

## *My Moment Ministries Winter Blue Sheet #4 — February 16, 2015*

### THOUGHTS FOR THURSDAY NIGHT FEBRUARY 19

**I HAVE ONLY ONE THURSDAY NIGHT MOMENT** this month with a whole page full of things on my mind.

**FEBRUARY 19** comes in the middle of a great month...just after Valentine Day and Presidents' Day...during Black History Month and close after the Holocaust anniversary.

**CORVALLIS HAD A HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CONCERT** that few will forget. Now there is an Anne Frank play being performed this week on the Oregon State University campus. Timely.

**MARCUS BORG DIED** just a few weeks ago. He gave 10's of thousands of people a way to understand the story behind and within stories many have given up as mere legends and tales, or have been satisfied to read literally as historical truth. Responses to my words about him tell me that many on this list are fans.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY** was January 19. We did not have a January Moment to observe that day like we have for the past 35 years or so. Black History would not be the same without Martin Luther King.

**WE'LL HAVE PAUL SING** "Abraham, Martin and John" — for President's Day, plus.

"Has anyone here seen my old friend Abraham?

Can you tell me where he's gone?

Oh, he freed a lot of people

but it seems the good die young, yeah.

I just looked around and he was gone."

"Has anyone seen my old friend...Martin...my old friend John...my old friend Bobby..."

(Last names are Lincoln, King and 2 Kennedys)

It's hard to think of the history of assassinations. It's hard to think about present injustice and brutality. As our President tried to remind those at the National Prayer Breakfast, Christian history and American history are not innocent of injustice and even atrocities toward fellow human beings. I thought he came close to proclaiming a doctrine of original sin. We tend to be in denial about our own history.

**GOSH AIN'T IT AWFUL** is any easy mood to fall into when thinking of the wrongs in life and the world. The dark winter of the soul challenges the reality of resilience within life. So we sing songs like "There'll be Sunshine in the Morning...One of these days." Sometimes we like to sing

"Cheer up, ye saints of God, There's nothing to worry about,

There's nothing to make you feel afraid, nothing to make you doubt.

Remember the Lord never fails so why not trust him and shout.

You'll be sorry you worried at all tomorrow morning."

I'm not sure I could defend that theology, but there's a truth about life there...that we worry about lots of things unnecessarily. So, cheer up anyhow.

**THE CHRISTIAN SEASON OF LENT** begins with Ash Wednesday February 18. Some "give up" something for Lent as a symbolic sacrifice. A guy at the gym says he is giving up the tan he recently acquired in Hawaii. "It should be gone by Easter," he joked. We are allowed 40 days to contemplate the story of the March on Jerusalem. Only Caesar was allowed to be called divine. The Easter story tells how all that changed.

**36<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MOMENT MINISTRIES** Thursday Night "Moment" Potluck at 6 p.m. on February 19...(The first day of Lent). Because we have cut back on some Moment events we'll see whether these semi-occasional gatherings work. A shared meal, music and lots of catching up. Paul and Mary are home from Doha, Qatar. As Paul says, "Far away, but close." I promise one thing — that we won't try to cover everything!

— Art Morgan, February 16, 2015