Dear Lexie,

Share!

"Jots and Tittles" is the name of a monthly newsletter that a friend of mine named Judy Silver shares in the Shenandoah Valley community and beyond. I live in the 'beyond' category and am deeply touched by her creative writing style, her stories, quotes and musings. I have quoted Judy during our Tuesday night Prayer Gathering--so Judy shares with people she doesn't even know exist.

Summertime: An Opportunity for Service

Summertime is finally here! If you're like me--you're thinking of baseball games, cookouts and trips to the beach! Surely this is a time to relax and enjoy the blessings of family and friends. Each of these activities is delightful and should
This Sabbath:
June 28, 2014

Speaker:
Pastor Donald McFarlane
"He Led Them as Far as Bethany"

Special Musical Guests:
CeCe Henry

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be savored. But there's another activity that your young people will be doing that may not come as readily to mind when we think of summer activities: serving others. And that is exactly what some of our Sligo youth will be doing!

Read More>>

Hope and Health

Eight weeks could make a big difference. Do our New Year's resolutions need a boost? Are we looking for a new way to live life? Are we tired of trying yet another diet, another fast-fix for old problems?

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“Jots and Tittles” is the name of a monthly newsletter that a friend of mine named Judy Silver shares in the Shenandoah Valley community and beyond. I live in the ‘beyond’ category and am deeply touched by her creative writing style, her stories, quotes and musings. I have quoted Judy during our Tuesday night Prayer Gathering- so Judy shares with people she doesn’t even know exist.

One of the many wonderful authors I met in “Jots and Tittles” is Barbara Brown Taylor. She is listed as one of Time magazine’s 100 most influential writers- and said to be on a par with Christian writers C.S. Lewis and Frederick Buechner. Judy Silver quotes her often in “Jots and Tittles” and gave me one of Taylor’s books titled, “An Altar in the World.” The premise of the book is that people can and should look for God not only in but also beyond the walls of church.

One morning, before leaving for church, I was reading the first chapter where Taylor describes Jacob “running away from home because his whole screwy family had finally imploded.” Jacob’s flight from reality took him across some familiar and ordinary landscape but it became holy ground when he dreamed of a ladder stretching from heaven to earth. He woke up exclaiming, “Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew it not.” (Genesis 28:16)

What happened next had nothing to do with the fact that Jacob was a twin and that his father’s favorite food was venison. I finished the chapter eager to pay attention and see God in the ordinary. I walked over to my ordinary driveway and was about to get into my ordinary Jeep when- right there in front of my car – I saw a doe giving birth….! As Barbara Brown Taylor says, “The divine could erupt anywhere.” The doe soon gave birth to a second fawn, as I stood there transfixed! My driveway became holy ground as I witnessed this breathtaking miracle. I could barely move for over an hour and a half. While the doe gave her twins their first drink, I called my neighbors and shared the story with them in a whisper. They immediately said- don’t frighten her by starting your car- use ours! In my opinion, their act of kindness in spontaneously sharing their car was equally miraculous.

The next day I posted on Facebook a video clip I had made of the doe giving birth. In the short space of three weeks it has been shared over 236,000 times and because of it I have received over 200 friend requests from all over the world. It all started with a newsletter called “Jots and Tittles.” When you share- be prepared for a chain reaction of adventure!

Meet my newest neighbors! In the photo below–they are about an hour old.

(by Debbie Eisele)
A doe and two newborns
Summertime: An Opportunity for Service

Scott Lawrence

Summertime is finally here! If you’re like me—you’re thinking of baseball games, cookouts and trips to the beach! Surely this is a time to relax and enjoy the blessings of family and friends. Each of these activities is delightful and should be savored. But there’s another activity that your young people will be doing that may not come as readily to mind when we think of summer activities: serving others. And that is exactly what some of our Sligo youth will be doing!

As I have mentioned in several other articles, the Disabilities Action Team (DAT) is joining forces with the Youth Department to give our youth opportunities to serve. Teams Sligo youth will be matched up with those who have some sort of limitation and they could use some sort of help. Who can use this service? Sligo youth will be happy to help anyone who may need these services. For example, maybe you’ve recently had some sort of surgery and could really use a little help. Or maybe you have a child who has a disability and you could really use some help with the child so that you could get some things done. Finally—maybe your just lonely and would really enjoy the company of some young people for an hour or two. Here’s how it works: once a month—usually on a Sunday—our youth will go to Sligo members and help them with light chores, yard work, shopping etc. But here’s the thing: we can’t help if we don’t know where the needs are.

Please stop by the Welcome Desk and give us your information below and we will be in contact with you. All you need to do is fill out the form to request these services. But be forewarned: these kids have energy and a passion for service!

So enjoy the blessings of summer. And let’s give our youth the blessing of serving others!

(by Kathy Roy Johnson)
Eight weeks could make a big difference

Do our New Year’s resolutions need a boost? Are we looking for a new way to live life? Are we tired of trying yet another diet, another fast-fix for old problems?

Welcome to The Homes of Hope Hope and Health Discussions:

What’s different here? The program is

- Not a diet but we can definitely lose weight.
- Not doctor’s appointments, but we’ll get prescriptions for our health.
- Not a health clinic, but we will be advised to see our doctor.
- Medicine will be continued, but we may discover that it’s not needed.
- There are no sponsors; we’ll make decisions for ourselves.
- Yes, there is a pattern to follow — but it’s not a “one size fits all” plan.
- No guilt if we don’t work the program — but better health if we do.

How will we know if we’ve been helped?

We’ll think more clearly, be happier, have more energy, sleep better, look better, and be sick a lot less. Further documentation that we have improved will come if our doctor says we are better.

A home environment can be a safe place to grow, even a place to start over– a home where there is Hope and where
we can share ideas and learn new ones.

The cost? No cost – except our time – for eight weeks.