

New Beginnings

Kresge Methodist Church Newsletter & more

March 2024

As we approach Holy Week, a time steeped in the profound symbolism of Jesus's journey from triumphant entry to agonizing crucifixion and ultimately to his glorious resurrection, I find myself reflecting deeply on the immeasurable sacrifices made for me, for us all. It's a narrative so rich in meaning, yet so personal in its resonance.

Contemplating the enormity of Christ's sacrifice, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the unfathomable gift bestowed upon humanity by a loving God, sending His only Son to endure the anguish of the cross so that we, sinners though we may be, might find forgiveness and eternal life. It's a love so boundless, so unconditional, that it brings tears to my eyes.

But the gifts of God extend far beyond the realm of spiritual salvation. They manifest in the breathtaking beauty of creation that surrounds us, and the precious bonds of family, the warmth of friendships, the simple joys of everyday life all bestowed upon us by a benevolent Creator. In the face of such abundance, I am struck by a profound sense of humility and unworthiness. Do I, do any of us, truly give enough in return? Not merely in material offerings or acts of kindness, but in the precious currency of time spent in communion with the Divine. How often do we pause amidst the chaos of our lives to engage in intimate conversation with God, as we would with an old friend? Do we take the time to share our joys, our fears, our hopes, and our doubts, knowing that He listens with boundless compassion?

Our lives are often a whirlwind of activity, rushing to work, attending to obligations, chasing after worldly pursuits. But in the quiet moments, in the stillness of our hearts, do we ever stop to acknowledge the source of all that we have been given? Do we recognize that without Him, none of it would be possible?

As Holy Week unfolds before us, let us not only reflect on the profound mysteries of faith but also on the depth of God's love and the boundless gifts He bestows upon us each day. May we strive to reciprocate that love with hearts full of gratitude and lives devoted to His service, knowing that in His presence, we find true fulfillment and everlasting grace.

Please email me with any prayer request, or suggestion to caw.newbeginnings@gmail.com



Please Keep These People in Your Prayers



Sybil Temple, health issues

Clara Jean David's son Clay having health issues

Anna Parker, health issues

Susan O'Neal, Recovering from Covid

Sandra & Terry's daughters Stephanie and Angie are having health issues

Jeff & Maria's daughter Laura, father-in-law passed away

Lynn's sister Gail in hospital with covid and other issues



Sunday Worship

Pastor.....

Sunday School.....10:00am

Sunday Service.....10:55am

INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH

All The Stories Of The Bible

as crafted by John Walsh

Crucifixion, Burial and Resurrection

Matthew 27:27-60; Luke 23:26-43 & John 19:16-42 - Matthew 27:62-28:15; Mark 16:1-13 & John 20:1-18

Jesus was condemned to die by crucifixion. Pilate turned him over to Roman soldiers, who put a crown of thorns on his head. They laughed at him and said, "Look, the King of the Jews." They beat him and spit on him.

They then led him away to be crucified. Along the way, they grabbed a man and made him carry the cross. A large crowd followed, mourning and crying.

They took Jesus and two criminals outside the city walls to a place called "The Skull." All three were nailed to crosses, with Jesus in the middle. Pilate put a sign on his cross, which read, THE KING OF THE JEWS. The chief priest said, "Don't write 'The King of the Jews!'" But Pilate said, "I've written what I've written."

After the crosses were put into place, Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them! They don't know what they're doing." It was nine o'clock in the morning.

Some of the people shouted, "If you're the Son of God, come down from that cross."

Religious leaders laughed, "Oh, he can save others, but He can't save Himself! He said he was the Son of God. Why isn't God helping Him?"

One of the criminals hanging next to Jesus yelled, "If you're the Messiah, save yourself and us."

The other criminal yelled back, "Don't you fear God? We deserve to be crucified, but this man is innocent!" Then he said, "Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus said, "Today, you'll be with me in Paradise."

The soldiers took the clothes of Jesus and divided them among themselves. His robe was seamless, so they threw dice to see who would get it.

Jesus saw his mother standing near the cross, and John nearby. He said, "Mother, look to John as your son. John, take care of my mother."

Around noon, darkness covered the entire area and lasted for three hours.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon, Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Then he said, "It's finished," and bowed his head and died.

At that moment, there was an earthquake. Huge

boulders split in two. The veil in the temple ripped from top to bottom. The soldiers standing near the cross were afraid when they saw all of this. They looked up at Jesus and said, "It's true! This was the Son of God!" Later in the afternoon, other soldiers came to break the legs of those on the crosses. They did this to speed up their death. First they broke the legs of the two criminals. When they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead. To make sure, a soldier thrust a spear into his side.

A rich man named Joseph went to Pilate and got permission to bury the body of Jesus. The religious leaders also met with Pilate and said, "This deceiver told his disciples that after his death he would rise from the dead on the third day. We're afraid that they may come and steal the body and then tell everyone that he rose from the dead." Pilate agreed to put a Roman seal on the stone, and he assigned guards to watch the grave.

Joseph and his friend Nicodemus helped take the body down from the cross. They wrapped it in strips of linen cloth, with a mixture of spices. Joseph then laid it in his own tomb and rolled a large stone across the entrance. A Roman seal was put on the stone. Then soldiers stood in front of the grave to guard the body of Jesus.

All was quiet at the tomb of Jesus until early Sunday morning while it was still dark. Suddenly there was an earthquake and an angel appeared at the gravesite. He rolled back the huge stone and sat on it! The guards were terrified and fainted. And then ... all was quiet once again.

As the sun came up, Mary Magdalene and some other women walked into the garden so they could put spices on the body of Jesus. They were wondering how they were going to get someone to roll back the stone from the tomb. When they came to the tomb, they realized the soldiers were gone and the stone was rolled back. They looked, and saw that the tomb was empty!

Mary turned and ran to tell the disciples about the empty tomb. The other women stayed in the garden. Finally they went inside the tomb. They saw two angels. One of them said, "Don't be afraid! You're looking for Jesus who was cruci-

fied. He's not here, because he has risen. Go tell his disciples and Peter." So the women went to do as they were told.

Meanwhile, Mary found the disciples and told them, "They've taken the body of Jesus and we don't know where it is!"

When Peter and John heard this, they ran to the tomb. John got there first, but didn't go in. Peter rushed in, and John followed. They saw the strips of cloth that had been wrapped around the body of Jesus, but the body was missing. They left the tomb and walked home, confused about what had happened.

After they were gone, Mary Magdalene arrived back at the garden, weeping as she walked.

When she got to the tomb, she saw the angels. One of them said, "Why are you crying?"

"Because they have taken away my Lord and I don't know where he is."

She turned and saw a man standing near her. She didn't realize it was Jesus. She thought it was the gardener. "Sir, if you have taken him away, please tell me where he is so I can go get him."

Jesus said, "Mary!" Instantly, she knew who it was! She fell down and grabbed his feet, "My Master!"

He said, "Don't hold me, but go tell my disciples that you have seen me." Immediately she got up and ran to find the disciples.

Jesus then appeared to the other women as they were walking back into the city. They fell down and worshiped him. He said, "Go find my brothers and tell them that I'll meet them in Galilee."

All the women found the disciples and said, "Jesus is alive! We have seen him and talked to him. He's alive!" The men were overcome, and could not believe it was really true.

The guards who were at the tomb were terrified by the events of that morning. They went and told the religious leaders exactly what happened. After some discussion, the high priest gave the guards a large amount of money and said, "Tell people that the disciples of Jesus came and stole his body while you were sleeping. We will make sure you don't get in trouble with Pilate." The guards took the money and did as they were told.

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New Beginnings Newsletter: caw.newbeginnings@gmail.com - Phone 678-988-2881



Announcements

Daylight Savings begins Sunday March 10th - Don't forget to spring ahead 1 hour.

Worship Team will meet on Tuesday, March 5th at 4:00 pm

One Board will meet on Tuesday, March 19th at 5:00 pm

Worship Team will meet to decorate the church for Easter on Saturday, March 30th at 10:00 am. Everyone come out at help.

Holy Week Services

March 24th - Palm Sunday service regular time of 10:55 am

March 28th - Munday Thursday service at 6:00 pm with Communion

March 29th - Good Friday service at 6:00 pm

Easter March 31st Sunrise Service 7:30 am

Breakfast - 8:30

Sunday School - 10:00 am

Easter Sunday service - 10:55

March Birthdays

Don't forget to wish these people a Happy Birthday



7th Martha Robinson

23rd Vandy Cobb

20th Judy Cook

25th George Robinson



March Anniversaries

7th Shannon & Brian McGee

17th Ann & John Roberts

8th Sandra & Terry Simpson



Cleaning Schedule

February -March 2024

March 7 - Gaynell Owen & ?

March 21 - Judy Cook & Deborah Edge

April 4 - Linda Moody & Maria Masi

April 18 - Linda Stanton & Lynn Self

May 2 - Iris Petersmarck & Clara Jean David

May 30 - Judy Cook & Deborah Edge

If you are unable to clean when scheduled, please find a substitute to take your place.

If you would like to help with cleaning your church see Gaynell Owens. All help is greatly appreciate

And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; they shall be showers of blessing. Ezekiel 34: 26



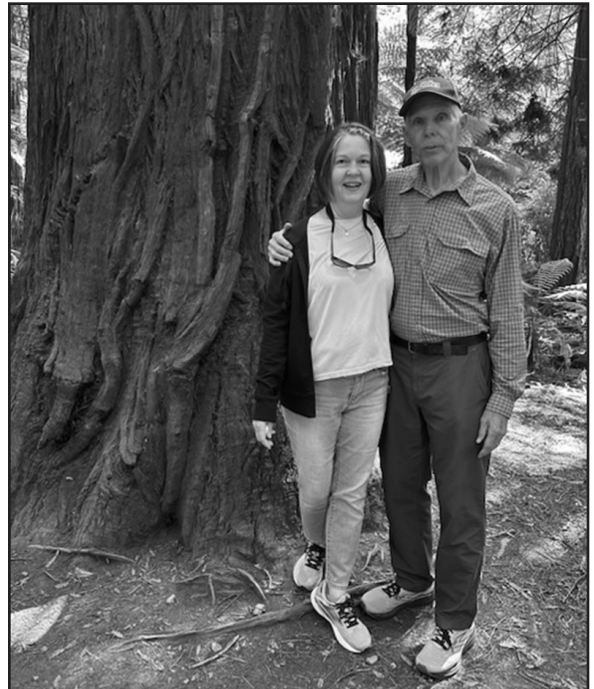
Lynn Self

Lynn exemplifies exceptional dedication to the service of our church, consistently demonstrating a commendable work ethic across various roles. As the unwavering leader of our worship team, she orchestrates seamless church services, meticulously overseeing every aspect from music selection to ensuring adequate scripture readers and coordinating communion ceremonies. Additionally, she spearheads the church's aesthetic endeavors, leading the decoration efforts with finesse. Lynn's commitment extends beyond these responsibilities; she actively participates in the upkeep of our church facilities as a member of the cleaning team, is a dedicated children's Sunday School teacher, and an active member of the One Board. Her readiness to provide assistance to fellow church members is commendable, offering support such as delivering meals, facilitating transportation to medical appointments, and ensuring their attendance at church services. Lynn's multifaceted contributions embody the spirit of selfless service and greatly enrich the communal life of our congregation. Thank you Lynn for all you do.

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38



Church Family Happenings



Russ & Deborah Edge enjoyed a visit to the Redwood Forest near Auckland on their recent trip to New Zealand.

If your family has hosted out of town visitors, you have a new grand or great grand child, took a trip, celebrated a birthday or anniversary, let your church family know right here. Send it to me at caw.newbeginnings@gmail.com, you can also text it or call 678-988-2881.

Jesus Suffered for You

By: Bill Brinkworth

Many of the details of the most important event in human history are listed in Matthew 27. It is the event that had to happen to give all the opportunity to see and live with God forever. This event was the death of God's only begotten son, Jesus.

In God's plan, Jesus' death was the only way anyone's sins could be paid for. Our good deeds, works, doing religious ceremonies, and obeying tradition cannot pay for one sin we have done, let alone the countless number of which we are guilty. The only payment acceptable to God for our sins was the sacrificial death of His Son. Jesus' death on the cross was not for anything the sinless Saviour had done, but for what all mankind has done.

Although Jesus was God's son, the pain and suffering He encountered were not lessened. Here is a list of some of what Jesus suffered when He went to the cross for our sins:

He was bound (Mat. 27:2).

He was betrayed (vs. 3).

He was falsely accused (vs. 12).

He was unjustly convicted. He was so hated that a man guilty of murder and robbery was released so that Jesus could die in that man's stead (vs. 26).

He was whipped (vs. 26).

He was stripped of His clothing and humiliated (vs. 28).

He was repeatedly mocked and ridiculed (vs. 31, 37, 40 ...). He was spat upon (vs. 30).

He was beaten (vs. 30).

He was nailed to a cross, and allowed to hang there.

His death only meant the value of His clothing to some (vs. 35).

He and his disciples were not trusted (vs. 42).

Jesus did all this and more to pay for our sins! All the words we know are insufficient to tell Jesus how thankful we all should be to Him for all He has done for us. None of us is worthy of the great price Jesus paid for our iniquities. He is worthy of only good things yet He suffered all this for us! What great love He has for all of us that He would lay down His life so that we could have the opportunity to go to Heaven because of what He has done!

Has His death on the cross been in vain for you? If you have not made Him your personal Saviour and asked Him to save you from an eternity in Hell, His death was of no value for you! Admit your sinnership, and ask Him to be your payment for sin today.

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."
Romans 10:9-11

Jerusalem Times 33AD

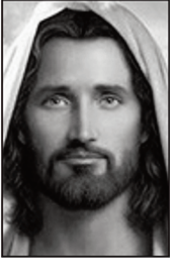
Obituaries

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ, 33, of Nazareth, died Friday on Mount Calvary, also known as Golgotha, the place of the skull. Betrayed by the apostle Judas. Jesus was crucified by the Romans, by order of the Ruler Pontius Pilate. The causes of death were crucifixion, extreme exhaustion, severe torture, and loss of blood.

Jesus Christ, a descendant of Abraham was a member of the House of David. He was the Son of the late Joseph, a carpenter of Nazareth, and Mary, his devoted Mother. Jesus was born in a stable in the city of Bethlehem, Judea. He is survived by his mother Mary, his faithful Apostles, numerous disciples and many other followers.

Jesus was self educated and spent most of his adult life working as a Teacher. Jesus also occasionally worked as a Medical Doctor and it is reported that he healed many patients. Up until the time of his death, Jesus was teaching and



sharing the good news, healing the sick, touching the lonely, feeding the hungry, and helping the poor.

Jesus was most noted for telling parables about his Father's Kingdom and performing miracles, such as feeding over 5,000 people with only five loaves of bread and two fish, and healing a man who was born blind. On the day before His death, He held a Last Supper celebrating the Passover Feast, at which He foretold His death.

The body was quickly buried in a stone grave, which was donated by Joseph of Arimathea, a loyal friend of the family. By order of Pontius Pilate a boulder was rolled in front of the Tomb. Roman Soldiers were put on guard.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that everyone try to live as Jesus did and believe in Him. Donations may be sent to anyone in need.

Bible Trivia

1. How many Bible books did both Moses and the apostle John write?
2. What is the last book of the Old Testament?
3. Who took Judas Iscariot's place as an apostle?
4. Which book is the Gospel of the second chance?
5. Which group was the ruling council of the Jews who plotted to kill Jesus?
6. Which prophet was called by the Lord as a boy and anointed Saul as Israel's first king?
7. Where is the birthplace of Paul, also known as Saul? This is now located in modern-day Turkey.
8. In the Song of Songs, how much is the bride's dowry?
9. Crafted by Aaron, the Israelites worshipped what idol while Moses was away?
10. In 2 Kings 8, how long is the famine that Elisha prophesizes?

Answers

7. Tarsus	1. Five
8. 1,000 silver pieces	2. Malachi
9. The Golden calf	3. Matthias
10. Seven Years	4. Jonah
5. The Sanhedrin	6. Samuel

The Privilege of Prayer

by Dudley Anderson

Psalm 4:1

*Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness!
You have relieved me in my distress; Have mercy
on me and hear my prayer.*

Prayer is the most fundamental function of every believer. Prayer opens the floodgates of heaven. Prayer delivers the heart from harm. Prayer reveals the nature of deity. Prayer encounters eternity. How God answers my prayers is a mystery to me. It flabbergasts me how the almighty eternal and omnipotent Creator hears me when I clumsily babble on about my humble needs. Except that he loves me. What a privilege!

William Barclay said, "When we pray, remember:

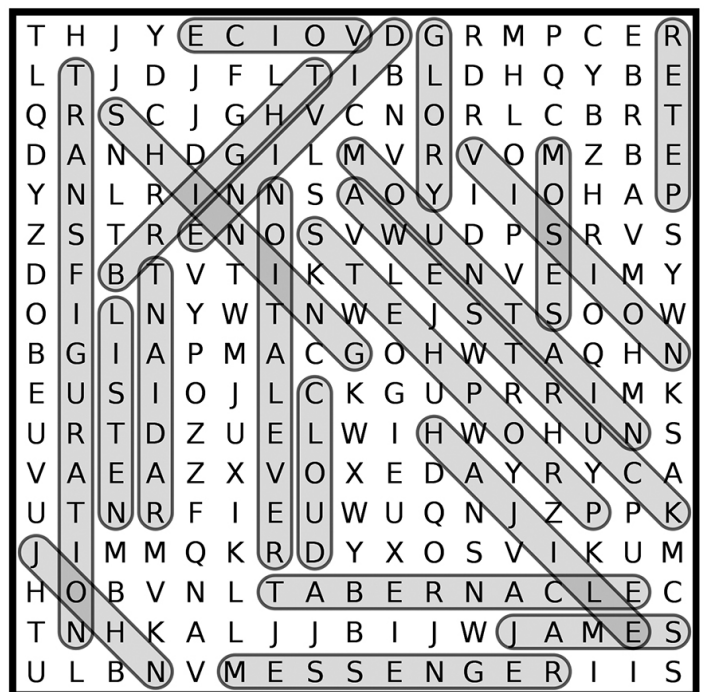
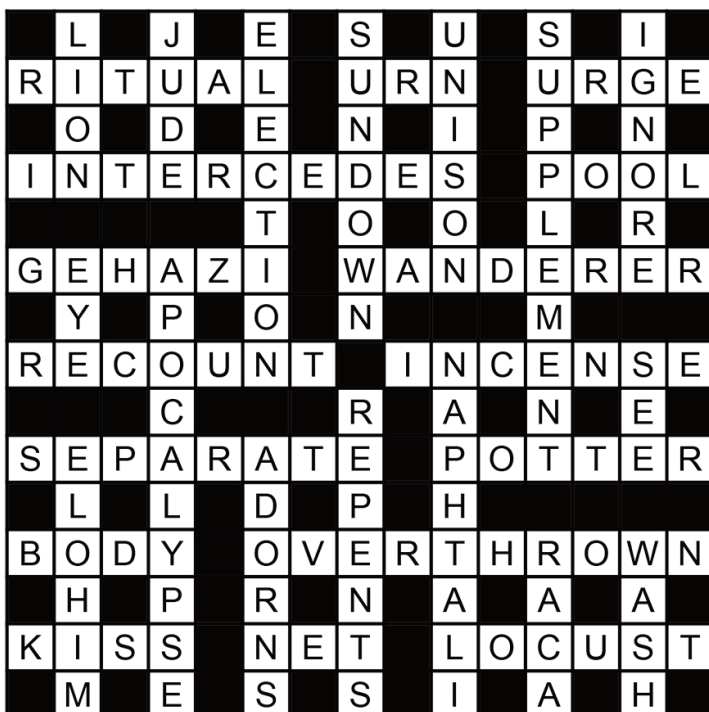
1. The love of God who wants the best for us.
2. The wisdom of God that knows what is best for us.
3. The power of God that can accomplish it."

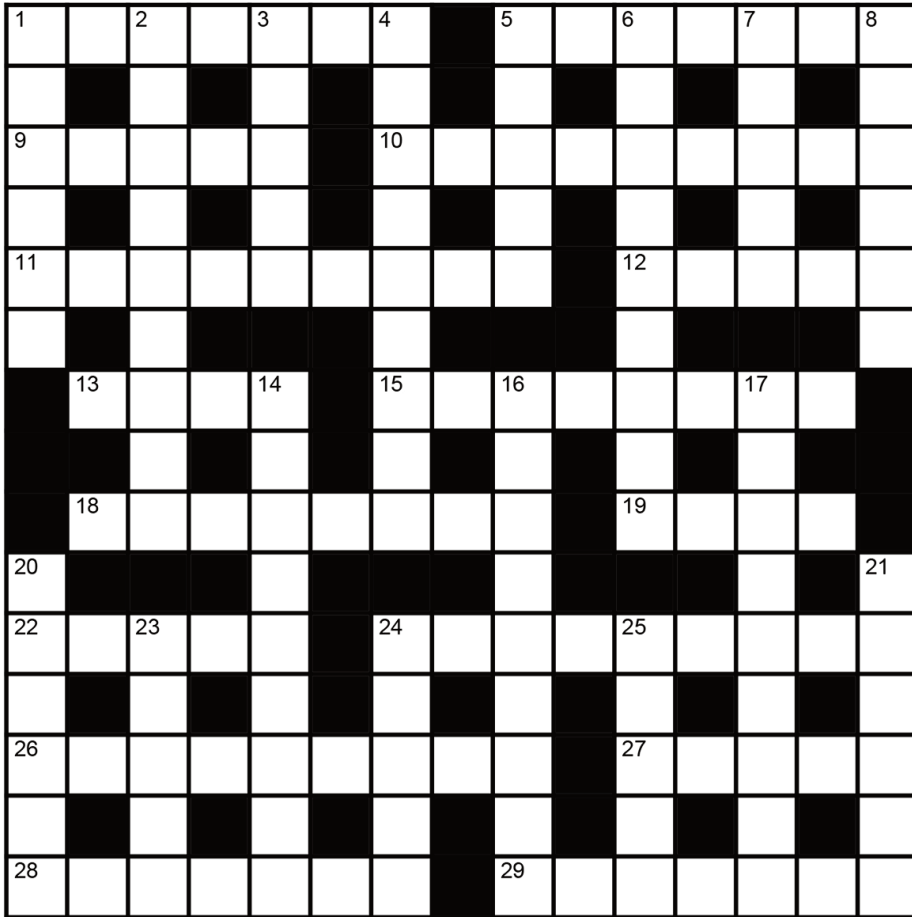
Prayer is more than simply falling to one's knees once a day for a 10-minute hurried Our Father. Prayer is a moment-by-moment cognitive realization that the God whom you love and who loves you is with you in every situation, good or bad.

When describing the coming of the Holy Spirit, Jesus called him the counsellor. Holy Spirit is with you every moment of every day guiding your every step. He hears your every breath and graciously listens to your clumsy babbling on about your humble needs because he loves you.

A good friend of mine, Evangelist George Miller once said, "What prayer can do, God can do." Whether you and I are praying about our humble needs or interceding about world affairs the power and might of the eternal and omnipotent Creator responds because he loves us.

Answers to February's Puzzles





Across

- . 1 Desperation; Praised (anag) (7)
- . 5 God, doing this on day 7 (7)
- . 9 More refined (5)
- . 10 One of Paul's letters (9)
- . 11 Uncared for (9)
- . 12 Encamp against city (5)
- . 13 Charitable giving (4)
- . 15 Consecrated (8)
- . 18 Abraham received these (8)
- . 19 Jesus raised in 3 (4)
- . 22 Colour found only in Ezekiel (5)
- . 24 Someone who shields (9)
- . 6 Continuance of life (9)
- . 27 Grind together (5)
- . 28 Unusual (7)
- . 29 Athalia's cry (7)

Down

- . 1 Rely on (6)
- . 2 Tail-ender (9)
- . 3 Be in harmony (5)
- . 4 Not wicked (9)
- . 5 Reigned (5)
- . 6 Contented (9)
- . 7 Picture (5)
- . 8 Good news (6)
- . 14 The first, first-aid? (9)
- . 16 Fraudulent (9)
- . 17 Slain by Moses (9)
- . 20 They get the hump (6)
- . 21 Parentless (6)
- . 23 Prickly shrub (5)
- . 24 300 bought ointment to anoint Jesus (5)
- . 25 Keen-sighted bird of prey (5)



Just Joking

Sitting on the side of the highway waiting to catch speeding drivers, a State Police Officer sees a car pattering along at 22 MPH. He thinks to himself, "This driver is just as dangerous as a speeder!" So he turns on his lights and pulls the driver over.

Approaching the car, he notices that there are five old ladies two in the front seat and three in the back, eyes wide and white as ghosts.

The driver, obviously confused, says to him, "Officer, I don't understand, I was doing exactly the speed limit! What seems to be the problem?"

"Ma'am," the officer replies, "You weren't speeding, but you should know that driving slower than the speed limit can also be a danger to other drivers."

"Slower than the speed limit?" she asked. No sir, I was doing the speed limit exactly Twenty-Two miles an hour!" the old woman says a bit proudly. The State Police officer, trying to contain a chuckle explains to her that "22" was the route number, not the speed limit. A bit embarrassed, the woman grinned and thanked the officer for pointing out her error.

"But before I let you go, Ma'am, I have to ask, Is everyone in this car ok? These women seem awfully shaken and they haven't muttered a single peep this whole time." the officer asks.

"Oh, they'll be alright in a minute officer. We just got off Route 119."