

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



By Jan McWilliams

Before I retired a friend gave me a book called Beautiful Outlaw. It is written by John Eldredge who has a background in theological studies. The book explores the characteristics of Jesus.

As I read this book, I was familiar with many of the characteristics of Jesus. We are all familiar with the somberness of Jesus as He taught the importance of His work to His disciples. We are familiar with Jesus being sad to the point of tears related to the death of Lazarus in John 11:35. We are familiar with Jesus's care and worry over God's chosen people in Matthew 23:37 and Luke 13:34 when He says, "O, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those sent to her, how often I have longed to gather your children together" and His concerns for His disciples as He plans to leave them and prays to God to be with them in John 17:11, 15 and 24.

However, the first chapter in this book talks about the playfulness of Jesus. In the ESV joy is mentioned 400 times. Paul uses the word 131 times. I thought when was a time Jesus would have known joy. I was drawn to Matthew 19:14 when Jesus tells His disciples to let the little children come unto Him. Now I don't know about you, but I have tried to line up children and then let them loose on a playground. It can be total chaos and very funny. They are laughing and moving faster than any parent or teacher can keep up. As a man, Jesus had to have laughed as the children ran to Him on this day.

I think about the times the disciples and Jesus spent fishing and Jesus teaching the people. I know when my family gets together it is a happy time. We remember the love and support that has been given to us over the years. Jesus in John 15:11 tells His disciples about the joy in Him and how He wants to share it with them. "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy be complete."

For me (being raised in a somber religious household) Jesus' playfulness was a little foreign. But after reading the book and accepting all the other traits in the book as belonging to Jesus, I had to accept Jesus also had a playful side to His personality. So, amidst all the formality of religion we all need to look for the playfulness and joy that Jesus showed during His time on earth. I certainly have tried to see this side more often.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 - Dorothy Hightower

2 - Reese Kirkland

2 - Bailey Kirkland

9 - Nikki Rautio

9 - Rowan Boado

10 - Jack Tarrant

12 - Melinda Price

13 - Cannon Gough

13 - Sara Timmerman

15 - George Gentry

16 - Wanda Tarrant

18 - JD Morris

19 - Tracy Frazier

21 - Jim Bean

22 - Cliff Brown

23 - Sandy Walther

24 - Angie Rodgers

24 - John Phillip

24 - Jeanne Osborne

25 - Andrea Phillip

26 - Darryl Hudson

27 - Susie Gantt

28 - Emorie Baynham

29 - Scott Ansele

30 - Carol Hood

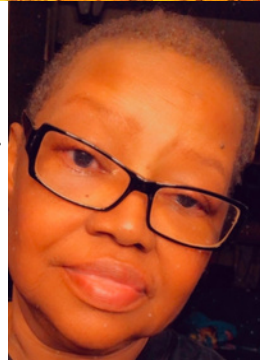
AIKEN CHURCH OF CHRIST/SEPTEMBER 2026

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



MEMBER PROFILE

Pat grew up in South Carolina, moved to California and then moved back home to South Carolina. She has been blessed with one daughter, 4 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, and they are her pride and joy. She loves to read her Bible, collect salt and pepper shakers and making quilts. Her favorite bible verses are II Corinthians 12:9, "But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'" and Matthew 16:18, "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it." Her favorite song is Amazing Grace, and she loves her quiet and alone time.



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

*1 - Lex & Holly Kirkland
3 - Leonard & Dona Blake
20 - Luis & Omarlys Martinez
23 - Dean & Cheri Reese*

UPCOMING EVENTS

*2 - Ladies Class starts
26-Day of Encouragement
13,20,& 27 - VBS*

SAVE THE DATE:

*October 2-5 : Ladies Retreat
October 17 - Ladies Day*

LOCAL EVENTS

12 - WHERE ARE YOU GOING? GRACE CHURCH, AUGUSTA, GA

18-20 - A CALL TO MORALITY, WARNERS CHAPEL CHURCH, CLEMMONS, NC

19-20 - CREATION VS EVOLUTION SEMINAR, GOLD HILL ROAD CHURCH, FORT MILL

19-20 - FALL UPLIFE-FEARLESS, CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

26 - BROKEN, YET WHOLE, WOMEN'S DAY, GOLD HILL ROAD CHURCH, FORT MILL

FLYERS ARE ON THE BOARD IN THE EDUCATION HALLWAY