

Monumental Times

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025

MONUMENTALTIMES.ORG

WISCONSIN, USA



Welcome to Monumental Times!

You have happened upon the inaugural issue of a new, up-and-coming newspaper filled with all your favorite things – stories, testimonies, quotes, laughs, and more! Where did it all come from? I'm glad you asked.

Throughout the Bible, God has always emphasized the importance of remembering. He commanded the Israelites to set up monuments of stone to mark significant moments in their history (Joshua 4:1-24). He reminded them time and time again to write scripture on our hearts (Jeremiah 31:33). Much of the Bible itself is full of historical accounts reminding

us of God's work throughout the ages.

Amy Carmichael, missionary to India in the early 1900s, recognized how important this was. When she still lived in Ireland and England, she published a small magazine called "Scraps" to remind family and friends of spiritual truths. Looking back at "Scraps" is one of the ways we can look into the life of the missionary and see how God brought her from there to eventually impacting so many lives in India.

This newspaper began with that same vision in mind: remembering what God has

done. Far too often in our busy lives we forget to remember the things God is working all around us. In this publication you will find that everything written or created has that driving purpose behind it: Remember! It is a call to be intentional, to write down and record in our own "piles of stones" what our Father in heaven is doing among His children... those Monumental moments in our lives. So, sit back, relax, and remember with us as we press on to chronicle our faith and wield our pen as valiant warriors in a world so prone to forget.

◆ Hope Hanson

HUMOR

For Laughs

What's the best thing about Switzerland?

No idea, but their flag is a big plus.

What's brown and sticky?

A stick.

Why did the can crusher quit his job?

Because it was soda pressing.

WORDS

Did you know...

The English word "**run**" has 645 definitions? I'd like the run down on those!

Definitions:

Petrichor: the word for the nice, earthy smell that comes when it rains after a warm, dry spell.

SPORTS

SPORTS REPORT

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OP-ED

Did You Know? *A Wild Tail*

by Andrew Rocke

So, I'm the kind of person that when I watch a movie or hear about something that interests me, I'll often do a little online research to learn more about the topic. Recently, my wife and I watched the movie *Rascal* together. It is based on the book with a similar name. We had briefly talked about it for a few minutes afterwards when I took up my computer to do a little investigation.

Rascal: A Memoir of a Better Era was written by Sterling North in 1963. It is based on his childhood experience of raising a baby raccoon in Wisconsin during World War I. The book won several awards, and the movie was made in 1969. As I perused the Wikipedia article, I noticed that a Japanese anime series called *Araiguma Rasukaru* was based on the book and "was

responsible for the accidental introduction of the raccoon into Japan."¹ That piqued my interest.

A short internet search found a 2024 Fox News article entitled: "Japan grappling with invasive raccoon population." Sure enough, the 1977 anime called *Rascal the Raccoon* (in English) was responsible for the importation of raccoons as pets (hey, they are kind of cute – as long as you don't think about all the damage they do and problems they cause). As could be imagined, the Japanese owners discovered that raccoons don't make good pets. When quoting *aime Arslan*, a raccoon owner, the article says: "Raccoons... 'can be very destructive in a home' and need to be constantly entertained. Additionally,

raccoons 'can and will bite,' either as aggression or as a form of play."

Their care, too, is extremely expensive, as most veterinarians will not see a raccoon."²

So, history repeated itself and the Japanese did what Sterling had to do with his raccoon: they let them go in the wild. ♦

¹ Wikipedia contributors, "Rascal (book)," Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Rascal_\(book\)&oldid=1316182702](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Rascal_(book)&oldid=1316182702).

² Christine Rousselle, "Japan grappling with invasive raccoon population," Fox News, May 18, 2024. <https://www.foxnews.com/lifestyle/japan-grappling-invasive-raccoon-population>.

PRAYER

On Prayer

by Joanna Rocke

Prayer is by far one of the most crucial aspects of the Christian life. How are we to know God, be transformed to be like Christ, or battle for Him, if we never talk to Him? Indeed, half the battle is won when we put our lives into His hands instead of holding on to it ourselves. The lack of prayer reflects a false trust in ourselves. What a foolish

choice!

Prayer requires us to come humbly before God. Psalm 139:23-24 is a great place to start as we humble ourselves and turn to God. As you pray in the next weeks, pray this scripture and allow God to convict you of sin and restore you to truth. I have found praying this scripture frequently to be a good reminder of my

condition, God's love, and my need for Him.

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Psalm 139:23-24

BIOGRAPHY

BIOGRAPHY

by Hannah Rocke

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SPIRITUAL

Spiritual Article

by Joanna Rocke

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POETRY

I Give You Lord My All

by Hope Hanson

You meet me in the quiet lonely places
Where the rain falls down like dust
You whisper songs of comfort
And quiet words of trust

You conquer every lie with truth
And cast aside my fear
And when I am at my loneliest
Is when You, Lord, appear

My heart is in Your hands, my Lord
My life is at Your call
Make my desires only Yours
I give You, Lord, my all

The howling wind and pouring rain
Falls down hard and fast
But Lord You promise deliverance
And perfect joy at last

I wait for You, for in Your time
You weave a kingdom song
In every pause and every note
Your melody grows strong

In the while, in this world
There will be tears and pain
There will be suffering and loss
But He will come again

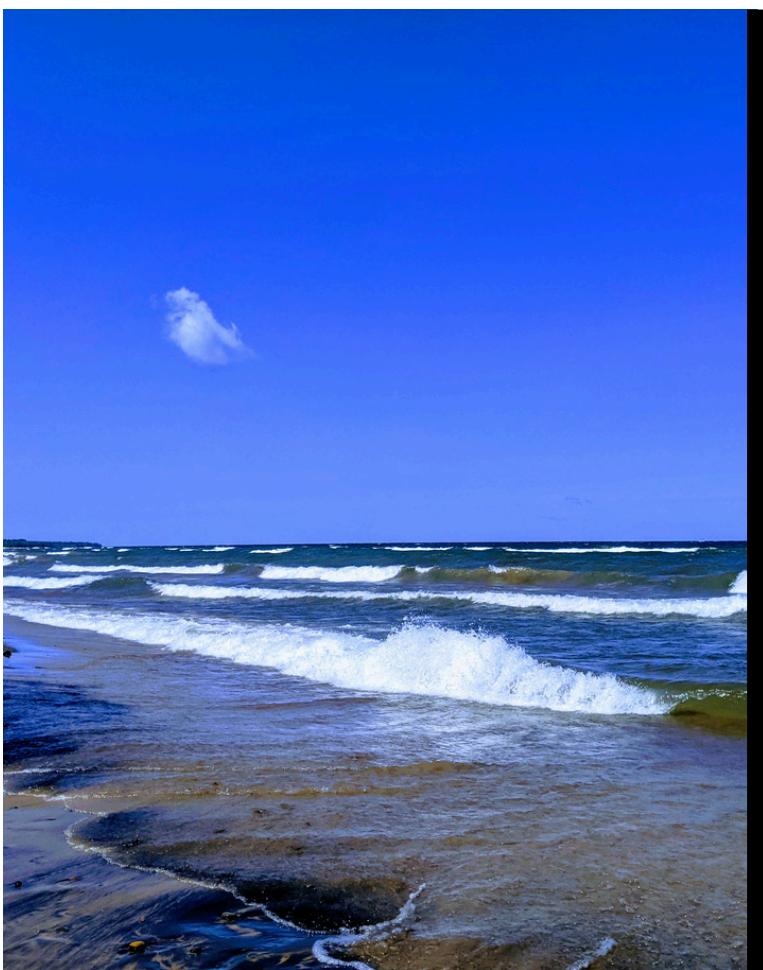
And so, my patient longing lasts
But one day it will cease
In fellowship with You at last
And everlasting peace



SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.



VOICES FROM HISTORY

Quotes

"A life abandoned to God cannot be cut short. 'Cut short' means not complete, interrupted, and we know that our Master does no half-way jobs."

Sherwood Day

"God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with Him."

Jim Elliot

"Today I know that such memories are the key not to the past, but to the future. I know that the experiences of our lives, when we let God use them, become the mysterious and perfect preparation for the work he will give us to do."

Corrie ten Boom

"The love of God is one of the great realities of the universe, a pillar upon which the hope of the world rests. But it is a personal, intimate thing, too. God does not love populations, He loves people. He loves not masses, but men. He loves us all with a mighty love that has no beginning and can have no end."

A.W. Tozer

STORYTIME

A Girl by the Seaside

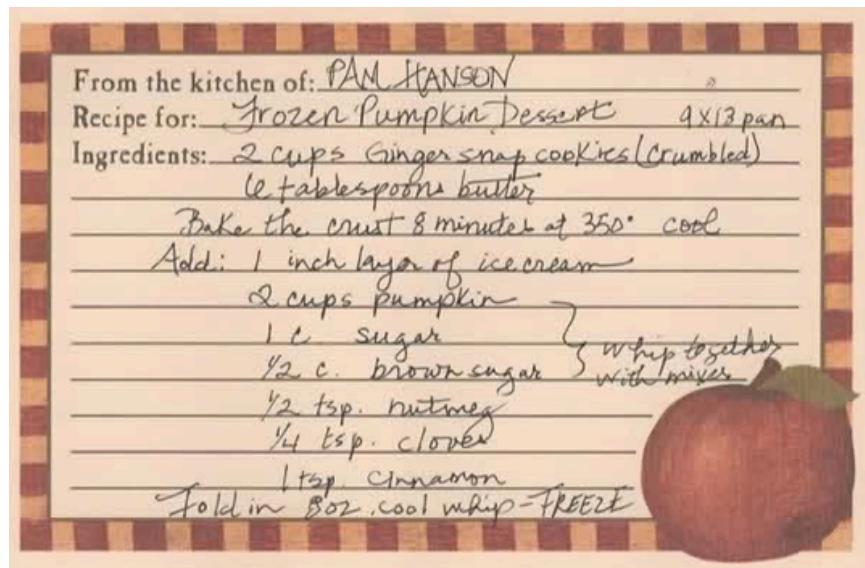
by Hope Hanson

She ran along the shore, a squeal of delight escaping her lips at every shell she came upon. One chubby fist held the edge of her blue skirt in a bundle, creating a little pouch to hold her treasures. Silver shells, white shells, blue shells, perfect shells, soft shells, big shells, small shells. Broken shells too. All slipped into the makeshift bag. She sat upon the sun warmed beach, wiggling her toes in the soft sand. One by one, she laid the shells out on the ground as the icy cold waves leapt against the shore of Lake Michigan a little ways in front of her. Her rosy cheeks spread in a wide, contented smile. A gusty wind blew across her face, whipping stray blond hairs wildly like the brown and green grasses around her.

She wishes for a shell to find
Along the golden sand,
A treasure with worth beyond
all measure
To hold within her hand.
A child's treasure in a shell
Is greater than a miser's gold,
For God made shells and trees
and grass
Real treasures to behold.
But even these cannot compare
To God's ultimate treasure.
Eternity with Him above
And joy beyond all measure!



RECIPES

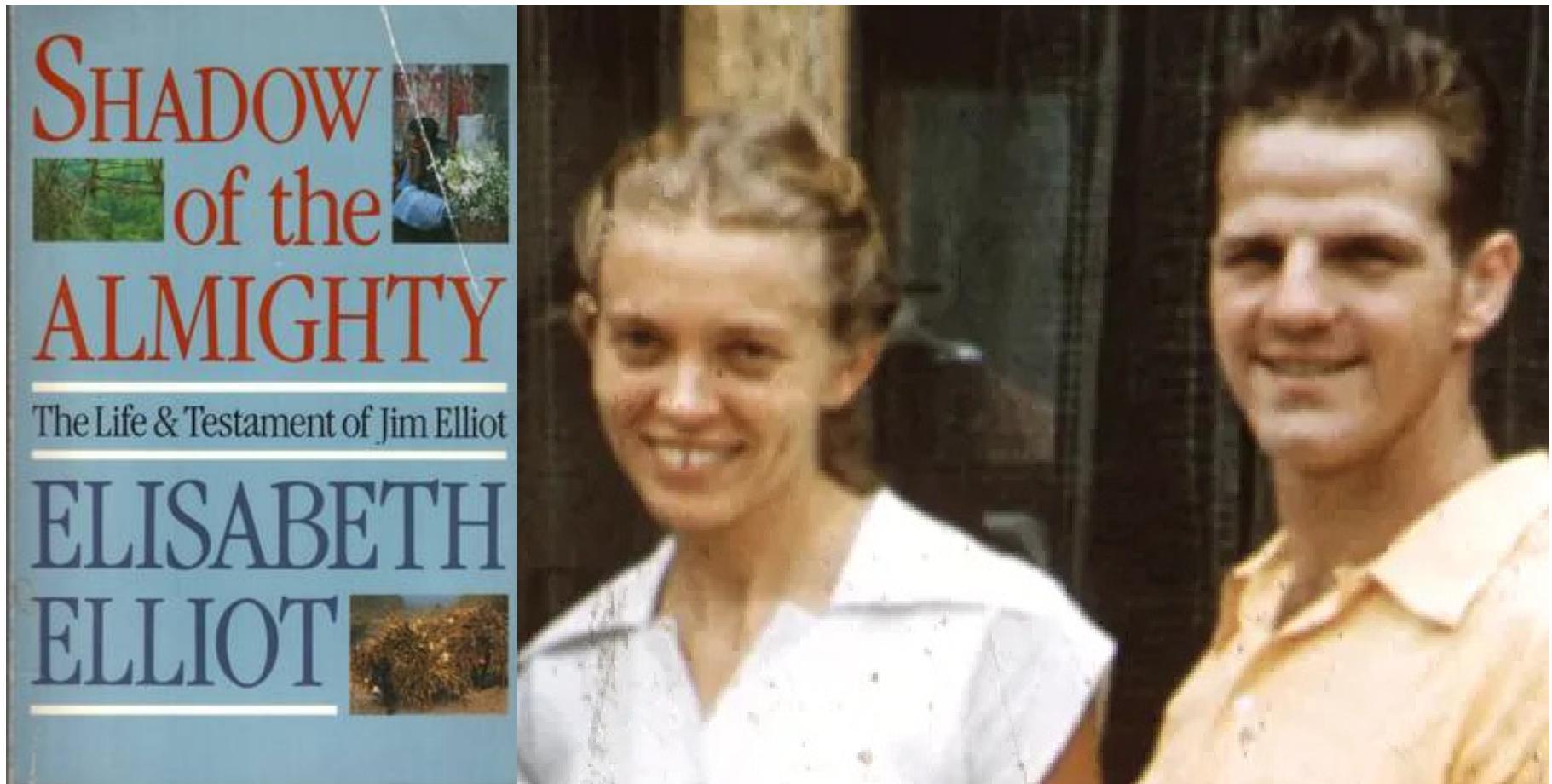


Spread $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk chocolate chips over the carmel mixture
 Put in the oven 10 minutes until it bubbles
 Sprinkle with mini marshmallows
 Cool in the freezer - Break into small pieces

RECIPE S'mores bars
 FROM PAM HANSON (Cook's Country Magazine) SERVES 8-10
 BAKING TIME 10 minutes PREHEAT OVEN TO 375°

Line a 8x8 square pan with graham crackers
 Make them fit carefully and break off other graham crackers also(if needed)
CARMEL MIXTURE
 5 Tablespoons butter (unsalted)
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup brown sugar $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
 heat the butter + sugar in a pan to boiling. Spread the mixture over the graham crackers





BOOK REVIEW

Shadow of the Almighty The Life & Testament of Jim Elliot

By Elisabeth Elliot

Review by Hope Hanson

I have grown up reading the stories and adventures of the 5 missionaries who travelled to Ecuador in the 1950s and risked all to carry the gospel to the unreached Huaorani (formerly Auca) people. Jim Elliot and his four friends Nate Saint, Ed McCully, Pete Fleming, and Roger Youderian were all killed by the spear on January 8, 1956, and this tragedy paved the way for the people in the remote jungles of Ecuador to hear the gospel and has inspired countless others to pursue mission work in various capacities since then.

Elisabeth Elliot masterfully compiled letters and journal entries from Jim Elliot throughout his life, starting in his teens.

When I first "picked up" the audiobook of *Shadow of the Almighty*, I wasn't exactly sure what to expect. Since I already knew some of the story, I figured I might hear a lot of the same. But this book is far from run-of-the-mill.

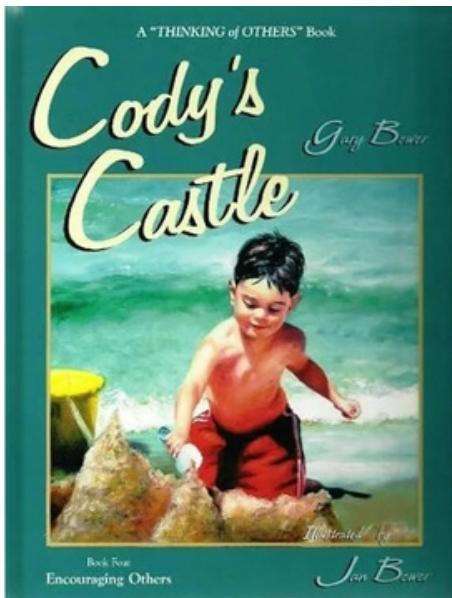
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MEDIA REVIEWS



by Joanna Rocke



Children's Book

Cody's Castle
Gary Bower

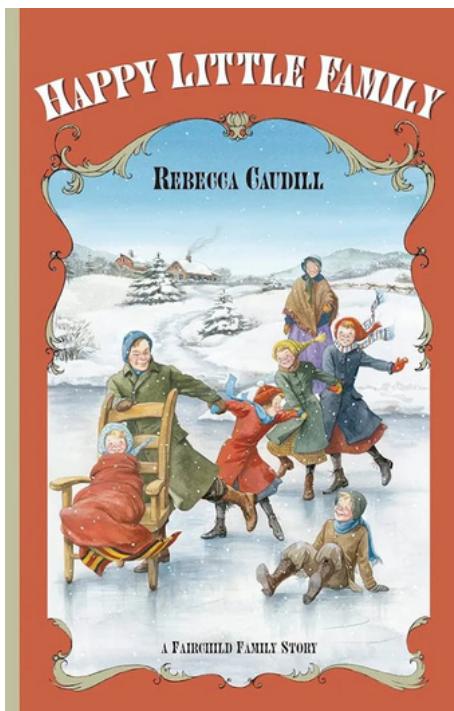
This book talks about the importance of our words and how to love others through what we say. It has beautiful painted illustrations and follow-up questions to encourage conversation with your children.



Chapter Book

Happy Little Family
Rebecca Caudill

This book is about a family living in the Kentucky Hills a long time ago. Four-year-old Bonnie wants to be a big girl and join in all the action of her older siblings. It is fun for many ages or even as a family read-aloud.



Book Challenge

by Hope Hanson

Do you ever wonder how many books you've read in your lifetime? Or perhaps you can't remember the name of that really good book you finished last year and you can't find it again. Whatever the case is, there is an easy solution!

My challenge to you is to keep a book journal. Every time you finish a book, write down the Title and Author. For an extra bonus, write down your thoughts on the book! Other things to include could be the length of the book, genre, time it took you to finish it, or who recommended it to you. Be creative!

In the years to come, it will be fun to look back and see what you've read and how your reading habits have changed through the years. It's also fun to keep track of how many books you read in a year! My record was 66, maybe you can beat it!

Whatever you do, put your own special spin on it and have fun. Happy reading!



Musical Album



Hold Fast
Steve Green



This album is characterized by a very majestic and beautiful sound. The first four tracks are part of a Psalm Suite with Psalms 113-116 sung or read to music. The other tracks are each unique, but combined send a message of being grounded in truth. The album concludes with 'The Faith by Which We Stand' which brings a solid finish to the theme of holding fast to truth.

Our Mission

Introducing the Staff

Meet the editorial staff!



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Hope Hanson

"Jill-of-all-trades" and master of none, Hope Hanson has done a variety of things in her life, but the most rewarding and life-changing of all was giving her heart to Jesus Christ at a young age. When she isn't writing for newspapers, you might find Hope playing piano, baking, working one of her many jobs, or enjoying time with friends.

Hope is a proud Wisconsinite and patriot. Even more, she is honored to be a daughter of the King and each new day is an opportunity to serve the Lord with every moment. *"Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning, For in You do I trust; Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, For I lift up my soul to You."* Psalm 143:8



MANAGING EDITOR

Joanna Rocke

tbd

Joanna is happy to call Wisconsin home for now, but she can't wait to go to her real home. When she gets There, the dream will be over, the morning begun, and she will be where she was always intended to be. *"You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy, at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."* Psalm 16:11