

From Janet's Kitchen

CHICKEN TORTILLA CASSEROLE

1 whole chicken (boiled, seasoned, shredded)	1# cheddar cheese
12 flour tortillas cut into strips	2-Tablespoons chicken broth
1-10oz. cream mushroom soup	1 cup milk
1-10oz. cream chicken soup	1-12oz. can diced green chili
1 grated onion	2-7 oz. cans green chili salsa
2 eggs	

In a bowl mix soups, eggs, milk, broth, chili's, salsa, and onion. In a 9x13 casserole pan layer tortilla strips, chicken, cheese, sauce, in this order. Sprinkle extra cheese on top if you desire. If you like olives add them on top for color and taste. Set in refrigerator overnight. Bake 300 degrees for 1 ½ hours. Serve with salsa, sour cream avocado.

SPANISH RICE

2 cups long grain rice	1 tablespoon oil
3-1/2 cups water	1-8oz. can tomato sauce
3 cubes of chicken broth	Garlic, salt, pepper to taste

In large pot with lid, brown rice in the oil. Add water tomato sauce, chicken broth and seasonings to taste. Bring to boil. Turn to a simmer and put lid on it. Let simmer for 20 minutes. DO NOT REMOVE THE LID.

LIGHT AND FRUITY PIE

1-3oz. Jello any flavor	2/3 cup boiling water
2 cups ice cubes	1-8oz. cool whip
1- 9-inch graham cracker crust	Add 1 cup of fruit if you desire

Dissolve Jello in boiling water, add ice cubes stir until thickened. Remove any undissolved cubes. Wisk in cool whip until smooth. Fold in fruit. Spoon into shell and refrigerate. Top with cool whip and garnish. My favorite is chocolate crust and lime Jello, no fruit.

OakStone Women's Ministry

Fragrance of Christ
2 Cor. 2:15

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*Morning Bible Study--
Every Monday at Janet's house (9am) Cancelled
Tuesday Night Study-- 6:30 pm Cancelled
All invited, no child care*

Watch for announcements of when these will begin again.

*Save
the
Date*

Book Report My Utmost for His Highest



January is the time of year to begin a new devotional reading. There is an oldie but goodie that I want to recommend this year. My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers was originally written in 1935 and has been updated several times since then. But it is a book for of treasure to encourage us to give our utmost for His highest. Give it a try! Again to remind you, nothing takes the place of scripture so be sure to be in the word daily and start a new routine of devotion with the Lord every day.

Happy New Year! Debbie



Pine Cones by Debbie Votaw

A little science about pinecones. Pine Cones – close their scales in cold, wind, and to protect from animals – they open in warm weather –they stay on the tree for 10 years or more – protects the seeds within – they can be male and female – seeds are naked, not enclosed in an ovary – the pine cones we see are generally female, male cones release pollen in the air to fertilize the female cones. The “Jack Pine” cone needs a hot fire to open to release the seeds.

The pineal gland in the brain is named after pinecones because of its shape. The pineal gland controls our body’s perception of light, as well as our wake and sleep patterns. Pine nuts come from pinecones but there are only 20 varieties of pine trees with cones large enough for pine nut harvesting. The best cone for harvesting pine nuts comes from the Pinyon Pine which is found in California.

During the fall and winter season we decorate with pinecones. Those pinecones we decorate with are usually the female cones who have released their seeds and fallen from the trees. They potentially had been in those trees for 10 years. Now pinecones aren’t soft, cuddly objects but hard, rough and even have sharp, pointy edges. A coat of armor so to speak, for the protection of the seeds.

How does this apply to me and my walk with the Lord??? Once I became a Christian, I clung to my faith in Jesus and stayed attached to the Branch as I learned and grew in my faith. There were seeds within me of new growth, seeds like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. When the climate was just right, those seeds were released to spread to others and share the love of Jesus so new Christians could grow. But I had to keep the armor on while I was growing and still do, even though now I am ornamental, I share the beauty of Christ with those around me. Sometimes things were difficult and the weather was bad. I had to hide in the shelter of the Lord. Other times was warm but windy and I still had to cling to the shelter of my Lord. But when the time is just right, I am released from the shelter to be a light. Just like the name pinecone refers to the pineal gland, we must be a light. To be that light, we need to know when to work and when to rest. As it says in Ecclesiastes, there is a season for everything. So what stage is your pinecone in? Closed or open, clinging to the branch or fallen to the ground? Protecting the seeds or releasing the seed? A light to others or still hidden inside? Oh you may be a little rough, hard, or sharp from life’s trials and pressures but know that there is an edible seed/nut waiting to be used by the Lord and He is waiting for you to cling to Him, learn from Him, and be used by Him. And when you get to the stage of life where you are used as an ornament, remember that you can still be a blessing to others.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-22, Eph. 6:10-18, Gal. 5:22-23

God’s Promise

“Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord, Praise ye the Lord.”

Psalm 150:6

Hymn or Worship Song of the Month

O For a Thousand Tongues by Charles Wesley

This song was written in 1749 on the occasion of Charles’s eleventh anniversary of his own Aldersgate conversion experience. It is thought to have been inspired by a chance remark by Peter Bohler, an influential Moravian leader, who exclaimed, “Had I a thousand tongues, I would praise Christ Jesus with all of them.” The hymn originally had 19 stanzas and when published was entitled, “For the Anniversary Day of One’s Conversion.” Most of the verses, no longer used, dealt in a very personal way with Wesley’s own conversion experience.

Vs. 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing, my Great Redeemer’s praise, The glories of my God and King, the triumph of His grace.

Vs. 2 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, To spread thru all the earth abroad, The honors of Thy name.

Vs. 3 Jesus the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease, Tis music in the sinner’s ears, tis life, and health and peace.

Vs.4 He breaks the power of cancelled sin, He sets the prisoner free, His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

Vs.5 Hear His ye deaf, His praise ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ, Ye blind, behold your Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Vs. 6 Glory to God and praise and love, be ever, ever given, By saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heaven.

