what we today refer to as "The Altar Call."

"The object of our measures is to gain attention," Finney said, and for that "you must have something new." Since Finney's time, most notably D.L. Moody and Billy Graham continued to make use of the altar call though out the years. Moody stated whatever the methods used. "It is not our strength we want," it is said he told his volunteer counselors. "It is not our work to make them believe.

That is the work of the Spirit ... I cannot convert men; I can only proclaim the Gospel." So

looking at the history of "The Altar Call" it's not a scriptural principle but yet a practical principle. So, regardless of the number of individuals whom respond to "The Altar Call" true conversion is seen in the life of an individual. No matter how effective a minister or pastor may be at delivering an invitation to salvation, healing, repentance, or being touched by the Holy Spirit.

The fact remains "The Altar Call" was merely developed as a counting and locating method of those who choose to respond to a message being shared. This may explain why so many churches report salvations but never actually see the return or the fruit of "The Altar Call" they make ever week.

Marselo "Selo" Lozano has been around the block

a few times. His experience gives him a trusted voice in helping youth leaders understand how to reach and raise the future generations. Don't hesitate to contact Marselo and Mia Lozano. They are quality people, and they'll help you reach the young people of your community. Contact them at 254.756.1240 or P.O. Box 423 Waco, TX 76703.



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## GG's FlowerHut to expand services in new location

This month's issue of *The Anchor News* introduces to the community a new but not so new floral design business, GG's FlowerHut. Owned and operated by Gil Collins-Hall, GG's has been an established, but very small business for the past five years. Because of an amazing increase in satisfied customers, Collins-Hall has been forced to expand the business to meet the needs and demand for floral designers in the community. She will be moving to a new location as early as February, just in time for Valentine's Day.



**GIL COLLINS-HALL**

Many look at GG's as a renaissance business, almost a one stop shop because the business encompasses much more than flowers. Customers are delighted with its creative designs and décor for any occasion. Collins-Hall offers fresh arrangements or silk

Collins-Hall is proud of her accomplished services, touting her special skills, and talents and dedication to her call to serve. "I have an excellent track record for customer satisfaction because I have never compromised on the quality and the services provided to my customers," she explained. "I believe in keeping the customers happy and providing them with products and excellent service at a very fair price."

Tis' the season for floral

designs, gifts, and just plain ol' giving. But word has it that there is nothing plain about the designs at GG's FlowerHut.

Feel free to reach out and contact GG's FlowerHut about any of your requests and questions. Note that Collins-Hall specializes in designing fresh cut and silk floral arrangements and services for funerals, baby showers, banquets, and all special occasions. If you have a need for creative gifts and designs for your home, church or business, please contact Gilberta Collins-Hall, owner and designer of GG's FlowerHut, "offering you décor for all occasions." 254-339-0744. FB her at GGs FlowerHut or email her at gilcollins72@gmail.com

## Call Central Texas Xtreme Roofing and Home Improvement - Xtreme with an "X"!

As the legacy of a family of roofers, Central Texas Xtreme Roofing has the expertise and knowledge to help you protect and enhance your home with reliable roofing, re-roofing, and roof repair services. Gus and Mayra Vargas pride themselves in offering better than the best in customer service.

Gus comes from a line of roofers; in fact, he has been in the roofing industry since he was 12. Thus, with over 20 years of experience, the Vargas team has the skills and expertise to handle your projects with precision so you can feel confident they will achieve exceptional results.

One of Waco's best kept secrets is that Xtreme roofing will also handle all of your home improvement needs as well. Gus and Mayra began Central Texas Xtreme Roofing in 2012, and three years later, the company is thriving. With Gus's extensive experience in the field, the business continues to grow through the couple's solid relationships with people in Waco and surrounding areas.



**GUS AND MAYRA VARGAS**

They currently specialize in a variety of work—roofing, siding, fencing, painting, concrete, carpentry and any home improvement jobs. Acceptable payment includes Visa, MasterCard, cash, Discover, debit, check and Paypal. Located at 1421 Lawrence Dr., the company offers non-profit, military and senior citizen discounts.

The business offers Spanish interpreters and is located in the Heart of Texas fair grounds and Northcrest View areas.

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*Just Have Faith: What to Do When You Cannot See What You Hope For* finds the connections between the shared understandings of faith common to all Christians and the particulars of one woman's journey as she strives to live by faith in her business and professional life, her home and family life, and her ministry and community life. Fanny Minnitt, a veteran and retired educator, asks and offers an answer to the basic question, "What is faith?" In a conversational and highly approachable manner, she draws upon the insights of the Scriptures, Christian writers, and her own experiences to explain the basics of faith and to apply those understandings to the various venues in which most people seek to live out their faith in God.

*Just Have Faith* does not avoid facing the fact that sometimes most—if not all—people confront challenges that test whether they have a faith in God that can withstand trials. By looking honestly at these moments, Fanny suggests to readers how they can surmount the hurdles that will come.

*Just Have Faith* traces the roots of faith in God and describes the ways that the branches of faith offer Christians support at work, with family, and in service to others.

**FANNY MINNITT**, a veteran and retired teacher and administrator, now serves as a Licensed Minister and is an Empowerment Speaker. She earned an undergraduate degree in business administration. She received a master's degree in education from Tarleton State University, Stephenville, Texas and Former Contributing writer for The Anchor News, Waco, Texas. She and her husband, Theodore, have one grown son and one grandchild.

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# Mona Dunkin celebrates 13 Christmas holidays with The Anchor

Meet Mona Dunkin, one of Central Texas' most sought after motivational speakers. "As an adult I wear many hats and have lots of talents," explained Dunkin. "Through years of deep self-evaluation I have come to the conclusion that my specialty is relationships." Dunkin has been a feature columnist for The Anchor News since its 2002 inception. Again, it is about relationship—a 13-year relationship with The Anchor, and a 26-year relationship with its owner.

Convinced that her profes-

sion is her calling, Dunkin is a speaker, counselor, trainer and author. "It blends well with my need to tell people what to do. Thankfully, I learned early on (and am still learning) that telling people what to do does not work. Relating does."

Born and reared in the beautiful hills of West Virginia, she spent her wonder years growing, living and exploring amid extended family dotted across the landscape, menagerie of animals and was schooled in a one-room school house where one teacher

taught grades 1-8. She loved the four seasons and misses them terribly.

Dunkin says her greatest relationship is being a child of God. "We are all in this boat together so we're all in and need to get along. All are created in God's image and there is a Divine spark within each, even the most evil or obnoxious. This helps in relating to family, interacting with people at large," said Dunkin, "driving in rush-hour traffic and working with the at-risk community."

Dunkin and her husband, Garland Dunkin, celebrate 48 years of marriage. Their daughter and son-in-law have blessed them with five beautiful grandchildren. Dunkin touts the basis of her happy home life is biblical principles and Choice Theory psychology.

It is by God's grace, explained Dunkin, that she lives what she teaches. "Life is



MONA DUNKIN

about choices and we are all free-will agent. In trying to get another to relate to us we may scold, threaten, advise, plead, bribe, punish, constrain but all too often they simply will not heed our sage wisdom. But we do influence – neutral, positive or negative. Make it relational."

"I am a seeker of truth, truth that does not change

regardless of circumstances, age, culture, beliefs or personality. Truth that is what it is whether we accept it or reject it. Although none of us have cornered the market on truth, it can be found. To find truth we must live in the mystery of life. We must ask and answer the hard questions, embrace the effective, be honest when the seemingly effective turns into ineffective. We must be willing to challenge beliefs, modify actions and adjust attitudes. Repeat. Again. Evaluate. Life school is never out. There is a broader scope. There is a deeper depth," Dunkin says. She adds, "Oh yes, and read my articles in The Anchor News."

*NEED A SPEAKER? Mona Dunkin is a Motivational Speaker, Corporate Trainer and Personal Success Coach. Read past articles at [www.monadunkin.blogspot.com](http://www.monadunkin.blogspot.com). Contact her at [mona@monadunkin.com](mailto:mona@monadunkin.com) or at 254-749-6594.*

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## Get to know Bebrick Collision Center

Founded in 1962 by Herbert and Sadie Bieberich and now being operated by the 3rd generation, Bebrick Collision Center has strived to remain the collision repair facility for Central Texas.

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We at Bebrick Collision Center expect our staff to be trained to the highest standard to provide our customers with the best quality repair in the industry. We have recently been certified by the Chrysler Corporation to repair Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Ram vehicles, as well as General Motors to repair GM vehicles. Ford Motor Company has recently joined our list of certifications and we have been fortunate enough to equip our facility with the required equipment to be able to repair the all new Ford F-150 to be released later this year. Our techni-



DENNIS SMITH, OWNER

cians are trained by I-CAR, ASE, AKZO NOBEL and we strive to maintain individual Platinum level certifications for all our technicians and Gold Class Certification for our Company.

A variety of services are available when you choose Bebrick Collision Center as your repair facility. We offer detailing services, restoration of headlamps as well as courtesy drop off and pick up in the Waco area. If you happen to need a rental vehicle while your vehicle is being repaired, we will be happy to assist you in getting one set up at one of the local rental

vehicle companies.

Our customer service does not end with the repair. We are committed to keeping our customers updated throughout the entire repair process. You can expect a clean vehicle when your vehicle is ready to be picked up. We provide free touch up paint with every repair that requires refinishing. We are so sure you will be completely satisfied with the quality of repairs that we offer a lifetime warranty for as long as you own your vehicle.

Bebrick Collision Center offers a unique, friendly and relaxed environment for our customers. Our Shop is over 13,800 sq ft and our monitored, secure parking area is over a 3/4 acre lot. Bebrick Collision Center is committed to superior services and complete satisfaction of every customer.

Please feel free to contact them for more information or stop by to tour their facility, which is conveniently located at 1515 La Salle Ave., Waco, TX 76706. Their hours are Monday - Friday from 8-5:30. They can be contacted by phone at (254) 754-2301 or by fax at (254) 754-1526.

# Meet Waco's prominent chiropractor, Dr. S. Trunell

A native of Fayette, MS, Dr. Shamonica Trunell Morgan attended Alcorn State University where she graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in 2000. Following her bachelor's degree, she enrolled at the prestigious Parker College of Chiropractic.

She has since graduated Cum Laude after a 4-year intensive program as a Doctor of Chiropractic. In addition, Trunell is board certified by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners and is a member of the International Chiropractors Association.

Prior to coming to the Waco area, Trunell served the Seattle community for 7 years. She enjoys treating patients of all ages, from infant to geriatric and is especially passionate about chiropractic, in a holistic manner, while implementing a wide variety of chiropractic techniques to individualize patient treatment plans. These techniques include the use of essential oils, and



**DR. SHAMONICA TRUNELL-MORGAN**

other methods. She is one of the only chiropractors in Waco certified in the area of turning breeched babies. Her experiences have given her a great opportunity to learn to care for a wide variety of ailments from which my patients may suffer from---arthritis, allergies, ADD, vertigo, ear infections, diabetes, hypertension, cramps, nutri-

tional issues, fibromyalgia, MS, just to name a few.

Trunell's patient-first attitude is what has enabled her to treat patients with dignity, respect and compassion. Her personal and professional goal is to make a difference each day through her commitment to partnership and passion about service. Dr. Trunell's mission is to restore health through natural chiropractic and functional nutrition, allowing my patients to live their lives to the fullest.

"I grew up in Fayette, Mississippi in a small close knit community, where moral and values were very important. My husband, Robert and I are a Christian family with an eighteen-year-old son named Malik, a nine-year-old daughter named Samiyah and a two-year-old daughter, Sarai. Our passion and prayerful longing for true community has led us to this wonderful Waco community. We could not be happier to be here in Waco!"

## CLINIC | Continued from page one

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# And these signs shall follow them that believe, Part 11

*Continued from the October issue of The Anchor.*

**BY RUBY MCCRAY**

Allow me to suggest that you get your smart phone or Bible and read these Scriptures whenever you have the time. Please do that for each of these teachings. These passages are taken from the New Living Translation unless otherwise stated.

"And then he [Jesus] told them, 'Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.

"These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name... They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed.'

"...And the disciples went everywhere and preached, and the Lord working through them, confirming what they said by many miraculous signs" (Mark 16:15-20).

Jesus did not heal every sick person in the region; but He healed everybody who came for healing. Not a person who came or was brought was turned away without receiving.

"That evening, many demon-possessed people were brought to Jesus. He cast out the evil spirits with a simple command, and he healed all the sick. This fulfilled the word of the Lord through the prophet Isaiah, who said, 'He took our sicknesses and removed our diseases'" (Matthew 8:16, 17).

"When they came down from the mountain, the disciples stood with Jesus on a large, level area, surrounded by many of his followers and by the crowds. There were people from all over Judea and from Jerusalem and from as far north as the seacoasts of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those troubled by evil spirits were healed. Everyone tried to touch him, because healing power went out from him, and he healed everyone" (Luke 6:17-19).

"As he traveled through Galilee, he came to Cana, where he had turned the water into wine. There was a government official in nearby Capernaum whose son was very sick. When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged Jesus to come to Capernaum to heal his son, who was about to die.

"Jesus asked, 'Will you never believe in me unless you see miraculous signs and wonders?' The official pleaded, 'Lord please come now before my little boy dies.' Then Jesus told him, 'Go back home. Your son will live!' And the man believed what Jesus said and started home.

"While the man was on his way, some of his servants met him with the news that his son was alive and well. He asked them when the boy had begun to get better, and they replied, 'Yesterday afternoon at one o'clock his fever suddenly disappeared!' Then the father realized that that was the very time Jesus had told him, 'Your son will live.' And he and his entire household believed in Jesus" (John 4:46-53).

Jesus said that if we really believe that He is who He says that He is, we can do the same works that He did, and even greater works because He was going back to His Father (John 14:10-12). Let's see!

Peter and John healed a man who was born lame sim-



**EVANGELIST  
RUBY MCCRAY**

ply by using the name of Jesus. He was carried each day to the Temple gate so that he could beg (Acts 3:1-16).

Because of the signs, wonders and miracles of the apostles, crowds of both men and women believed on the Lord Jesus.

"As a result of the apostles' work, sick people were brought out into the streets on beds and mats so that Peter's shadow might fall across some of them as he went by. Crowds came from the villages around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those possessed by evil spirits, and they were all healed" (Acts 5:12-16).

"But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went. Philip, for example

went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miraculous signs he did. Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. So there was great joy in that city" (Acts 8:4-8).

"Meanwhile, Peter traveled from place to place, and he came down to visit the believers in the town of Lydda. There he met a man named Aeneas, who had been paralyzed and bedridden for eight years. Peter said to him, 'Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you!

Get up, and roll up your sleeping mat!' And he was healed instantly. Then the whole population of Lydda and Sharon saw Aeneas walking around, and they turned to the Lord" (Acts 9:32-35).

I truly believe that more people will come to the Lord Jesus when they begin to see us living and operating in the power of the Holy Spirit. You may not believe me; but...just what if I'm right?

*Evangelist Ruby McCray is the founder of A City of Refuge Ministries. For questions or comments e-mail [rubbyacorm@yahoo.com](mailto:rubbyacorm@yahoo.com) or write to A City of Refuge Ministries, P. O. Box 2025, Waco, Texas 76703.*

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**Wanda B.  
Gunter**

Author, Artist &  
Contributing writer  
for *The Anchor News*

# Walking in darkness has produced a confused world

BY MATTHEW REED

Some species can see in darkness. Mankind is not one of those species; we must have light to see. All things begin in the spirit world. When one is not able to see into the spirit world, he or she walks blindly and stumbles often.

The armed forces produced a night goggle to overcome night blindness on the field of battle. God gave us his word as a light into the spiritual world and also to use on the spiritual battle field. In the natural if you do not have night vision goggles you stumble and do not know where you are going. Be reminded the goggles don't work if you don't wear them. Also in the spirit world if you do not have the word of God and walk in it (be a doer), you cannot know where you are going.

Governments today are operating unsuccessfully because they are operating without God's word in a world designed by God. Govern-

ments put more emphasis on weapons that destroy the flesh because they are spiritually blind. The light (God's word) of Ephesians 6:12 declares that we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. The weapons that would have more success at creating peace in the world today would be missionaries of God. All that we are experiencing today, good and evil, started in the spirit world (the minds of man). These people would know and understand the evil spirits behind the thinking of men, thereby putting them at a greater advantage when dealing with man. It doesn't matter what spirit an individual is overcome by, greed, a spirit of control, jealousy, hatred etc. An ambassador that was enlightened in the light (God's word) would not be confused and wondering why is this person like this.

That's why it is necessary to publish the words of God. It doesn't matter that men reject or don't believe; this does not negate the power of God; his word does not return void unto him. I know this is a tall order but it is the answer-- the only answer. Look at the terrorist groups and the success they are having with their false religious teachings.

Walking in the light of God's word is good for heads of households, husbands, wives, and children, heads of states. No one is confused on what is acceptable and what is not acceptable when God's word (light) is the law of the establishment and is taught to every one of the establishment.

Now to those of you that say everybody does not believe or accept God's word, let me enlighten you, so that you don't think that I am some kind of crackpot. Remember that I am a man of faith in God (a spiritual man) and his teachings. God's inspired word in Romans 3:3 declares "for what



PASTOR AND MRS. REED

if some did not believe? Shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?" If you don't believe and I am in the light, and I have this weapon (the word of God) and am well trained in the use of my weapon, then you and your unbelief are in big trouble. Ask pharaoh if unbelief will stop the works of God. This is for those of you who think that

we real Christians are some kind of nuts. Everybody kneeling ain't praying and all of us ain't hypocrites.

Here's the bottom line: all the confusion is the result of a world that is deficient of the word of God, translated a world without light, a world that is in darkness. A world void of the word of God is a world in darkness.



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# And these signs shall follow them that believe, Part 12

Following Part 11 in this issue of *The Anchor News*.

BY RUBY MCCRAY

Allow me to suggest that you get your smart phone or Bible and read these Scriptures whenever you have the time. Please do that for each of these teachings. These passages are taken from the New Living Translation unless otherwise stated.

"And then he [Jesus] told them, 'Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.

"These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name... They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed."

"...And the disciples went everywhere and preached, and the Lord working through them, confirming what they said by many miraculous signs" (Mark 16:15-20).

Some years ago a precious lady ask, "How much longer do you plan to study the Bible?" I said, "For as long as I am alive and able." She then said, "But you studied it all last year!" To that, I said, "Yes, I ate all last year and I plan to eat all this year, too, and for as long as I am alive and able." She understood.

Solomon said, "My child, pay attention to what I say. Listen carefully to my words. Don't lose sight of them. Let them penetrate deep into your heart, for they bring life to those who find them, and healing to their whole body" (Proverbs 4:20-22). The Hebrew word for "healing" in that passage means "medicine". Therefore, whenever we read the Word of God, we are not only increasing our faith, we are also taking His medicine which brings healing (health) to all of our flesh—with no side effects.

I mentioned in the March article that I don't believe that it's God divine will to heal us. I believe that He never planned for us to be sick. If we would only obey His commandments, decrees, statutes and laws, He promised that He wouldn't put sicknesses and diseases on us (Exodus 15:26). His Word is medicine. He said, "Some



EVANGELIST  
RUBY MCCRAY

were fools; they rebelled and suffered for their sins. They couldn't stand the thought of food, and they were knocking on death's door. 'Lord help!' they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He sent out his word and healed them, snatching them from the door of death" (Psalm 107:17-20).

Since we know that we will always have the sick among us, we need to obey what we've been commanded to do. We must tell the Good News of Salvation, causing people to repent of their sins, cast out demons and heal them.

"So the disciples went out, telling everyone they met to repent of their sins and turn to God. And they cast out many demons and healed many sick people, anointing them with olive oil" (Mark 6:12, 13).

Jesus has already done everything that He was supposed to do, He's given us the authority to us His name to accomplish His will.

He further said that if there are any sick among us, they should call for the elders of the church. The elders are to anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord Jesus and pray in faith. That prayer will heal the sick, but the Lord will make them well. They will even be forgiven if they have committed any sins. We are to confess our sins to each other and pray for each other so that we can be healed. When righteous people pray earnestly, powerful and wonderful results occur (James 5:14-16). Remember, sin is what gives legal rights to the devil to make one sick in the first place.

"Dear friends, if we don't feel guilty, we can come to God with bold confidence. And we will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him and do the things that please him" (1 John 3:21, 22).

"And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for" (1 John 5:14, 15).

What mighty and precious promises we have in God's Word! And every one of them is still true to those of us who can believe them. For all of the promises in Christ Jesus are yes, and in Him they are also amen to the glory of God (2 Corinthians 1:17-20).

God is not like mankind that He lies; and He's not like us by changing His mind. If He said it, He will do it. If He promised it, He'll carry it through (Numbers 23:19). He's the same

today as He was on yesterday, and He will be the same tomorrow (Hebrews 13:8). He doesn't change (Malachi 3:6). Let us take Him at His Word and Obey! You may not believe me; but...just what if I'm right?

Evangelist Ruby McCray is the founder of *A City of Refuge Ministries*. For questions or comments e-mail [rubyacorm@yahoo.com](mailto:rubyacorm@yahoo.com) or write to *A City of Refuge Ministries*, P. O. Box 2025, Waco, Texas 76703.

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