

Mutual Concessions

By Hap Hansen

The Thanksgiving Holiday has just ended and Christmas is just around the corner. Most of us have a lot of things to be thankful for. Many of those things probably included compromise.

Here are some of the things I have compromised for over the years:

- for my kids who were not doing dishes but were watching TV, because it meant they were home and not on the streets;
- for the taxes that I pay, because it means I used to be employed and was able to retire;
- for the mess I have to clean up after a party, because it means I am surrounded by friends;
- for the clothes that fit a little too snug, because it means I have enough to eat;
- for my shadow that watches me walk, because it means I am out in the sunshine;
- for floors to be vacuumed, dishes to be done and bills to be paid, because it means I have a home;
- I compromise a lot about all the complaining I hear about the government, because it means we have freedom of speech;
- for the spot I find at the far end of the parking lot, because it means I am capable of walking and that I have been blessed with transportation;
- for my huge heating bill, because it means I can stay warm;
- for the lady behind me in church who sings off-key, because it means that I can hear;
- for the pile of laundry and cleaning, because it means I have clothes to wear;
- for weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day, because it means I am capable of doing some work;
- for the alarm that goes off each morning, because it means I am alive.

Most of all, I am thankful for family and friends and all the ways I happily compromise. This joyous season, be happy, be kind, be generous, and compromise!