

May 30, 2024 | Waynesboro, Virginia | *a newsletter supplement*

Strange Math

Reflections on a man who would take walks

by Andrew Taylor-Troutman

A man took daily walks in the neighborhood and, in the course of his perambulations, would find lost mittens or socks, a yo-yo, or any number of items that are in the habit of walking away from young children. This man would hang such wayward artifacts from a conspicuous tree branch or atop a nearby fence post in order to be easily retrieved by their rightful owner. Strange math — the way so little can add to so much.

This man died of a heart attack on one of these walks. But for months afterward, mittens, socks, yo-yos and more continued to make their way into trees and along fence posts. You might suspect that other neighbors picked up where this man had left off as a tribute to him and a service to others. I think you are onto something. And there is more.

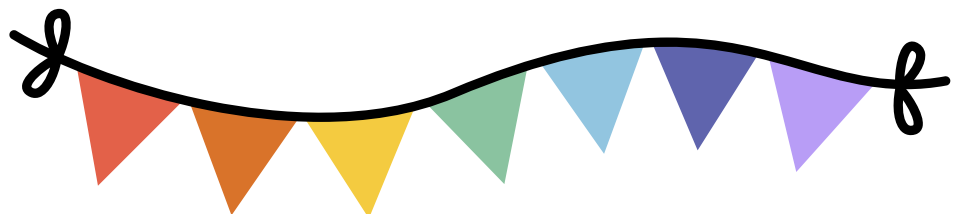


Photo by Gary Bendig on *Unsplash*

About a year after his death, his lone grandson lost the necklace his grandfather had given him. The young man searched his entire house, certain the family treasure had been misplaced indoors. But he went to bed, distraught. The next morning, the grandson found the necklace on his way to work, hanging from the front latch of his gate. How might you account for that? Perhaps the final calculus is not with logic but with love. Love that bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things. Love that never ends.



Andrew Taylor-Troutman is the author of Little Big Moments, a collection of mini-essays about parenting and Tigers, Mice & Strawberries: Poems. Taylor-Troutman lives in Chapel Hill where he serves as pastor of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church and occasionally stumbles upon the wondrous while in search of his next cup of coffee.



OUR WORSHIP CHANNELS

CLICK ON THE LOGOS



WORSHIP THIS WEEK.

Psalm 139: 1-6, 13- 18

Mark 2:13-28

Sermon:

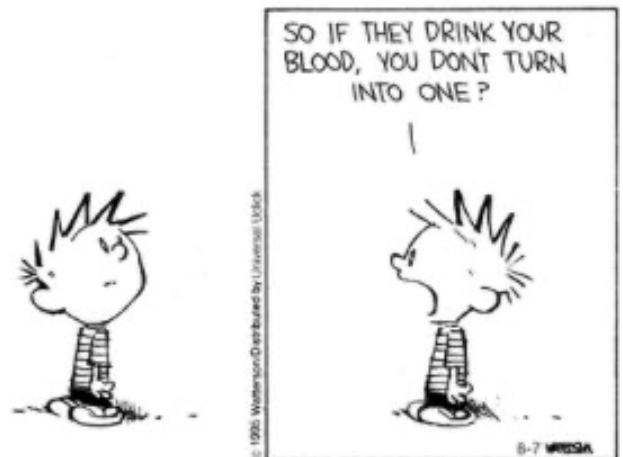
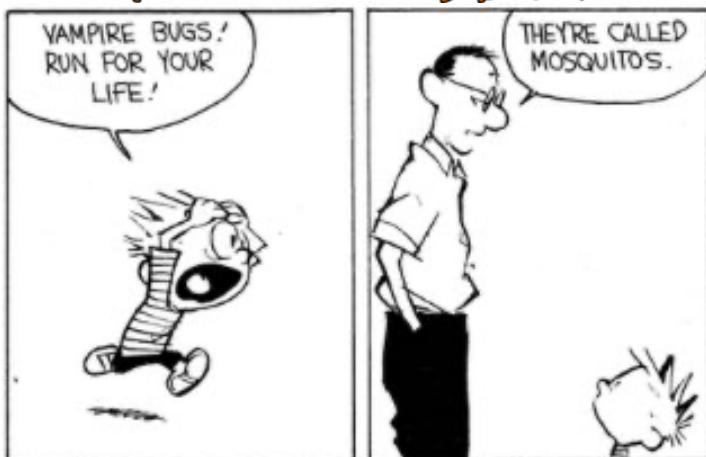
Balancing old and new.

THE FOOD BANK NEEDS EGG CARTONS



BRING THEM TO CHURCH

calvin and hobbes



This Week in History.



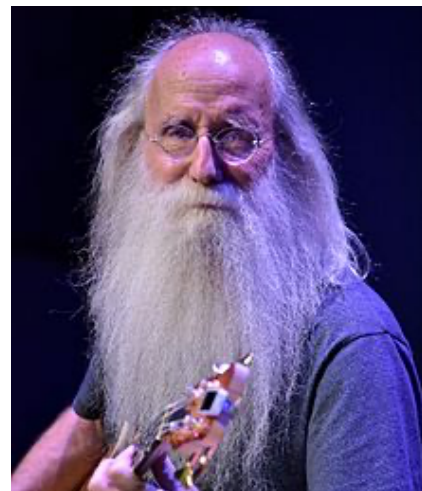
Edmund I, King of the English, is killed in a street fight in the town of Pucklechurch, Gloucestershire.

May 26, 946



The Ford Motor Company ceases manufacture of the Model T and begins to retool to make the Model A.

May 27, 1927



Bassist extraordinaire Leland Sklar, is born in Milwaukee, WI.

May 28, 1947



Ottoman armies under Sultan Mehmed II capture Constantinople after a 53-day siege, bring the Roman Empire to an end after over 2,000 years.

May 29, 1453



Decoration Day is first observed by the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union veterans group. In 1971, Congress standardized the holiday as "Memorial Day" and changed its observance to the last Monday in May.

May 30, 1868



French King Henry III lays the first stone of the Pont Neuf (New Bridge), which is now, ironically enough, the oldest bridge in Paris,.

May 31, 1578

Tennessee is admitted as the 16th state of the United States.

June 1, 1796

