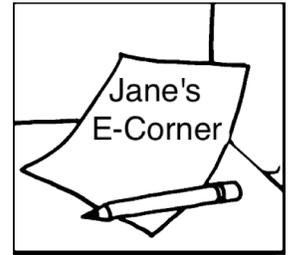


# Weekly Wednesday E-Votion

## 8-14-2013



### *I am reading this week in Hebrews 11:29-12:2*

*By faith the people passed through the Red sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned.*

*By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days.*

*By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient because she had received the spies in peace.*

*And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets--who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented--of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.*

*Therefore since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings to us closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of joy the was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.*

I love to read. I mostly like mystery novels. One of my beloved family members told me that if she wants to know anything about a book she asks me because I have read everything. That is ALMOST true. :) I have recently begun reading biographies and really am enjoying them--I read Lincoln, John Adams, Robert E. Lee, and a biography of Teddy Roosevelt, oh and Thomas Jefferson.

And these biographies tell it all. Just like the Bible tells it all, mostly. The Old Testament doesn't gloss over anyone's misdeeds, even when those people are the heroes of the faith. Like Cain murdering his brother. And Jacob cheating his brother out of his inheritance. And David and all of his escapades.

The Bible names the sins these people committed but God still loved them. The Bible doesn't hide skeletons in the closet. And the same goes for us. God knows everything about us, all our sins, and God also knows our hearts. God has provided even better than these old faith heroes had--God sent Jesus. So whatever happens to us, whatever mistakes we make, all of us can still look to Jesus who shows us how life

can be lived--full to the brim with excitement and joy and delight, full of love and full of healing. Praise be to God!

- Pastor Jane

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

- For Coolidge Johnson who is facing possible surgery soon.
- For Martha Hauff, recently at JCMC
- For Bonnie Sampson, upcoming surgery on her foot
- For the Family of Tom Patton, who passed away at home Tuesday August 13
- For Steve Cowan (custodian) and his family in the death of his grandmother, Mary Young in Arizona
- For Amanda Forbes and her family in the death of her grandfather, CW Davidson
- For Ruth Sluder, in the death of her brother-in-law Dwight Sluder
- For Baby Ava Grace Bowling, in the NICU at JCMC, daughter of Ally and Andrew Bowling
- For Robert Collins, Debbie Minor's brother in law who had a very bad fall off a ladder
- For Tony Woodall, Judy Story's son-in-law who will be having surgery tomorrow at Emory Hospital.
- For Carol Ann Milliken, recently home after gall bladder surgery

**ANNOUNCEMENTS and CALENDAR ITEMS:**

Sunday August 18 4:30 Acolyte/Crucifer/Bible carrier TRAINING

Saturday August 24 Food Distribution, Neighborhood Center

Sunday September 8 2pm District Conference

4 pm Church Picnic, Rotary Park

Thursday September 19 10-2 Senior Adult Gathering, Gray UMC

Saturday September 28 Auction, Wesley Foundation 12:30

"Preach the gospel at all times and when necessary use words." St Francis of Assisi

Blessings,  
Jane Taylor  
First United Methodist Church  
Johnson City TN

Dear Friends – I also wanted to make sure everyone sees this announcement from the Spiritual Development Committee:

Wednesday Neters Resume August 21, 2013

Come join in the food, fellowship and fun this fall. New and improved programming, new small group studies with old friends! A Great opportunity to strengthen your faith journey in a relaxing and enjoyable environment. We especially invite those who have either stopped coming, or who have never attended. Make a reservation and give it a try! Classes are designed for all levels on the faith journey.

“The soul and the body make a person; the spirit and discipline makes a Christian.” - - - John Wesley

SEE THE WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS ON THE FALL SESSIONS!!