



Marble Rock Journal

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September 2009

Community Calendar

Church Services:

St. Mary's Catholic Saturday > 7:00 p.m.

Sunday > 8:30 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran > Sunday 9:00 a.m.

United Methodist > Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Sunday school > Sunday 10:00 am

September 3rd > Lions Club meeting

@ 6:30 pm > St. Mary's Catholic

September 7th > LABOR DAY

September 8th > SCHOOL ELECTION

September 8th > City Council meeting

@ 7:00 pm > City hall

September 9th > Park Board meeting

@ 7:00 pm > Library meeting room

September 11th > PATRIOT DAY

September 13th > Sunday school starts

@ 10:00 pm > Methodist Church

September 14th > Study Club meeting

@ 1:00 pm > Library meeting room

September 15th > Goren Gals meeting

@ Mary Ann Tolliver residence

September 15th > Hi-Neighbor Club meeting

@ Teresa Staudt residence

September 16th > Wednesday Bridge meeting

@ Mary Adams residence

September 16th > Library Board meeting

@ 5:00 pm > Library meeting room

September 17th > Lions Club meeting

@ 6:30 pm > St. Paul's Lutheran

September 20th > Sunday school Potluck

September 21st > American Legion meeting

7:00 pm > Library meeting room

September 21st > Am. Legion Auxiliary meeting

@ 7:00 pm > Library meeting room

September 21st > Fireman's meeting

@ 7:00 pm > Fire station

September 22nd > AUTUMN BEGINS

September 23rd > Journal News due

September 30th > October Journal out



Rocky Says

Last month we promised you the following list of all who helped Earl and Dana Kiefer with fun days. They are: Christine Schmitt, Gary Schmidt, Cathy Kruse, Patty Willsher, Heather Legg and Mary Schiller. When you see any of these people be sure to thank them for their hard work.



Be sure to vote in our School Board Election on September 8th at the Library Meeting Room. Polls are open from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.



The Lions Club has committed to donate \$200 per year to the City for replacement of our faded and damaged signs which show the names of our streets. Thanks to them for their generosity.



Have a great Labor Day!

Rocky



LEARNING IS FOR A LIFETIME

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?"

Martin Luther King, Jr

@

A teacher once said "Sometimes I believe we're living in a time when the only "child proof containers"are books.

Where can you always find happiness and contentment?

Answer - in the dictionary

"Discipline is the critical link between thinking and behavior"

"If you want happiness for an hour- take a nap.

If you want happiness for a day - go fishing.
 If you want happiness for a month-get married.
 If you want happiness for a year- inherit a fortune.
 If you want happiness for a lifetime-help someone else."

"THINK BIG THOUGHTS BUT RELISH SMALL PLEASURES."

Robert and Arlene Carney



MARBLE ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THANK YOU to the anonymous donor for your generous contribution to our Marble Rock Historical Society.
 THANK YOU to Lee Adams for sending an 1862 large photograph and other old family photos.
 THANK YOU to Carol Lines for loaning us many pictures and interesting items from the Bailey family.
 THANK YOU to Lynn Wedeking, Max Handley, Carma Hillman and Arlene Carney for serving as hosts on FUN DAY
 Aug. 1 when 55 persons signed the register. On Aug 2 Lynn Wedeking hosted some guests and on Aug 9th Diane Black and Renee Parker were hosts for Alumni Sunday.
 On Sunday, Aug. 30 the Historical Society met to evaluate the summer activities and plan for continuing restoration on the Beelar Log Cabin and other projects. This has been a busy season with some exciting additions and improvements. Highlights were the Sult Barber Shop. Display and the return of Bopp's Drug Store BackBar and all that entailed. Work will continue in restoring the Beelar Log Cabin as repairs are being made to keep it as authentic as possible.
 Thank you to those who labor tirelessly in that project. We thank you for your interest and welcome those who want to volunteer your time and financial support as we strive to preserve our community's history.

Arlene Carney



Bridge Club News

August 3rd the Monday Bridge Club met at the home of Florence Gerk. All members were present. High prize went to Mary Ann Tolliver, 2nd

high to Mary Adams and door prize to Jo Ellen Murray. The next party will be on Monday, August 17th at the home of Jo Ellen Murray.

August 17th the Monday Bridge Club met at the home of Jo Ellen Murray. All members were present. High prize went to Leona Enabnit, 2nd high to Mary Ann tolliver and door prize to Audrey Merfeld. The next party will be on Monday, August 31st at the home of Leona Enabnit.

Leona Enabnit



Fundays Thank You

On Friday Night we would like to Thank, the **4-H Union Busy Bees, the Afterschool Program (Lynette and Sam Schriever and Carol Wreghitt) Christina Schmitt and Tyler Keith** for there help with the Carnival Games. Thanks to **David Wellsher Jr.** for help with the set up and for **Brian Keith and Troy Duryee** for the help of putting it away. Thanks to **First Security** for the money donation to the Gold Rush Game. Thanks to **Parry Willsher and Mary Schiller** for there baking and doing the Cup Cake Walk. Thanks to **Heather Legg** for Awarding Certificates to everyone who participated tin the Kiddy/Teddy Bear Parade. Thanks to **Randy Schweizer** for driving the Old Fire Truck to start out the parade with. A special thanks to **Dave Krull and Rich Koenigsfeld** for getting down the Golf Game at the Elevator. Thanks to **Don Hutzell** for making another Golf Game for the Carnival Games.
 On Saturday we would like to start off Thanking our Sponsor: **First Security** for the "Smiley Face Train" **Lion's Club** for the "Buck Hallow Band" **Reid's Funeral Chapel and Lawler & Swanson PLC Attorney** for "Pam's Carriage Rides" **New 2 You** for "Half Pint the Clown" **Iowa Telecom & Marble Rock Coop Elevator** for "The Ventriloquist" **Omnitel & Lincoln Savings Bank** for the "Inflatable Games" We also would like to Thank **everyone** who put money in the cans around town and who bring popcans to the Stop-n-Shop popcan donation center. We need to Thank our other generous sponsors for the "Inflatable Games": **Marble Rock Study Club, Rockford Ins. Staudt Photography, Ozark National Life (Cathy Kruse), Pat Parcher Beauty Shop, JR Ackley Ins., Susan Nelson Glass Works, Pioneer Seed (Rick Willert) Mary Kay (Lynette Swin-**

ton), **Max Wedeking Electric, Doug & Tracey Merfeld, Kingery Taxidermy** and **Judy's Beauty Shop** with out these generous sponsors to help us Fundays couldn't have done so much please say thank you to them.

Always Thanks to **Cathy Kruse** for helping with the parade every year. Thanks to **Vickie Rowe & Mike Molstead** for the use of the Convertibles.

We would especially like to Thank **Paul Guthart** for all the time of cleaning and getting the park ready for Fundays and to the City for paying for the Port-a-Potties and the Dumpsters for the Park. This was all appreciated.

Thanks to **Doug Merfeld** for tilling the Volleyball court for the Volleyball tournaments.

Thanks to **Jason Winters** for doing a benefit for the Brandee Jefferies family.

Thanks to the Ball Stand for there Fund Raising Efforts also, it looked like it was a "Big Splash".

Thanks to **Heather Legg** for all her talents on her face painting, the kids loved it.

Thank you to **Barry Winters, Steve Well** and **Mary Schiller** for the use of there generators for the inflatable stuff. Thanks to **Gary Schmidt** for helping with hauling the generators to the park and for **Mary Schiller** for hauling them back with the help of **Jeff Meek**. Also thanks to **Jr Ackley** for bring up Steve Wells generator to the park.

Thank to anyone I would have missed. **Marble Rock Fundays was a great success.**

Marble Rock Fundays Committee

My father passed away on August 1 and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kind condolences, cards and memorials. Even though most of you did not know my dad, he left this world a better place because he lived. Jamie died 15 years ago on August 8 and once again our Marble Rock friends remembered us with cards and supportive words. We lived in Marble Rock for over thirty years and we still appreciate all of you. Thank you once again.

Mary (and Jerry) Ott, Mason City.

We want to thank our family and friends for their visits, prayers and cards and gifts while we was in the hospital and since getting home. Special thanks to Pastor Judy. All so much appreciated.

Gene & Norma Ewald

The Marble Rock Veteran's Memorial Association would like to take this opportunity to thank the anonymous donor that stepped forward with a generous donation made to the Marble Rock Veteran's Memorial Association. It is greatly appreciated.
Marble Rock Veteran's Memorial Association

Marble Rock Lions Club would like to take this time to thank the Marble Rock Elevator for the use of their building for the Fundays Tractor Ride participants. Thanks to the Dougherty Fire Department for the use of their building for our break with the Fundays Tractor Ride.

The Marble Rock Lions Club would like to make a special thank you to the anonymous donor for their generous donation. It is greatly appreciated.
Lions Club

The After School Program would like to thank Lynette Schriever for the past two years with us. We would like to welcome Heather Hackman and thank you for taking Lynette's place.

After School Program

We would like to thank everyone who helped in any way at the time of Joyce's illness and death. We appreciate your prayers, thoughts, kind words, cards, food, memorial gifts and the visits to our family. She will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her, but we take comfort inn knowing we belong to a caring community during these difficult times.

The family of Joyce Marzen



OBITUARIES

JOYCE FERN MARZEN

MARBLE ROCK: A Funeral Mass for Joyce Fern Marzen, will be 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 4, 2009, at St. Patricks Catholic Church in Dougherty with Rev. Msgr. Walter Brunkan and Father Dubert officiating. Burial will be in the St. Patrick's Cemetery. Visitation will be 4:00 - 8:00 p.m., Monday, August 3, 2009, at St. Patricks Parish Hall, Dougherty where there will be a Rosary at 4:00 p.m. and a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Joyce F Marzen, 78 of Marble Rock died Saturday August 1, 2009 at Muse Norris hospice inpatient unit in Mason City, Joyce was born Jan. 23, 1931 in West Bend Iowa to Harold F. and M. Rosetta (Williams) Anderegg. She attended country school in Rockford and graduated as valedictorian in 1947 from Sheffield high School.

She married Charles Marzen on June 22, 1948 at St. Patrick's in Dougherty. They made their home on a farm near Marble Rock for the past 61 years. She resided for the past 6 months at the Nora Springs Care Center. Joyce worked at Floyd County Memorial Hospital in Charles City. During her 26 year career she worked first as a nurse's aide and later as a computer programmer and retired as the data processing manager in 1991.

Joyce enjoyed flower gardening, creative cooking, wine making, reading and following cyclone sports. Purple was her favorite color. Her greatest joy was her family especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She received a special birthday gift in 1997 with the birth of her great grandson, Austin Staudt.

Joyce was a lifelong Democratic Party member and ran for Floyd Co auditor. Everyone who knew Joyce enjoyed her kind spirit and quick wit. Her children and grandchildren loved to play board games with her, especially Scrabble because she was like a walking dictionary.

She was a member of Dougherty Domestic Club, Marble Rock Study Club, Mason City/Clear Lake Wine Club and the St Patrick's Ladies Auxillary. She will be greatly missed by her husband Charles, and five Children: Stephen Marzen, of Greene, IA, Theresa (Jim) Schmitt of Whittemore, IA, Judy (Bill) Vorhes of Marble Rock, IA, Andrea (Dennis) Keifer of Charles City, IA and Vincent (Laurie) Marzen of Robins, IA; twenty grandchildren and twenty one great-grandchildren; sister: Mary Peter of Sheffield, IA; Daughter-in-law: MaryLou Shaw of Marble Rock, IA; Sisters-in-law: Lillian, Virginia, and Pat Anderegg; Brothers-in-law: Robert Butler and Calvin Schneck; many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by one son, Gregory in 1999; her parents: Harold and Rosetta Anderegg; sisters: Ardys Butler, Phylliss Ferrier, Ramona Schneck; Brothers: Russell, Darwin and Raymond Anderegg. Memorials may be directed to the Joyce F Marzen Memorial fund in care of the family @ 1866 Cleveland Ave. Charles City, IA 50616. Services have been entrusted to Reid's Funeral Chapel, 519 N. First St., Greene. 641-823-4457

Betty L. Kock

MARBLE ROCK - Betty L. Kock, 76, of Marble Rock, died Monday afternoon (Aug. 17, 2009) at the Nora Springs Care Center in Nora Springs.

Funeral services for Betty Kock will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Marble Rock United Methodist Church in Marble Rock, with Darwin Kock, lay minister of the United Methodist Church in Riceville, officiating. Burial will be in Sunnyside Memory Gardens, rural Charles City.

Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Hauser Funeral Home, 1205 S. Main in Charles City. Visitation will continue an hour prior to the service Saturday at the church.

Betty LaVonne Hesse was born on May 13, 1933, at Shell Rock, the daughter of Andrew and Ruth (Cutler) Hesse. She attended the Marble Rock School. On August 9, 1949, she was united in marriage to Alvin "Bud" Dean Kock at the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Marble Rock.

Betty was a devoted military wife moving to numerous countries and all over the United States while Bud served 21 years in the United States Air Force. For four years Betty and Bud owned and operated the B & B Tap and later the Family Café, She was a member of the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Marble Rock and American Legion Auxiliary Post No. 387. Her interests included working with flowers, gardening, being outside, sewing and spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Living family members include her three children, Gary (Jodi) Hesse of Sellsburg, Ind., Deborah Kock of Woodward and Beverly Knecht of Marble Rock; two grandsons, Nicholas Hesse of Mason City and Jon Hesse of Sellersburg, Ind.; eight great-grandchildren, Kaylah Demaray, Logan Demaray, Jenna Knecht, Wesley Knecht, Tobin Hesse, Conner Hesse, Dezi Grant and Peyton Hesse; sister, Phyllis Willmoth of Omaha, Nebr.; brother, Marvin (Shirley) Hesse of Osage; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband and three brothers, Duane, Donald and LaVerne Hesse.

The Hauser Funeral Home; 641-228-2323, www.hauserfh.com



Marble Rock Alumni Hold 77th Reunion

The Marble Rock Alumni Association held their 77th annual potluck reunion in the Walter F. Bohl Community Center. Since August 12, 1932, it has been a tra-

dition for the Alumni of the Marble Rock High School to meet on the second Sunday in August. The Community Center is the former school gymnasium in which all had received their diplomas.

The 60th Anniversary Class of 1949 served as host and hostess for the event. There were 9 of their original 13 members present. Viola Blum Kingery served as Mistress-of-Ceremonies and skillfully guided the program. Bill Wentworth assisted her by introducing the class of 1954 who were celebrating their 55th Anniversary.

There were 66 attending with Mary Herman Greiner representing the earliest graduating class of 1939. Coming the furthest to attend were Marilyn Bohl and Arline Bohl Walter from Long Beach, California. Others from out-of-state were: Alan Wentworth (49), Green Bay, WI, Charles Goetzinger (54), Chanhassen, MN, and Donald Kelly (59), Brooklyn Park, MN.

Towns and cities in Iowa represented were Ames, Charles City, Clear Lake, Garner, Greene, Hiawatha, Iowa Falls, Marble Rock, Mason City, Marion, Nashua, New Hampton and West Des Moines.

Attendance by class year was as follows: 1939-1, 1940-3, 1943-1, 1944-1, 1945-1, 1947-1, 1948-2, 1949-9, 1950-1, 1951-2, 1952-5, 1953-2, 1954-7, 1955-1, 1956-1, 1957-2, 1959-1.

After the program, the balance of the afternoon was spent visiting.



1949 Class Holds Anniversary Gathering

On Saturday night, August 8, 2009, in observance of their 60th anniversary, ten members of the 1949 MRHS graduating class met at White Tails for an evening of dining and reminiscing. The 1954 class members were also present in observance of their 55th anniversary.

The class of 1949 had thirteen members of which three are now deceased. All ten of the remaining class members were present: Kenneth Ackley, Viola Blum (Kingery), Bob Enabnit, Jeanne Helmers (Blum), Gordon Hildebrand, Robert Lockwood, Don Marsh, Maurice Randall, Kathleen Rex (Schilling) and Alan Wentworth. The three deceased members were: Darlene Dickman (Suchamel), Wayne Lines, and Donovan O'Hara.



Class of 1949

It was a most enjoyable evening . . . pictures were taken . . . and during the evening several MR alumni joined us for more reminiscing. The next day found us in attendance at the 2009 Alumni Reunion.

Submitted by Jeanne Helmers Blum



Class of 1954 Reunion

The year 2009 was a special one for the High School Classes of '49 and '54. Viola Kingery and Bill Wentworth collaborated on a combined reunion August 8th at Whitetails in Marble Rock. All the surviving members of the Class of 1949 attended. Featured on the menu was prime rib which was very good. Digital cameras were seen in considerable numbers. Some came from long distances, notably Marilyn Bohl and Arline Walter from Long Beach, California and Ruth Alfeo from Port Aransas, Texas.

As always, the regrouping of old school chums was wonderful. Quite a few attended the Alumni Picnic at the renovated gym on Sunday, August 9th. This affair was ably coordinated by Max and Beverly Handley and featured a vast array of delectable dishes. Beverages were furnished by the class of '49.

Although attendance diminishes since there have been no MR High School graduates since 1958, everyone present had a great time and the weekend was given great reviews.

Submitted by Bill Wentworth



	1877.55
James Hunt	
½ deposit return	100.00
L G I	
water test	21.00
Calhoun-Burns Assoc.	
bridge engineering services	2736.00
Marble Rock Reserves	
transfers to reserves	1600.00
Postmaster	
stamps	132.00
First Security Bank	
fed w-h/fica/medicare	1037.86
IPERS	
ipers	566.77
Floyd & Leonard	
chain/bar oil	23.06
Jendro Sanitation	
garbage/recycle collection	839.56
Allied Manatts Group	
road rock/cement	151.52
TrueNorth Company	
employee insurance	4.80
Omnitel Communications	
telephone service	71.17
Alliant Energy	
utilities	876.16
Black Hills Energy	
utilities	102.88
Goodale Pumping	
Fun Days restrooms	195.00
United Healthcare	
group insurance	1567.25

Moved Engelhardt/seconded Merfeld to accept Mayor Merfeld's appointment of Troy Duryee to the Park Board with term ending 6.30.11. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried.

Moved Engelhardt/seconded Handley to accept Mayor Merfeld's appointment of Suzy Duryee, Earl Kiefer, and Cathy Kruse to Community Center Board with terms ending 6.30.12. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried.

Moved Engelhardt/seconded Handley to appoint John Marzen, term will end 6.30.14, and Philip Schrage, term will end 6.30.11, to Board of Adjustment subject to their acceptance. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried.

Moved Engelhardt/seconded Wells to appoint Dean Wentworth to the Planning & Zoning Commission subject to his acceptance. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried. Term will end 6.30.14.

Council instructed Clerk to write a letter to Omnitel thanking them for returning Channel 7 and 9 to the line-up of channels.

Moved Engelhardt/seconded Hutzell to send letter the Mr. Spurbeck giving 2 weeks to repair or remove fence at 210 Beelar Street or City will remove and he will be charged. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried.

A letter from City Attorney Walk was discussed regarding transfer of property on Beelar Street and what it will cost to get a property description. Moved Engelhardt/seconded Handley to send copy of Attorney letter to adjoining property owners and decide if they wish to proceed. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried.

Moved Handley/seconded Merfeld to purchase Transaction Pro Importer Software to go with QuickBooks. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried.

Moved Engelhardt/seconded Merfeld to send letter to Jamie Hulbert that his property must be mowed or we will mow and he will be charged or it will be added to his taxes. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried.

Moved Engelhardt/seconded Merfeld to move next meeting to Tuesday, September 8, 2009 because of Labor Day. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried.

Other items discussed were EPJ work, lagoon, River St. bridge, audit findings, dogs, nuisances, river complaint, Beelar St. trailers, compliance officer, bonds, and depository resolution.

Moved Hutzell/seconded Handley to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Roll: Ayes- All. Carried.

/s/ Doug Merfeld

Doug Merfeld, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Sandra Winters

Sandra Winters, City Clerk

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**Unapproved
Regular Meeting
of the
Marble Rock Library Board
Wednesday, August 19, 2009
5:00 p.m.**

Present: Carol Wreghitt, Sara Noss, Renee Parker, Lynette Swinton, Dave Krull, Wally Schmitt, Steve Wells, City Council representative, Elaine Ott, Librarian, Darlene Enabnit, Assistant Librarian.

September 17th Childhood Immunization Clinic -
Floyd County Court House 9:00 – 12:00 noon
To schedule an appointment call 1-641-257-6111

September 23rd Childhood Immunization Clinic -
Floyd County Court House 9:00 – 4:00 PM
To schedule an appointment call 1-641-257-6111

September 23th Floyd County WIC Clinic – 1010 S
Grand Ave, Charles City 9:00 AM- 3:00
PM
For information call 1-800-657-5856

September 24th Floyd County WIC Clinic – 1010 S
Grand Ave, Charles City 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM
For information call 1-800-657-5856

September 28th Childhood Immunization Clinic –
Floyd County Court House 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
To schedule an appointment call 1-641-257-6111

LEAD TESTING CAN BE DONE AT WIC CLINICS

Other classes available are:

Early Pregnancy: information on the first months of pregnancy

Cesarean Birth Awareness: information on caesarean birth

Our New Baby: for older brothers and sisters of the new baby

Scheduled upon request: fee is \$15.00 for each class

Parkinson Support Group – for information call
St. John Lutheran – Charles City 1-641-228-3397

Alzheimer's Support Group – Meets 3rd Tuesday of
each month @ 4:00 PM at the Teen Center,
1202 S. Main Charles City: for information call Floyd
County Public Health Home Care 1-641-257-6111.

Fibromyalgia Support Group- for information call
641-228-7141 (Deb Franke)

Diabetic Support Group –for information call Floyd
County Memorial Hospital 1-641-257-4317

MOP (Mother's with Preschoolers) – for informa-
tion call St. John Lutheran 1-641-228-3397

Sparrows – Trinity United Methodist – Charles City
1-641-228-5368

Community Indoor Walking –Trinity United Method-
ist – Charles City

Monday - Friday 7:30 – 9:00 AM

Calendar Information: Janice Brahn, Floyd County Public Health/HHC, 1-
641-257-6111

Janice Brahn

Floyd County Public Health/Home Health Care

641-257-6158

jbrahn@floydcoia.org



A Great Recipe given to me from Beverly Handley

Sour Cream Raisin Bars

1 ½ cups oatmeal

1 ½ cups flour

1 cup brown sugar

1 cup margarine

1 tsp. soda

Mix like pie crust and put 1 ½ cups in bottom of a
9X13 pan. Bake at 350° for 15 minutes

Filling

4 egg yolks

1 ½ cups sugar

3 Tablespoons cornstarch

2 cups sour cream

2 cups raisins

Cook over low heat, stirring constantly until thick.
Pour over baked crust and top with remainder of first
mixture.

Bake at 350° for 20 minutes



The Influence of Faith

By Dr. Charles Stanley

1 KINGS 18:37-40

In contemporary Christian culture, faith is often considered a possession that affects just its "owner." Because of our love for independence and self-sufficiency, we have, in many ways, lost the sense of community and outreach that the church is meant to embody. We live like little islands in our own "personal relationship with Christ." But in reality, God wants our faith to influence others, both within and outside the church.

Elijah's faith influenced the entire nation of Israel. By believing and delivering God's message, he was an example to them in word and deed. When he asked

the Lord to reveal Himself as almighty God, fire fell from heaven, and the people believed.

His motive in the showdown at Mount Carmel was to draw the people back to the Lord. We usually think of "sharing our faith" with those who don't know Christ, but our confidence in God can also encourage weak or wayward believers. Likewise, those strong in faith can strengthen us when we are struggling with doubt.

The church is described as a body whose parts are all interconnected (1 Cor. 12:12). God never intended that we be autonomous, living in our own personal faith. We are not like a bag of marbles; rather, we're to be like a bunch of grapes whose juices blend in times of pressure.

Guard against living an isolated Christian life. Share your confidence in God's faithfulness. Your testimony could help others' faith to grow. If you're troubled by doubt or fear, let go of any pride or shame, and seek help from a strong believer. Mutual blessing awaits when we reach out to one another.



Double-Minded Service
By Dr. Charles Stanley

1 KINGS 18:16-21

The Old Testament presents idolatry as a serious issue, but who in the modern civilized world gives it much thought? The worship of idols seems archaic, but the truth is, all of us will struggle with this heart issue.

During the days of King Ahab, Israel was pulled in two directions. They'd previously served the Lord, but Ahab had recently instituted Baal worship. When Elijah challenged the people to make up their minds about whom to serve, they were speechless.

You may be thinking, *This doesn't apply to my life*, but modern idols come in many different forms. When we depend on--or give priority to--anything besides the Lord, it becomes our god.

Does something in your life have a higher value than the Lord? He gives us relationships, possessions, and meaningful work, but we are constantly tempted to cherish the gifts more than the Giver. An accurate measure of priorities is the use of our time. Do you reserve a part of each day for God, or is every minute consumed by the demands of life?

On what or whom do you depend? The Lord gives us His strength and provision, but so often we choose to rely on ourselves, others, or even money.

The tendency to worry or control is a sign of self-reliance rather than dependence upon God.

Double-minded service will not work (Matt. 6:24). We must make up our minds and follow through with actions. If we really believe that the God of the Bible is the only true God, we ought to give Him our whole life, follow Him faithfully, and serve Him with all our gifts and abilities.



Something to think about!!!!

Our nation is/has been on the slippery slope for a long time. If you look around you will find corruption, greed, moral decay, and a steady move away from the things that made us great. The principles upon which this nation was founded are no longer our backbone.

I truly believe this is why the United States of America is in the shape it's in today. Most people have forgotten that we are ONE NATION UNDER GOD! Let us as Christians stand up and remind people of this.



Here's a quote from Ronald Reagan:
"If we ever forget that we are one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under."