

GOD'S ACRE

- Nan Sipe

I remember when some of the Mt. Zion women raised cotton, sweet potatoes and peas where we park our cars today. One year we hoed and picked a bale of cotton. The next year we raised sweet potatoes, and the next year we raised peas.

Some of the men done the plowing and selling. All the profit went to the church.

THE LONG, LONELY ROAD

- Neta Camp

Back in the late 30's, Ruby Keller Herman and I went to catechism the same year. We were learning the books of the Bible, and we had to stand up in class to recite them. When it was my turn to recite, Ruby pulled on my dress tail and made me laugh. Since we were both giggling and cutting up, Pastor Pretty made both of us stay after class. (Ruby always was a giggle box.) He sent us into different rooms to recite the books 25 times each. I remember I had to walk all the way home from church by myself.

SLOW TO CATCH ON

- Ruby Johnson

Back in the early 40's while in catechism, we were learning the liturgical colors and their seasons. I had missed a Saturday, so I had to stay after class to make up the work. Having trouble with the color for Epiphany, Pastor Roever began fiddling with his white shirt collar, trying to help me out. But I didn't catch on. Finally, he said, "Ruby!" rubbing his fingers over his collar again. I finally realized the color I was looking for was WHITE.

*Almighty God, we thank you for the examples of faith-filled lives you place around us. As we share our stories, help us also to serve as examples of your gracious love.
Amen.*

FROM BAPTISM TO CONFIRMATION

- Pinkie Eckard

The time between baptism and confirmation is so important. Reading scripture, telling or reading Bible stories, praying in the home along with saying grace before meals and family devotions is part of living out those baptismal promises. Bringing, not sending, a child to Sunday School is important also.

We have some dedicated Sunday School and confirmation teachers at Mt. Zion. But what about our attendance at Sunday School??? Some teachers, especially in the past, have done some neat things. I found a snapshot of Rick (known then as Ricky) that a teacher had made in black and white holding his Sunday School paper in class. At Christmas the pictures were sent to the parents in a Christmas greeting. I have not been able to find out who the teacher was. Becky Munday Yount has the same picture. Nora Lee Lail has one of her late son Larry, and I'm sure there are others who have them. What a nice and thoughtful gesture of that teacher, whoever he or she was. Perhaps through this article we may find out. We're most certain that it was when they were second or third graders. What beautiful memories these pictures reflect....Sunday School, studying and learning the Word, singing songs, praying, fellowship, giving an offering to God....plus this is part of living out that covenant of Baptism, helping and preparing them for confirmation classes when they will be given further instructions for several years, and then the big day of confirmation when they affirm their baptism.

Thanks be to that teacher, whether he or she is in the Church Militant or the Church Triumphant. You have left a beautiful memory.



NOTE: Thanks to everyone who submitted articles to this month's newspaper. Next edition, we focus on PAST and PRESENT CHURCH LEADERS. Submit articles to me, Ann Sipe, or telephone me at 464-3718.