

# OBITUARIES

Obituary updates are posted at [www.tomahawkleader.com](http://www.tomahawkleader.com)



**Bonnie Harper** passed away peacefully on Feb. 24 after a long battle with both dementia and breast cancer. Bonnie was born in Milwaukee, Wis., on Nov. 22, 1942. She was the second of three daughters born to Norbert and Mildred (Baker) Bruesewitz. She grew up on a milk ranch in Tomahawk, where she graduated from Tomahawk High School. She then enlisted in the Air Force where she would proudly serve her country and would also meet her future husband, Dale Harper. They were married at Scott Air Force Base on St. Patrick's Day 1962. They enjoyed nearly 62 years of marriage and had one daughter, Laura Harper and one son, Dean Harper.



Bonnie worked various book-keeping jobs after the military until Dale's military retirement in 1976, at which time they moved to Eugene, Ore. Bonnie would spend the next 27 years working for the City of Eugene in Accounts Payable, Purchasing and Payroll. Bonnie was active in the Springfield Elks Emblem Club and Eu-Lane International Toastmasters. She earned an Associate's Degree in Accounting taking night classes at Lane Community College and became a Certified Payroll Professional.

In their retirement Bonnie and Dale spent several years traveling around the country in their RV, golfing, camping, antiquing and visiting friends and relatives. Bonnie also devoted much of her spare time to volunteering at Greenhill Humane Society. She cleaned the cattery and started a monthly newsletter that followed up on all the dog adoptions. She was also an avid dog walker.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her parents and her older sister Shirley Hull. She is survived by her husband Dale Harper, daughter Laura Harper, son Dean Harper, younger sister Darlene Ashe, granddaughters Emily Harper and Lilliana Nava and multiple nieces and nephews and cousins.

The family would like to thank Quail Crest Memory Care and Bristol Hospice for taking care of Bonnie in her final days. A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 18 at the American Legion Post 83, 3650 River Rd. in Eugene. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to The Alzheimer's Association, The American Cancer Society or your local Humane Society.



**Mary Lou Orcutt**, age 91, of Tomahawk, passed away on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at her home surrounded by her family. Mary Lou was born in Stoughton, Wis., on Nov. 3, 1932, to the late Edward and Lorraine (Bolsted) Severson. Mary Lou was a 1951 graduate of Stoughton High School. She was married to her high school sweetheart, Dean Orcutt, on Jan. 19, 1952. Mary Lou was a devoted wife and mother who lovingly raised her family. As the children grew older, she began employment as a bookkeeper with Gunnelson Implement for several years. In 1974, Dean and Mary Lou moved to the Tomahawk area where she was a longtime bookkeeper at Golden Age Nursing Home. Mary Lou was a talented painter and quilter. As a faithful member of Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, she dedicated much of her time to the Ladies Guild, making quilts for donation to local hospitals. She had a love for gardening, baking, traveling, fishing, playing cards, cooking and spent many hours on the golf course, walking the greens until the age of 85. Above all, Mary Lou cherished being a mom and grandma to her loving family.

Mary Lou, known as "Grandma Lou" by many, touched many lives and was loved by all who knew her. She loved giving back and helping others. A thoughtful person to the very end, when her time came, Mary Lou was sure to comfort her family, letting them know that she was ready to go home to Jesus and be with Dean again. Survivors include her sons, Michael (Robin) Orcutt, of Sioux Falls, S.D., and Byron Orcutt, of Tomahawk; her daughters, Jackie Carr, of Brooklyn, Wis., Jean Orcutt-Schulz, of Tomahawk, and Janie (Michael) Jaacks, of Tomahawk. She is further survived by 12 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her parents, Edward and Lorraine; her husband, Dean; her great-grandson, Hugo Stevenson; two sisters, Shirley Williams and Beverly Bolender; and two brothers, Eugene Severson and Michael Severson.

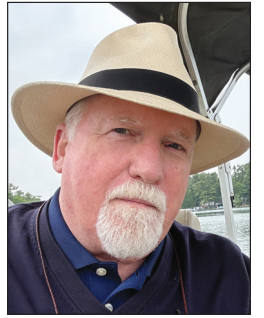
Her family wishes to thank Pastor Mark Gass and the members of Redeemer for all the visits, phone calls, cards, and prayers. She was truly blessed to have you in her life. They would also like to thank the angels at Aspirus Comfort Care & Hospice Services for being there in her time of need. Memorial services for Mary Lou Orcutt were held at Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church. Generations Funeral Home & Crematory assisted the family. You may view Mary Lou's obituary and leave online condolences at [www.generationsfuneral.com](http://www.generationsfuneral.com).

# PUBLISHER'S LETTER

## The Journey Over The Destination

Dear Reader,

Recently I reread a poem entitled "Ithaca" by the Greek writer P.J. Cavafy. He writes about traveling to the island of Ithaca which was made famous by Homer's Odyssey. He describes the journey as something magical, something that conjures up adventures beyond the body... perhaps to the soul.



*"...Hope your road is a long one, full of adventure, full of discovery."*

*"...Hope your road is a long one, May there be many summer mornings when, with what pleasure, what joy, you are entering harbors you are seeing for the first time;*

*... But don't hurry the journey at all. Better that it lasts for years, so you're old by the time you reach the island, wealthy with all you gained on the way, not expecting Ithaca to make you rich.*

*Ithaca gave you the marvelous journey. Without her you wouldn't have set out. She has nothing left to give you now.*

*...Wise as you will have become, so full of experience, you'll have understood by then what these Ithacas mean."*

The message is the importance of the journey over the destination. We don't normally see it that way because we are always striving apart from the day at hand, looking beyond the corners to where we are headed. Perhaps we need to pause and ponder the here, here, not the there, over there.

**PATRICK J. WOOD**  
Publisher

Author of "Reflections" a new book now available on Amazon.

## Pastor's Corner

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

### National Day of Prayer

Yes, it's that time of year again...and it's tomorrow!

The Associated Clergy of Tomahawk invites you to attend the National Day of Prayer in Tomahawk tomorrow, May 2, 2024, at 10:30 am at Veterans Memorial Park. This is a change of venue from last year due to Washington Park under construction.

The theme this year comes from 2 Samuel 22: 29-31: **"Lift up the Word – Light up the World"**.

*"For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness. For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God – his way is perfect; the Word of God proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him."* (ESV)

In this passage, David extols God as his shelter and shield as he fights to stay safe from his own son, Absalom, who wants to kill him and over take the throne. Both his kingdom and his own family has fallen into chaos.

Today, as I write, Iran has targeted Israel in another attack, and protesters have closed down the Golden Gate Bridge. Not quite as close a King David, but we are never that far from violence and danger.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual event that occurs the first Thursday in May all across this nation. This is my tenth year in attendance – for you it maybe more. This is a simple ceremony. The people gather together for prayer for our country (national, state and local governments), businesses, schools, churches and families. The people lead the prayers.

We are not unlike David who cries out to God to save us. We are always in need of God's protection. Of course, we all need to live in safety, but each family struggles with its own problems – insecure housing, lack of childcare, illness, financial burdens, joblessness, depression, addictions or lack of transportation to name a few.

Like David, we are imperfect people. We need God's Word. We need his lamp to light our path and keep us on the straight and narrow. Each day is a challenge. We need to gather and join each other in prayer, help our neighbors, and let them help us. God only asks that we love one another.

God hears our prayers collectively and individually. More than ever we need to pray for a strong nation. We need to lift up our leaders in prayer as they lead us. We need to pray for the teachers who guide our children. And we need to pray for our pastors and church leaders. And truthfully we need each other. We must be open to the one God will send to help us in our time of need.

Please join us tomorrow at Veterans Memorial Park at 10:30 am. We will all be blessed!



**Pastor Carolyn**  
Associated Clergy of Tomahawk

## Church DIRECTORY

<p><b>First Congregational</b> N. Fifth &amp; E. Washington Ave., Tomahawk 715-453-2217 8:30am Bible Study • 9:30am Worship Pastor John Miskimen</p>	<p><b>Grace Lutheran ELCA</b> 108 W. Somo Ave. 715-453-4066 <b>Worship Times:</b> Sat., 5 pm • Sun., 9 am Pastor Julie Sinkula Streaming Worship on our website: <a href="http://www.gracelutherantomahawk.org">www.gracelutherantomahawk.org</a></p>
<p><b>ReviveNow Church</b> 1328 County Rd. A, Tomahawk 715-453-8783 Sunday Service &amp; Facebook Live Stream: 9:30am Prayer Meetings: Wednesday 6pm Pastors Jaco &amp; Leslie Theron</p>	<p><b>Spirit Baptist</b> Hwy. 86, 1/4 Mile West of Hwy. 102, Spirit 715-657-0304 • 715-657-0764 Duane Harper Pastor Affiliated w/Baptist General Conference</p>
<p><b>Community Seventh Day Adventist</b> Hwy. 86/D, Tomahawk • 715-453-5809 Pastor Eric Anderson Church: 9am, Sabbath School: 10:15am Radio WLBI-LP 107.1 FM</p>	<p><b>Berean Baptist Church</b> 19 N. Third St., Tomahawk Pastor Charles Scheele 715-453-3407 Sunday School - 9:30 am Sunday Morning Service - 10:45 am Sunday Mid-week Bible study - 7:00 pm Wednesday</p>
<p><b>Northland Bible Church</b> 2810 Olson Road, Tomahawk Join Us Sunday 10 a.m. Pastor Alex Lindsay 715-612-1841 <a href="http://northlandbiblechurch.com">northlandbiblechurch.com</a></p>	<p><b>St. Mary's Catholic</b> Seventh and Washington Ave., Tomahawk • 715-453-2878 Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor Mass times: Saturday 6 p.m. Sunday 9:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m. Confessions: Saturdays, 9 a.m.; Anytime by Appointment</p>
<p><b>The Rock Church of Tomahawk</b> 201 West Merrill Ave., Tomahawk 9am Sunday Service &amp; live-streamed on our Facebook page. Pastors- Janel and Mike Voelker</p>	<p><b>St. Francis of Assisi Catholic</b> Pier-Willow 12 Miles North of Tripoli at 5209 Willow Road Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor Saturday 4 p.m. Mass</p>
<p><b>Redeemer Ev. Lutheran</b> WELS • 715-453-4814 16 Theiler Drive, Tomahawk Rev. Mark Gass, Pastor For Service Times Check <a href="http://www.redeemertomahawk.org">www.redeemertomahawk.org</a></p>	<p><b>St. Augustine Catholic</b> Intersection of D &amp; B, Harrison • 715-453-2561 Fr. Louis Maram Reddy, Pastor Sunday 8:00 a.m. Mass</p>
<p><b>St. Paul Ev. Lutheran</b> Missouri Synod 715-453-5391 12 E. Wisconsin Ave., Tomahawk Pastor Stephen P. Gillet</p>	<p><b>Northwoods Vineyard</b> 418 Kaphaem Road Tomahawk • 715-453-6700 Pastor Nate &amp; Shelley Nelson Reg. Serv. 9:30 Facebook Live Stream 9:30</p>
<p><b>United Methodist Church</b> Tomahawk &amp; Spirit Rev. Lisa Weaver 715-453-4378 Join Us Sunday: 8:30 in Spirit, 10:30 in Tomahawk in person &amp; 10:30 Online Via Zoom</p>	

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# Ask the PASTOR

Readers are invited to submit questions about God, the Bible, and religion. I shall try to answer them for you, using the Bible as my final authority.

In my last article, we looked at Hosea 4:1-3 and God's complaint that the nation of Israel, which once knew God, no longer did what is right nor did they love showing mercy, because they no longer knew God. The result was their culture was now riddled with crime. We also looked at two parallel passages (1 Timothy 3:1-5, Romans 1:21-32) where the same principle is mentioned. Today we shall look at Hosea 4:4,5 and what God said about their situation.

Whenever trouble arises, it is common for people to look for reasons for the problem, and eventually start pointing fingers at what or whom they believe to be the cause of the problem. The people of Israel were doing this in response to the rise in crime. And what did God say about this?

In verse 4 God tells the people, *Yet let no man strive, nor reprove another: for your people are as they that strive with the priest.* God had two things to say about the situation.

First, God says, *let no man strive, nor reprove another.* He says, quit pointing fingers and laying the blame on each other. Why? The reason is the second thing God tells the people; *for your people are as they that strive with the priest.* In pointing fingers at each other they were missing the cause of the problem. God said, *You all have a part in the rise in crime because you are a people who want to argue with the priest.* How, you may ask, did arguing with the priests contribute to the rise in crime?

In the Law of Moses, which God gave to Israel at Mount Sinai, God spelled out what the responsibilities of the priests were to be. They were responsible to officiate in the temple ceremonies and in the offering of sacrifices, to act as judges in matters concerning the law (Deuteronomy 17:8-11), and to teach the people who God is and the law He had given to them (Leviticus 10:8-11). A summary of the responsibilities of the priests under the Law of Moses is expressed in Malachi 2:7 where we read, *For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and the people should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.* If you argue with God's messenger, will you still know God?

In Hosea 4:5, God warns the people of what they could expect in the days to come because they no longer knew God. He says, *Therefore you shall fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with you in the night, and I will destroy your mother.* To put it another way: You will see your destruction (in the day), you will not understand why God no longer speaks to you (prophet...night), and your culture (mother) will fail you in the time of your destruction.

The commands of God are a definition for what is right. What happens when a culture no longer knows what is right? When a culture that once knew God, forgets God, we should not be surprised in its fall.

**Pastor Charles Scheele**  
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