

# Jackson Energy Food Basket Project



Estill County Food Bank President Susan Dick with Jackson Energy employee Marty York.

Jackson Energy employees spent a recent afternoon working with cans of corn and canned hams instead of electric lines and transformers.

Tables at the London District Office were stacked with food items donated by co-op employees and turned into rows of brightly colored food baskets. More than 20 Laurel County families will be enjoying a Thanksgiving meal as a result of the food drive.

Jackson Energy employees collected items to assemble 150 food baskets that were distributed throughout the region. Estill County's Food Bank received just over 20 baskets, and left over food items were also donated to the Good Samaritan House Homeless Shelter in London.

"This was our way of helping needy families in the communities we serve during the holiday season," said Jackson Energy Presi-

dent & CEO Carol Wright. Baskets were assembled during an all-employee meeting held on Veterans Day at the London District Office. Administrative Assistant Lisa Baker coordinated the drive, and an assembly line of food items ringed the Jackson Energy meeting room. Canned vegetables, boxes of brownie mix, macaroni & cheese, packs of instant potatoes and canned hams were added the baskets as employees moved them from table to table.

Before being lined in rows for final distribution, each basket was placed in a cellophane bag that included a note wishing the family a blessed Thanksgiving and a bow was added at the top. Baskets were donated to food banks and other organizations in each of the seven primary counties served by Jackson Energy - Clay, Estill, Jackson, Laurel, Lee, Owsley and Rockcastle.

Organizations receiving the baskets included the Jackson County Food Bank in McKee, Christian Appalachian Project in Mt. Vernon, Come-Unity Cooperative Care in London, the Clay County Cancer Coalition in Manchester, the Owsley County Action Team in Booneville, the Kentucky Mountain Mission in Beattyville and Estill County Food Bank in Irvine.

"We called this our 'giving back' project," Baker said, adding that the food drive went so well that employees are now gathering toys to distribute to school Family Resource Centers.

# Sights, Sounds & Scents of Christmas



**Times Remembered**  
**Betty A. Young**  
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Every year when our Kentucky weather turns the suddenly colder corner of December, it happens: The declining temperatures along with the sights, sounds and scents of the holiday season find me eagerly recalling memories of my childhood Christmas's.

After a recent chilly night like last Friday, I turn up the thermostat to chase the cold shivers from the corners of the room. I recall the frosty walks to the bus stop of my youth. I recall the once familiar smell of coal burning on a cold winter's morning, as early keepers of the fire, (my mother), would shake down the ashes and clinkers and added fresh coal to the glow-

ing red coals, sending gray smoke out the chimney for miles. About everyone I knew back then burned coal either in stoves or furnaces. It has just about disappeared nowadays in homes, we are supposedly burning cleaner fuel such as natural gas and electric.

Our Christmas trees back then were always the free range cedar tree variety. Generally, we went to my Grandmother's to cut a tree, but occasionally Dad would spot a cedar in a fence row on our farm that was well-rounded and straight that we would use.

To a child in the late 50s (years before the Internet and more than three channels on a black and white TV), this searching for a perfect Christmas tree was a magical event for me, especially if it was snowing.

Bundled in my hand-me-down snow boots, winter coat and hat, my sister and I, along with Dad carrying a sharp ax; would trudge purposely on our excursion on the farm for that perfect tree Dad had spotted back in the summer. Some years, we broke a fresh trail through the new fallen snow; other years, we walked the frozen December ground through sage brush, brittle weed and leaves.

From a distance, many of the mighty cedars stood bold and green in that fence row

that Dad had seen..... now which one was the most beautiful; Dad looked and looked and finally found, (the one he seem last summer that was so pretty). The towering, evergreens were in various sizes, growing however nature shaped them.

I always thought the tree Dad cut was too small, but by the time we got back to house, that too-small tree had somehow grown, in height and would always need a foot or two sawed off to make room for the star on the top.

By today's standards, those Charlies Brown trees of my childhood were not the greatest, but to me they were some of the most beautiful creations we had ever laid our eyes on. With their glowing and aromatic presence; they made a drab winter season seem bearable for me.

Those simple long-ago trees were lit simply by a frayed strand of painted glass bulbs that neither blinked nor chased. The tree was wrapped in angel hair, tinsel and glass ornaments collected over the years adorned the cedar tree.

Those scruffy ornamented cedars seemed to be truly magnificent to the admiring eyes of a youngster in the 1950s; but even more lasting significance to my siblings and me were the love of family and the promise of the baby in the manger.

## Who Are They, And Whence Came They?

by **BOB CASEY**, preacher  
Cornerstone Church of Christ  
70 Bond Street at Camp Avenue in West Irvine

In **Revelation 7:9-17** John gets a futuristically view of all the saved. They are standing before the throne clothed with white robes and palms in their hands, crying, "Salvation to our God who sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." Here we see all the angels, the elders, the living creatures, all these fall upon their faces and worship God, saying, "Blessings, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving and honor, and power be to our God forever and forever."

One of the elders asked, "Who are these which are arrayed in white robes, and where do they come from?" And then the answer came, "These are they whom came out of the great tribulation and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. These stand before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple. So in doing so, gone will be the days of hunger, thirst, burdens of this life, and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." **Why?** Because they have fought all the battles of this life and have come out victorious.

**What about all of us today?** Are we facing all the battles of Christianity? **What about the battle of attendance?**

The Bible says in **Acts 2:42**, "*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship.*" There was no new testament written at that time, and it would have been impossible for the apostles to visit every home, so the only way this could have been accomplished was, to continue steadfastly in attendance to the preaching of the word in assemblies. Did you know that when you obeyed the gospel that you obligated yourself to be faithful in attendance to all the meetings of the church? This includes Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings, prayer meetings, weekly gospel meetings and to all services the church may have?

Did you know that if you do not, then God knows, the Lord Jesus knows, the Holy Spirit knows, you know, and you and I know the devil knows and he rejoices when you do not attend! And all the angels in heaven know that you are not going to get in hollering distance of the life you are seeking for if you do not heed the Master's voice. **Hebrews 10:25-26**. So when you do not attend church, you deliberately weaken yourself, and the devil so orders your life to keep you away permanently so to attend everyone of the meetings is indeed a great battle, but one day it will be worth it all. Every person who will stand before in victory will be a person who has been washed in the blood of the Lamb. **How is this?** Jesus, when He instituted the Lord's supper, said: "This is my blood which is shed for you unto the remission of sins," and when we hear believe, and obey Him, the Bible is its interpreter. **Acts 2:38** and **Romans 6:3-5** tells us when we are immersed in water we touch the blood of Jesus and our sins are remitted. Who are these and how did they get here? **Hebrews 9:28** "So Christ as once offered to bear the sins of many, and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." **What about you, dear reader? Have you been washed in the blood of Jesus? If not, you stand this very moment in jeopardy of losing your soul, and what about you who once attended, but now have cased to assemble, you stand in the same jeopardy as well. Revelation 2:10** says, Be thou faithful unto death, "*And I will give them a crown of life.*" **So no faithfulness, no crown** You will decide the outcome. Obey while it is today!

If we can help, call 1-859-369-5164 or attend with us at 70 Bond Street, West Irvine.

Sincerely, Bob Casey

## Lie detectors can beep at the most inopportune times



**America's Heartland**  
**Roger Alford**  
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Lie detectors can beep at the most inopportune times

You may have heard about the father who bought a lie detector that would make a loud beep whenever somebody told a lie.

His son came home one afternoon, and the father asked how school went.

"Fine," the son said.

"Beep" went the lie detector.

The father then asked: "Were you even at school today, son?"

"Yes, I was."

"Beep" went the lie detector.

"OK. I went fishing with my buddies."

The father said: "You played hooky? When I was your age I'd never even consider doing such a thing."

"Beep," went the lie detector.

The mother couldn't hide her amusement. "Ha, ha, ha," she laughed. "He really is your son."

"Beep" went the lie detector.

You know, spiritually speaking, you have one of two potential fathers. The Bible tells us that our father is either God who loves us and wants the best for us or Satan who wants to rob us of all that is good. The Bible says he came to steal, kill and destroy.

For believers, the verse applies: "But now, O Lord,

you are our Father" (Isaiah 64:8).

For nonbelievers, this verse applies: "You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires."

In our own schools, we can see the blessings of children having a good earthly fathers verses bad ones.

There's nothing more heartbreaking than to see kids who have been abused, neglected and mistreated. You might see the evidence in the marks and bruises, in dirty faces and filthy clothes, in thin, malnourished bodies, and in their very demeanors.

When social service agencies learn of children in such circumstances, it is their job to take those children away from bad fathers and put them in homes with good, loving fathers.

There's nothing more uplifting than to see children who have been blessed by a good father. You often can see evidence of it in their shining faces, in the light in their eyes, in the smiles on their faces.

And so it is with our neighbors here in America's heartland. Often, it's quite easy to see those who are being abused by their father the devil. He doesn't give them wholesome things that keep them healthy. He gives them things like liquor and drugs and needles. He gives them broken marriages and broken homes and broken spirits.

It's just as easy to spot the people who belong to their loving Heavenly Father. He provides the wholesome things that put joy in their hearts and a sparkle in their eyes.

The good news is that, spiritually, we're able to choose our father. We can opt to belong to the devil or we can choose God.

I recommend God. Roger Alford offers words of encouragement to residents of America's heartland. Reach him at [RogerAlford1@gmail.com](mailto:RogerAlford1@gmail.com).

## A Call to Persevere (Jude 1:20-23)

(See also Hebrews 10:19-39)

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, 21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. 22 And of some have compassion, making a difference: 23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Sponsored by Crooked Creek Christian Church Inc.  
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## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Titus in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What does Hebrews 9 say it will do when Christ appears for a second time? Awake the Heavens, Start anew, Save those who look for Him, Cease all evil
3. Where is the Codex Sinaiticus, the oldest complete Bible in exist-

ence? Smithsonian, Hall of Jerusalem, British Museum, Vatican

4. Which hour mentioned in the Bible means the last possible moment that something can be done? First, Second, Eleventh, Twelfth

5. From Revelation, the lion of the tribe of Judah will open which book? Life, Everlasting torment, Death, Seven Seals

6. What Philistine city was home to Goliath? Jericho, Bethel, Gaza, Gath

**Answers on bottom of Page 13**  
Wilson Casey's mainstream UFO book, "Swamp Gas & High Hopes 101," is now available from TouchPointPress.com

# Thank You!

Thank you for your support for School Board District #1 member in the November 8 election. Your votes were appreciated.

**Donna Isfort**

Paid for by Donna Isfort