

## *Easter 2012*

**At Inavale Farm**

**31798 Horsefarm Lane**

*Music Begins at 10:01*

*Shared Brunch Follows*

*For directions and information*

**Norm and Alice Glass**

**-541-929-5776**

**or Art Morgan**

**-541-753-3942**

### *Morgan's Moment...*

She doesn't call any more...  
our newspaper ad lady  
for many years.

She knows what I'll say...  
"Easter is still on Easter  
still at Inavale Farm."

All she needs to do  
Is put in the present year  
in case anyone wonders  
I'm not sure anyone comes  
because of the ads anyway...  
but once someone did.

We want the world to know  
that Easter can be kept  
anyplace one chooses.

It's a houseful event...  
and heartfelt too...  
songs and spring and all

We probably mix up  
legend and myth  
that passes as history.

And do what it takes to raise up  
a spirit of joyful hope for life  
in spite of all.

— Art Morgan

### BOOK CORNER

This week I've had 12 books opened, doing extensive reading in most of them. I always re-study some aspect of the current biblical scholarship on Easter. Surprisingly, it can be a bit of a moving target. I've focused on Paul since his letters make up the earliest Christian writing. One controversial book is "The Mythmaker – Paul and the Invention of Christianity" by Hyam Maccoby. Interesting.

## On Having a Happy Lent

I don't know why I wished everyone a "happy Lent." The fact is that very few pay attention to Lent. The story of a suffering savior rings bells for some people, but not to most of the world.

To wish anyone a happy Lent is sort of a waste of time. So instead of wishing people to share some sacrifice I suggested being happy during Lent. That would be a sacrifice I would think might be more pleasing to the kind of person I believe Jesus was.

I ended that column with these prophetic words:

*The honest-to-God truth is that sometimes we sacrifice and give up things whether we want to or not. Life breaks in on us and takes what we did not want to give.* (ACM March 8, 2012)

To show just how "life breaks in on us" we added five more names to our hospitalized list this past week.

This very week three from our own small group are having (or had) surgeries. We added them to three others now on the chemo path. We don't have to find sacrifices to make. The sacrifices find us soon enough. We have no choice.

It often amazes me how people who are in physical (and sometimes emotional) trouble find moments to look beyond themselves or see humor when it is no laughing matter.

Having a happy Lent doesn't suggest that the road of life is free from trouble and suffering. It means accepting the reality of winter while longing for spring, even when it is not in sight.

### HEALING, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

This week reminded me of a book (I mentioned a few weeks ago) by Michio Kaku, Professor of Theoretical Physics at New York University ("Physics of the Future") He predicted:

*"By the end of the century we will have much of the mythical power over life and death...Not through prayers but bio technology".*  
(p. 118, 119)

He points out that until the 19<sup>th</sup> century medicine was mostly superstition, witchcraft and hearsay—and life expectancy was 18 – 20 years.

By 1900 germ theory, sanitation and science-based information increased life expectancy to 49 years. Then came antibiotics and vaccines that increased life expectancy to 70+.

Now there is gene research, such as the Genome matching project, with all its possibilities. By mid-century you may get your genes mapped for \$100! Life span extension possibilities are predicted for the late part of the century. I think some are in place now. (Reduce calories 30% to increase life span 30%—Works in rats!)

Several thoughts. One is that by the end of this century none of the diseases of my hospitalized friends this week will be a problem, just as diseases like small pox, polio, whooping cough and others are almost forgotten today.

Another thought is that while most of my friends welcome prayers (or at least good thoughts) they put their lives in the hands of science.

A final thought (because I am running out of space) is that health care and research and scientific advancement are at the mercy of politicians. Let us pray.