



"Friends are God's way of Taking Care of Us."

I just had one of the most amazing experiences of my life, and wanted to share it with my family and dearest friends:

I was driving home from a meeting this evening at about 5pm, stuck in traffic on Colorado Blvd, when the car started to choke and sputter and die. I barely managed to coast, cursing, into a gas station and glad only that I would not be blocking traffic and would have a somewhat warm spot to wait for the tow truck. It wouldn't even turn over. Before I could make the call, I saw a woman walking out of the "quickie mart" building, and it looked like she slipped on some ice and fell into a gas pump, so I got out to see if she was okay.

When I got there, it looked more like she had been overcome by sobs than that she had fallen; she was a young woman who looked really haggard with dark circles under her eyes. She dropped something as I helped her up, and I picked it up to give it to her. It was a nickel.

At that moment, everything came into focus for me: the crying woman, the ancient Suburban crammed full of stuff with 3 kids in the back (1 in a car seat), and the gas pump reading \$4.95.

I asked her if she was okay and if she needed help. She just kept saying "I don't want my kids to see me crying," so we stood on the other side of the pump from her car. She said she was driving to California and that things were very hard for her right now.

So I asked, "And you were praying?" That made her back away from me a little, but I assured her I was not a crazy person and said, "He heard you, and He sent me."

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A priest and a pastor from the local parishes are standing by the side of the road holding up a sign that reads, "The End is Near! Turn around before it's too late!" "Leave us alone you religious nuts!" yelled the first driver as he sped by.

I took out my card and swiped it through the card reader on the pump so she could fill up her car completely, and while it was fueling, walked to the next door McDonald's and bought 2 big bags of food, some gift certificates for more, and a big cup of coffee. She gave the food to the kids in the car, who attacked it like wolves, and we stood by the pump eating fries and talking a little.

She told me her name, and that she lived in Kansas City. Her boyfriend left 2 months ago and she had not been able to make ends meet. She knew she wouldn't have money to pay rent January 1, and finally in desperation had finally called her parents, with whom she had not spoken in about 5 years. They lived in California and said she could come live with them and try to get on her feet there.

So she packed up everything she owned in the car and told the kids they were going to California for Christmas, but not that they were going to live there.

I gave her my gloves, a little hug and said a quick prayer with her for safety on the road. As I was walking over to my car, she said, "So, are you like an angel or something?"

This definitely made me cry. I said, "Sweetie, at this time of year angels are really busy, so sometimes God uses regular people."

It was so incredible to be a part of someone else's miracle. And of course, you guessed it, when I got in my car it started right away and got me home with no problem. I'll put it in the shop tomorrow to check, but I suspect the mechanic won't find anything wrong.

Sometimes the angels fly close enough to you that you can hear the flutter of their wings...Psalm 55:22 "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee. He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

From around the curve they heard screeching tires and a big splash. "Do you think," said one of the clergy to the other, "we should just put up a sign that says 'Bridge Out' instead?"

## Upcoming Events



### True Heart with The Needhams

**February 9 at 7:00pm**

Treat your Valentine to a concert featuring Nashville Recording Christian Country Artist, True Heart, and The Needhams! Scott Bordner and Joe Kantz have been sharing a gospel infused entertainment for over 24 years. The Needhams are a Christian family band combining pristine harmonies with fresh, original writing and a touch of today's country.

**Concert Ticket: \$19 Concert Ticket & Dinner Buffet: \$39**



### The Isaacs In Concert

**March 15 at 2:00pm & 7:00pm**

The Isaacs are a multi-award winning family who have a unique style that blends tight family harmony with contemporary acoustic instrumentation that appeals to a variety of audiences.

Learn more at: [www.theisaacs.com](http://www.theisaacs.com).

**Concert Ticket: \$39 Concert Ticket & Dinner Buffet: \$59**

### Concerts & Shows Coming Later this Year

**Apr 4** - Jim Brady Trio

**Apr 25** - Everly Brothers Experience

**May 17** - Triumphant Quartet

**Jun 7** - The Perrys

**Jul 12** - Karen Peck & New River

**Jul 24 & 25** - Re-Creation

**Jul 26** - Ventriloquist David Pendleton

**Aug 16** - Legacy Five

**Sept 6** - Greater Vision

**Sept 20** - Lights Out: *Frankie Valli Tribute*

**Oct 17** - The Booth Brothers

*Tickets are available at Guest Services, by phone, and online! Purchase tickets early for best available seating!*

### Bonsai for Beginners, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am, Fee: \$25

John Baylor will guide you as you create and shape your very own bonsai tree to take home and enjoy. Limited to 10 participants. Register in the Greenhouse or call 570-523-3211, ext. 7421.

### Terrarium Workshop, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm, Fee: \$50

Brennan will instruct you in creating your own unique terrarium. Container, plants, and accessories included! Workshop is limited to 10 participants ages 10 and up. Register in the Greenhouse or call 570-523-3211, ext. 7421.

## Grandma's Classic Apple Crumble Recipe

### What You Need

4 cups apples  
2/3 cup brown sugar  
1/2 cup chopped pecans  
2 tbsp. lemon juice  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
1 cup rolled oats  
1/3 cup butter

### Make It

Preheat oven to 350°. In a medium bowl, sprinkle lemon juice over apples and toss to coat. Cut butter into small pieces. In a separate bowl, combine oats, sugar, cinnamon, butter, and nuts. Place apples in an 8 1/2 inch dish and crumble the topping over the apples. Cook at 350° for 30 minutes.

*A quick and simple dessert your whole family will love! Try changing it up by substituting the apples with other combinations of fruit such as peaches, raspberries or blueberries. Or swap out the pecans for walnuts, almonds or hazelnuts.*

## Features of the Month

### Breakfast Feature:

Chocolate Chip Pancakes - \$6.99

### Salad Feature:

Apple Pecan Salad - \$10.49

### Desserts in the Dining Room:

Strawberry Swirl Cheesecake - \$5.49

Strawberry Cream Cake - \$4.99

### At the Bakery:

Chocolate Chess Pie - \$11.99

Strawberry Filled Cookies - 6/\$4.99

Red Velvet Whoopie Pie - \$1.99

Strawberry Cream Cake - \$27.99

Strawberry Swirl Cheesecake - \$32.99

## Facts About February

**Flower** - Violet

**Birthstone** - Amethyst

**2** - Groundhog Day

**4** - New Moon

**8** - National Boy Scout Day

**14** - Valentine's Day

**18** - Presidents' Day

**19** - Full Moon



### Restaurant Hours

**Mon – Sat:** 7am – 8pm

**Sun:** 7am – 7pm

### Gift Shop Hours

**Sun – Thurs:** 10am – 6pm

**Fri & Sat:** 9am – 8pm

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