

Torrance First Baptist Church the Proclaimer

February 2019

Volume 32 Issue 2



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TFB

SENIORS
 and Friends

Faith & Friendship Luncheon

February 8, 12:00 Noon

Invite a friend and join us for our annual February Luncheon where we celebrate our faith and our friendships. Please bring a dessert to share. We will take donations for the main course. Sign up in the patio or your S.S. Class.

**Women's
Ministry**
Kick off
 February 24, 12:30 p.m.

Proclaimers are also available for viewing and printing on-line: www.tfbclife.org

Our Women's Ministries' Kick-Off Event for 2019 is now scheduled for **Sunday, February 24, at 12:30 p.m.** We will have a potluck lunch. There is no cost, except to bring your favorite dish to share. Bring also your ideas regarding the future of Women's Ministries and ways we can reach out to the women of TFB and our community. Sign up in the patio.



Message from our Transitional Pastor:

"Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and He gives them to each one, just as He determines ... The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ"
(I Corinthians 12:7, 12).

Brothers and sisters of TFB ... we're in this together. God has led each of us here for a reason. Each of us is needed *"for the common good"* and together, as one body, we can make a difference in this community and steer many to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The "Church Health Assessment Team," conducted by Transformation Ministries, identified some of our strengths and weaknesses. (You can get a copy of them by swinging by the church office or by reading the Pastor's Annual Report.) The C.H.A.T. team also gave us some recommendations for moving forward as a church. As you read these recommendations, would you prayerfully consider how God might use you to make these things a reality. We're in this together. We need your help.

REACH - must reach missing generations.

MISSION - FBC needs to structure itself to achieve the mission.

REFOCUS - look honestly at what is working and what is not and bravely stop what is not working and tweak or continue what is. Also, start new ministries.

INTEGRATE - integrate new people by connecting them to members with similar hobbies, interests, age of children, locations, etc.

LEADERSHIP - leaders need to model and encourage others to interface with unchurched people if they ever want to bring someone to Christ.

ENCOURAGE - encourage and invite people to small groups meeting in homes, the church, coffee shops, etc.

DISCIPLESHIP PATH - church needs a comprehensive system or program that takes people where they are at and helps them become mature disciples of Christ.

GOVERNANCE - there needs to be a balance of freedom to minister, yet accountability with boundaries, thereby releasing staff and volunteers to use their gifts effectively.

REBIRTH - the church would be wise to start building from the ground floor, examine everything, and start something new and fresh.

Will you help?

Alex Chisholm, Transitional Pastor

Reflections

by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

In 2 Timothy 3:1, the apostle Paul tells us: *"But mark this: there will be terrible times in the last days."* Then in verses 2-4, he lists some of the ungodly behavior which will be rampant in society and which we are seeing today. [Please read these verses.] Then in verse 5, he says of those living at that time: *"...having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them."*

To say it simply, "the world will have a form of religion, but it will not love or know God." How true!

With this in mind, how important it is for us who do love

and know God, through faith in Christ, to be concerned about our walk with the Lord and our ministry for Him. Here at TFB, it is the desire of your Pastoral Staff to present the Lord Jesus Christ in all His glory and to prepare our church family, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, to *"encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word"* (2 Thessalonians 2:17). Our ministry goal is that everyone here would have a deep and growing relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. As individuals and as a church family, we can only share with others what we have already received from the Lord.



As we look to the days ahead, we need to be earnestly and prayerfully calling our church family to a time of deep spiritual reflection—a time when we consider our own walk with the Lord, our need of growing in Him, and willingness to serve Him—not only inside these church walls but in sharing Him with those who do not now know Him personally.

Continued on p. 9



Pregnancy Help Center in Torrance provides many free services, including ultrasound to women facing the challenge of an unplanned pregnancy. If you picked up a baby bottle, don't forget to put coins, bills, or a check in the bottle, or donate online at:

supportphctorrance.org/contribute.

Please return your filled bottle on **February 10**. Your support saves lives.

Altar Flowers for 2019

The Flower Calendar for 2019 is in the foyer. If you would like to celebrate a special event in your life or honor a loved one, please sign up to reserve your preferred date—one sign-up per date, please. The cost is \$70 per arrangement and is **tax deductible**.

Please choose one date per family until all have had an opportunity to sign up. You may make your payment any time before your chosen date. Mark your envelope **"TFB Flower Donation"** to get credit for your gift. There are a lot of dates left!!



ISRAEL, ANYONE?!

SeaCoast Church in Redondo Beach is looking to see if anyone from TFB wants to join them for a trip to Israel, leaving LAX on **October 20, 2019**. They have spaces for 15 more people. Full cost: \$3750 (or \$3800 if paid by credit card). \$1000 is due on or before March 1. Go to the following website for more info including itinerary, cost, and who to contact to sign up:

<https://www.pilgrimgetoursww.com/seacoast-church>



Birthday Cupcakes Needed

We will celebrate January and February birthdays on **February 3** with cupcakes during Fellowship Time. Please sign up in the patio if you will be able to bring some for the occasion.



Our TFB **Prayer Line** is used for routine/non-emergency prayer requests which have been called in to the church office. It is updated daily at around 4:00 p.m. The phone number to hear these prayer requests is 310/328-5029, or you can send an email requesting to be put on our email list to prayer@tfbclife.org and put "Prayer Line" in the subject, and we will send an email update to you at the end of the day.

The **Prayer Chain** is for emergency requests. **Irene Hardy is our Prayer Chain coordinator**. So when we receive emergency requests, they will be immediately forwarded to Irene or Eleanor Musser (the co-chair) who begin calling those on our list. Emergency requests can be made to the office or, after office hours, directly to Irene, 310/328-7363, or Eleanor, 310/324-7948. If you would like to be a participant on the Prayer Chain, please feel free to call Irene and let her know.



4 MINISTRIES & Kids' News



Sunday, February 10

6:00 p.m.

Pizza, drinks, and snacks provided.



AKA PARENTS' DATE NIGHT

February 15, 6 p.m.

Parents, leave the kids (infants through 5th grade) to have dinner and a movie with us while you enjoy a night out together. We are asking for a donation of \$3/child.

(This event occurs on the 3rd Friday of each month.)



A Special Message

During the month of February we focus on special feelings and people. We see hearts everywhere and send cards and greetings to friends and family. We need to do this every month!



Use the code to find a special message from God. It's good for any day — any month!



“



”



„I have loved you with an everlasting love”



WINTER CAMPS

Jr. High, Camp Edwards, 2/8-10 ~ \$80
 High School, Camp Edwards, 2/15-18 ~ \$100
 Juniors (3-6 grades), Forest Home, 2/22-24 ~ \$185
 Sign up with \$50 deposit



If you want to give to help a youngster go to camp, who could not otherwise afford it, please write **“Camp Scholarship Fund”** on your envelope.

Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship



Dinner Night ~ Saturday, February 9, 6:30 p.m. ~ This will be a special Valentine's celebration. Meet at Buca di Beppo Italian Restaurant, 1670 South Pacific Coast Highway, Redondo Beach (310/540-3246).

Dress up and wear **RED** or **PINK!** It is mandatory to RSVP Gloria **no later than February 2** so reservations can be made.



Game Night ~ Saturday, February 23, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Gloria Pedersen's, 817 Amapola Avenue in Old Towne Torrance. Bring drinks and snacks to share.



For additional questions, suggestions, or more information, call Gloria, 562/505-4495.

TFB Academy

"We are a Living Sanctuary"

By Laura Springer, M.Div., Th.M, Ph.D.

Relevant Scripture: Matthew 5:13-16; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 3:10-17; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18, 7:1; Ephesians 2:11-22; 1 Peter 1:14-19, 2:9

"You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16 ESV).

In a damaged and often dark world, the church is like the guy with the flashlight in a power outage. No one would think it is okay to hide the flashlight or smear it with mud to hide the light. The right thing to do is share.

We, the church, are a living sanctuary, a place from which the light of God's glory and presence is made known. This is who we are when gathered and when dispersed.

What does it mean to be a living sanctuary?

We are the place in which God has chosen to dwell. The worship of God is no longer confined to a physical space but takes place everywhere we are. The Holy Spirit dwells in us as Church, and we are always in him and members of one another.

We are the place where the presence and glory of God are made manifest. The sanctuary of God is no longer a tent or stone but flesh and soul. The church goes where we go. As we come together for worship and discipleship, we proclaim to God and one another that he is great and he is here. As we move among home, work, and play, we display and proclaim his holiness and goodness.

We are a holy place for others. We share the light of God's glory and presence, knowing that sharing is more important than making ourselves comfortable.

How might we behave like a living sanctuary?

Let us

- ...help one another grow toward holiness as we worship God and disciple one another.
- ...serve others at home, work, and play and carry God's light into dark places.
- ...gather in ways that welcome and honor Father, Son, and Spirit.
- ...disperse in ways that make God's glory and presence clear.
- ...support one another as we carry God's light into the world.

Let us be a church that joyfully shares the flashlight.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Recurring Weekly Events:
					1 All day set up for Loaves & Fishes	2 11a Loaves & Fishes	Sunday Worship Services: 9:15 a.m. & 11 a.m. Adult Sunday School, 9:15 & 11 a.m. Worship & Witness, 6 p.m. Children's Church, 9:15 a.m. Patio Fellowship, 10:30 a.m. Children & Youth S.S., 11 a.m.
3 2:30p Sing at Royalwood	4	5	6	7	8 Seniors' Friendship Luncheon Jr. High to Winter Camp	9 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out	Monday Ladies' Prayer, 10:00 a.m. Men's BSF, 6:55 p.m.
10 12:15p SLT Mtng. w/ Lunch Jr. High Home from Camp 6p H.S. Movie Night	11	12 12n Shut-in Meeting	13	14 7p Beacon Light Mission	15 H.S. to Winter Camp 6p Kids' Night Out	16 7p Share & Care	Tuesday C4 High School Leadership, 5:30 p.m. C4 High School, 7 p.m.
17	18 President's Day Office closed H.S. home from Camp 7p FacMan Team	19 6p Ministry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach, Worship, Disc. Dev. & Finance 6:30p Finance Team 7p Deacon/ess Mtngs	20	21	22 Juniors to Winter Camp	23 6:30p Singles' Game Night	Wednesday Men's Lunch @ Sizzler, 1 p.m. Family Dinner, 6 p.m. Colossians Kids, 6:30 p.m. <i>Knowing God</i> Small Group, 6:30 p.m. Small Group w/Pastor Alex, 6:30 p.m. Jr. High QUEST, 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, 7 p.m. Open Volleyball, 8:15 p.m.
24 12:30p WM Kick-off Potluck Juniors home from Camp	25	26	27	28			Thursday Ladies' Bible Study, 2 p.m. C4 College Group, 7 p.m. 7th Day Baptist Bible Study, 7 p.m.
							Friday Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m. Small Group @ Greteman's, 6:15 p.m.
							Saturday Men's BSF Leaders, 6 a.m. 7th Day Baptists, 9 a.m.

Upcoming March Events:

- 3/2 ~ Loaves & Fishes. 11a
- 3/9 ~ Singles' Dinner Out, 6:30p
- 3/10 ~ Daylight Savings Begins, 2a
- 3/10 ~ High School Movie Night, 6p
- 3/15 ~ Kids' Night Out, 6p
- 3/23 ~ Women's St. Patrick Bingo Night, 6p
- 3/23 ~ Singles' Game Night, at W.M. BINGO, 6p





We, as a congregation, are blessed to have several multi-generational families attending Torrance First Baptist Church. In this February 2019 edition of the "Proclaimer," we will be featuring one of those families who have three generations attending TFB simultaneously.

Wayne and Eleanor Musser have been married 61 years. They have four children, 13 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. They have been attending TFB for 20 years, and they both attend the second service as well as the evening service.

Wayne attends Kent Meyer's "King's Fellowship" Bible study class that is held during the first service in the Annex and sings in the choir during the second service. The Scripture that gives him the most inspiration is 1 John 1:9. He is retired but had a career for 25 years as an electrician for the General Telephone Company. He enjoys camping, traveling, working on cars and trucks, and wood carving. He has made beautiful pictures and figurines with his talent for woodcarving. **Wayne** uses a personal mobility scooter for assistance walking long distances due to the effects of neuropathy. You will recognize **Wayne** as he navigates TFB on his scooter as he is always wearing his trademark cowboy hat!

One thing you might be surprised to know about **Wayne** is that he is a 13-year cancer survivor.

Eleanor is now retired but enjoyed a long career as a secretary with Northrop, National Cash Register, and Engineered Magnetics. The Scripture that gives **Eleanor** the most inspiration is Philippians 4:13. She likes to invite all of her friends to the concerts that are held at TFB. She also serves on the Prayer Chain. She taught Sunday School for 28 years specializing in the 2 and 3-year-olds. **Eleanor** enjoys camping, traveling and swimming. She also likes to sew and do upholstery. She held in-home jewelry fashion shows for about 20 years.

Something that you might be surprised to know about **Eleanor** is that she likes to sail and used to sail to Catalina once a month. She learned how to body surf from a life guard she dated as a teenager. When her mother died when she was 9 years old, she and her brother and sister lived with her great-aunt and great-uncle for a year. Then, she and her brother and sister lived in a children's home for year until their father remarried.



Denise Musser Hadley is the only daughter of Wayne & Eleanor and is the mother of four children. **Denise** has been attending TFB for 20 years and also attends the second service and, sometimes, the evening service as well as Kent Meyer's "King's Fellowship" Bible study class. She also sings in the choir during second service and helps out in the nursery once a month. She participates in the Singles and Friends monthly events: "Dinner Out" and "Game Night." She also attends the Women's Retreat every year. **Denise's** Life Verse is also Philippians 4:13: "I can do all this through Him who gives me strength" (NIV).

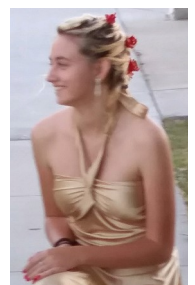
Denise is an elementary school teacher at Trinity Lutheran School in Hawthorne, and she tutors elementary students in her home. She has been going to Mexico on mission trips for the past 18 years with the Bread of Life Church. At age 9, she invited Jesus to be her Savior.

Some things you might be surprised to know about **Denise** are that she used to be a Country Western Dance teacher when she was 22 years old. She has traveled to all of the states except Florida and Alaska; and has traveled internationally to Japan, Thailand, Hong Kong, the Philippines, China, and Mexico on mission trips as well as to Australia and Canada for pleasure.

Victoria Hadley is Denise's youngest daughter. She has been attending TFB for 17 years. She participates in the high school Sunday school fellowship as well as the Tuesday night youth group.

Victoria, who is 17 years old, attends North High School and is in the 11th grade. She enjoys drawing and reading. She loves to run and is in the SRLA running club at North High School.

Something that you might be surprised to know about **Victoria** is that she is in training to run the Los Angeles Marathon. **Victoria** has already run a 9.3 (miles) race and a half marathon (13.1 miles). She has earned many medals for the runs that she has already participated in.





Excerpts of Mexico Mission Trip written by Denise Hadley

I had the most amazing mission trip December 21-23, 2018. I was asked ahead of time to preach at 3 sessions. [Brenda-Jean Shephard also went on the trip and was part of the Worship Team.] The week before the trip, we gathered at Bread of Life Church on Sunday afternoon. Together we prepared 1,200 gifts for the Mexican children. Each gallon zip lock bag had the “4 Spiritual Laws,” a Christmas card, a toy, and some toiletries.

After bagging the gifts, we had 2 hours of spiritual preparation for the trip. Then we had 2¼ hours to practice the songs and skits we would be doing.... As we prepared our parts, Michael [our leader] said that the children of Mexico experience hunger and abuse, and through this skit they would be able to identify with [the message]. I started crying, and I told the team that this not only happens in Mexico but it happened in my own house. Because I was transparent, the whole team opened up and [shared] what they were struggling with and what they needed prayer for. God was moving mightily....



There were 8 different churches represented. We got on the 50-passenger bus [loaded with] 30 large suitcases of clothes to give away [as well as our] sleeping bags ... air mattresses... an overnight bag per person, musical instruments, cooking utensils, pots and pans, portable stove, and some food.

We drove to the border, took everything off the bus and walked across the border while the empty bus was scanned. When we got the go-ahead, we loaded everything back on.... At 5 a.m., we pulled into the church at San Telmo which is a couple of hours south of Ensenada.

At 7:30 a.m. we ate breakfast and prepared for the day. Then it was time for our Saturday morning with the school. We gave gifts to the 200 school children. ...we did our skit...then I preached to all the families. When I gave the altar call...many hands went up to pray to receive Jesus. Next we served all the families lunch, [I] did crafts with the children, and [helped] assembled bags of food and clothing...for Sunday. (There are not enough desks for each student, so they have to sit 2 on a chair. They also need monthly support for the teachers. This is the only Christian school [there].)

[At] the evening service...I helped lead worship on the conga drum and...Brenda-Jean sang, [we also had a keyboard player and violinist]. It was so beautiful!!! ...Testimonies were given and I preached. After the service, we fed all the people dinner. [That night] our whole team shared highlights of what they saw God doing during the day.

After church [on Sunday], we hit the dirt roads and each of the 4 teams took a translator and a different direction and gave out bags of food and clothes. We went to the gate of [each home] and shouted “Hola.” If they came to the door, we handed out food and clothes and asked if we could pray for them.... My team consisted of 3 older Asian gentlemen and a Mexican woman. At the end of our walk, a little 3-year-old girl came running down the dirt road to us.... Her father was watching from his porch. She told us her father wanted her to bring the gringos to his house.... We all laughed because I was the only white person (gringo)....

Then we headed back to Ensenada [stopping at] a Christian-run men’s drug rehabilitation center...where we did worship and the skit. Testimonies were given, we fed all the men lunch, and gave them a bag of socks [and toiletries]. [Our] next stop was at the Christian-run safe house. There were men, women, and children. Some had run there because they were being abused...some came because they wanted to kick drug addiction. An hour before arriving, I was asked by Dr. Bill about my sermon, and I said it was on forgiveness. He said that [he wanted me] to give my testimony. I argued with God, “I already prepared a sermon, and I don’t have a testimony.” [God] told me, “Yes, you do.” I asked what part He wanted me to share. He told me to “share all of it.” [Since I participate in the worship by playing the conga drum and didn’t have it with me], I asked if they had a drum. They said no, but we have a bucket. So [a] muddy bucket was played [with all the other instruments and singers, and it was beautiful.]

Then it was time for me to give my testimony. [I started with a few words that I had written down] and then God just gave me the words He wanted them to hear. When I was done, ...I asked if anyone wanted prayer. The whole place came forward for prayer. I prayed and gave each person a [plastic] “diamond.” ...I told each of them that [they were like valuable diamonds]—they were God’s treasure and valuable to Him.

One of the boys [age 13, who was with us from the youth ministries] asked if he could talk with me.... He wanted to know if he could ever forgive himself. I told him that God counts all sin the same whether it is a lie or murder...and [because of what Jesus did on the cross], all he needed to do was ask God’s forgiveness...and God would cast his sin as far as one ocean to the other. I didn’t realize that others were listening. ... back on the bus, everyone gave testimonies about what was most meaningful to them [about the weekend]. Two of the boys said [for them, it was] “when a wise woman [said] that God casts their sin as far as one ocean to the other.” It was a very powerful weekend...and such a blessing to go on this mission trip and serve the people! God is so good!!

Reflections continued from p. 2

This is vital to our ongoing ministry here in the South Bay. This is a time for us to reassess where we are with our Lord and how He might work through us for His glory.

May we all be in prayer as we seek to draw closer to Him—closer individually and as a family. In John 15:5 our Lord said, *“Apart from Me, you can do nothing,”* but according to Philippians 4:13, *“I can do everything through Him Who gives me strength.”* Yes, through Him we will be empowered with His strength to fulfill the task He has set before us. Praise Him!

I'm prayerfully seeking Him,
Pastor Rog



We Get Mail

Hello TFB Family,
Thank you for praying for me when I had breast cancer. I came out of surgery at a pain level of 3 and was at 1 by that night. Three days later, I was back at work teaching school. The surgeon got it all, and there is no need for radiation or chemo. God answered mightily!
Thank you for the cards, prayers, and meals! God is always faithful.
Denise Hadley

Dear Church Family,
We would like to thank you for all the 100th birthday wishes (cards, flowers, phone calls) for our Dad on December 5th. Dad, Lou Davis, really enjoyed each one.
God bless you,
Margie Sweetland, Genny Morgan,
Bobbie Davis, and Carolyn Graves
(his 4 daughters)

Dear Church Family,
We want to thank you so much for the love you have shown us at this difficult time of the passing of our dear dad and husband, Muriel Moore—the exquisite flowers, the many cards, Roger's hospital visits and then leading us in our family worship. Our family is deeply grateful to you all.
The Lord has been so gracious to us. We are truly blessed.
The Moore family: Glenn & Amylee Moore,
John & Yvonne Large, and Joy Moore



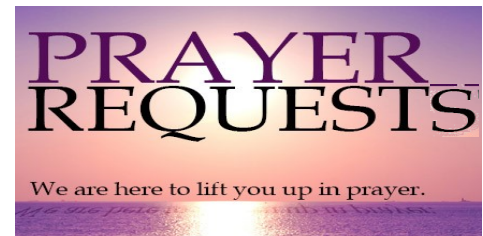
Please pray for the following families who have lost their loved one:



TFB Member Muriel Moore, beloved husband of Joy and father of Glenn and Yvonne [Large] is now with the Lord;

Bob Crutchfield lost his brother, Ted; former TFB member, Bill Trew, husband of Maureen, passed away; and

Marge Young lost her beloved husband, Roy, unexpectedly.



Please pray for the following who need continued prayer:

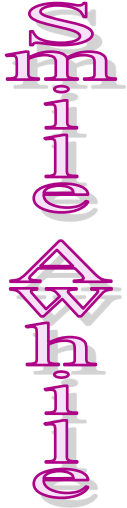
Barbara Ashcraft, Bob Baker, Michael Banfield, Nancy Christensen, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Mary Crutchfield, Ruth Easley, Elle Estee, Dutchess Gattis, Janet Graves, Mary Jacobsen, Barbara Johnson, Bill Johnson, Josephine Joosten, Helen Kessenich, Joan Kindt, Joy Moore, Bill Morgan, Joy Pierson, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Jean Rayner, Connie Reimer, Marlene Richardson, Edna Hazel Ruth, Claudine Schultz, Mary Schultz, Jo Standifer, Bill & Gerri Stoodley, Tammie Wakefield, Gertie Wissinger, and Art Zeller.

TFB Tithes & Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately \$76,335 in the month of December.

How many dogs does it take to change a lightbulb?



- **Golden Retriever:** The sun is shining, the day is young, we've got our whole lives ahead of us, and you're inside worrying about a stupid burned out bulb?
- **Border Collie:** Just one. And then I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code.
- **Dachshund:** You know I can't reach that stupid lamp!
- **Rottweiler:** Make me.
- **Boxer:** Who cares? I can still play with my squeaky toys in the dark.
- **Lab:** Oh, me, me!! Pleeeeeze let me change the light bulb! Can I? Can I? Huh? Huh? Can I? Pleeeeeze, please, please, please!
- **German Shepherd:** I'll change it as soon as I've led these people from the dark, check to make sure I haven't missed anyone, and make just one more perimeter patrol to see that no one has tried to take advantage of the situation.

- **Jack Russell Terrier:** I'll just pop it in while I'm bouncing off the walls and furniture.
- **Old English Sheep Dog:** Light bulb? I'm sorry, but I don't see a light bulb.
- **Cocker Spaniel:** Why change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark.
- **Pointer:** I see it, there it is, there it is, right there . . .
- **Greyhound:** It isn't moving, Who cares?
- **Australian Shepherd:** First, I'll put all the light bulbs in a little circle...
- **Poodle:** I'll just blow in the Border Collie's ear, and he'll do it. By the time he finishes rewiring the house, my nails will be dry.
- **The Cat's Answer:** Dogs do not change light bulbs. People change light bulbs. So, the real question is: How long will it be before I can expect some light, some dinner, and a massage?

"A merry heart does good, like medicine" (Proverbs 17:22, NKJV).