

Supporting Christian Unity in the Alfred Community



Mother's Day 2003

A young lady set her feet upon the path of life. When she wed the pastor told the young couple that the path ahead would be long and sometimes arduous. But she couldn't wait to get started thinking, "it just doesn't get any better than this" a new husband, a new life after graduating from high school and in a little more than one year ~ a new baby on the way.

Barely more than a child herself she began the *on the job training* course that is motherhood. No course in school could prepare her for the role of parenting ~ no text book could possibly ready her for the pain of childbirth. Yet she welcomed each step along that path and readied her self as best she could for the challenges ahead as she brought forth the first of three beautiful children.

And she quickly learned that it is one thing to *hear* about the the late night feedings, the many trips to the doctor's office and all of the other things that mothers face and something entirely different to *perform* all of these tasks and more.

So she mustered her strength and persevered. She played with her children and tended to their every need. She gathered flowers for them along that path and she shared stories with them that spoke of things like love, patience, kindness, sharing, truth and integrity every step of the way.

The words she spoke into their lives were not found in colorful children's books but extracted from the pages of her life. Some of the stories were filled with wonder and joy and revealed the awe and mystery that every day holds even as we get older. And others were words of guidance born from the knowledge one can only gain from life's experiences.

Perhaps some of the most powerful of these messages were delivered as the children got older and began preparations to set their feet on the path of life. These words were born of humility and a willingness to be transparent and share from a contrite heart the trials and pitfalls that perhaps could have been avoided.

What an amazing woman ~ the mother of my children. I am constantly amazed with the things I see in her as she learns more and more each day about herself, her Lord and her role as mother and wife. I honor her for her growth and strength this day and all days.

And if you are a mother I want you to know that we honor you as well. Happy Mother's Day!