**Heart Matters - Stories, Illustrations, & Trivia**

**Dolly says to the other children: “We came from Mommy's tummy. But Joseph is adopted, so he came from his mommy's heart.” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**Pictures of the congregational families were posted in the welcome center of the church, illustrating very well that the family of God is composed of people from different races and nationalities. All who believe in Christ are members of the family of God. While the school children were looking at these photos, they noticed the difference in people, even among those in the same family. "Why?" they asked one another. One young boy whose skin color was different from the other members of his family explained, "Because I'm adopted." "I was adopted too," said a little girl. "What does that mean to be adopted?" asked another. "It means," replied the child, "that you grew in your mom's tummy, but I grew in her heart!" What a beautiful definition of adoption! *(John R. Sternberg, in Portals of Prayer)***

**Heart arteries are arranged in a sort of crown or corona. That’s why they’re called “coronary.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Another friend of mine, a cardiologist, once said to me that the most popular surgery in this country, coronary bypass surgery, is probably a metaphor. The problem with our culture is that we have bypassed the heart, especially in men. And we keep acting that out, over and over again, in the operating room. (Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen, in The Healing Process)**

**Cardiologist: A doctor who makes a living the heart way. (Shelby Friedman)**

**Today she is the latter-day diva of serious cinema. But Academy Award-winning actress and screenwriter Emma Thompson longed early on to be a comedian. Before starring in such movies as Sense and Sensibility and Howards End, Thompson even studied clowning. "The really good clown comes on and fails miserably," she elaborates. "It's wonderful, because the resulting laughter is a celebration of all our failings -- a recognition that we are not gods, that we are human. That's what clowns are for -- they play to the heart. (Kevin Sessums, in Vanity Fair)**

**Heart disease is the leading cause of death throughout the world, killing more people than AIDS, malaria, pneumonia, or lung cancer. One out of every three deaths is caused by heart disease. *(CNN.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, September 30, 2005)***

**Walt Disney refused to release a film until it had the kind of quality he thought would last. In 1938, after six months’ work on Pinocchio, Walt suddenly suspended production: the film just didn’t have heart. “I don’t think anything without heart is good or will last,” he said. “To me, humor involves both laughter and tears.” *(John Culhane, in Reader’s Digest)***

**A dog wags its tail with its heart. *(Martin Buxbaum, in Table Talk)***

**Earthworm -- has five pairs of hearts. *(World Features Syndicate)***

**After I learned that my mother had died from a sudden heart attack, I went to her apartment and let myself in. I moved from room to room, running my fingers along furniture, smoothing her bed, smelling the inside of a favorite purse. I wanted to feel her presence. I checked her refrigerator door, where she often put clippings, quotes and pictures. There I discovered something she had recently added, words I now said to myself: “Whenever I miss you, I just look in my heart and there you are.” *(Sally Fischer, in Guideposts magazine)***

**The bare facts--a two-year test by the American Heart Association found that only 7 percent of nudist camp residents suffered from high blood pressure compared to a national average of 17 percent. *(Jack Kreismer, in The Bathroom Trivia Book, p. 80)*A common complaint of many Catholics is that “prayer gets mechanical when you say the same old prayers from memory.” And until recently, I, too, echoed this corrosive critique. A 10-year-old convert set me straight – but fast. “You don’t pray from memory,” he said. “You pray by heart.” *(Del Miller, in Our Sunday Visitor)*  
 A purpose is like a heart. You don't create a heart, but, like the Tin Man in The Wizard of Oz, you can discover the one you've always had.  
*(John-Roger & Peter McWilliams, in Life 101, p. 211)*  
Eclipse, often considered the greatest racehorse ever to run on turf, had a heart that weighed 24 pounds. The average racehorse's heart weighs only nine pounds. *(Quentin Compson, in Amazing Facts & Trivia, p. 119)*  
No man can judge whether he is rich or poor by turning to his ledger. It is the heart that makes a man rich. He is rich according to what he is, not what he has. *(Henry Ward Beecher)***

**Everyone believed in the Middle Ages – as Aristotle did – that the heart was the seat of intelligence. *(Noel Botham, in The Book of Useless Information, p. 148)***

**A Valentine’s Day party in Victorian times would find young ladies writing their name on slips of paper. The young men would draw a slip and pin it to their sleeve, which is where the expression “Wearing your heart on your sleeve” comes from. *(Harry Bright & Harlan Briscoe, in So, Now You Know, p. 165)***

**The heart of a full-grown blue whale is the size of a small car. *(Harry Bright & Harlan Briscoe, in So, Now You Know, p. 140)***

**The heart of a blue whale can weigh as much as 1,500 pounds. *(Jeff Harris, in Shortcuts)***

**The common garden worm has five pairs of hearts. *(Noel Botham, in The Ultimate Book of Useless Information, p. 55)***

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