

An illustration of a man and a woman in a garden. The man, wearing a green shirt, is holding a large grey watering can. The woman, wearing a yellow dress with black floral patterns and a pink shawl, is assisting him. They are watering a large green plant with long, pointed leaves. In the background, there are other green plants and a tree branch with leaves. The sky is light green and blue, with two small birds flying. The overall style is a soft, painterly illustration with visible brushstrokes.

# ANYWAY AND ALWAYS

*By*  
**BRYAN & KATHY  
CHAPELL**

*Illustrated By*  
**SARAH CONGDON**

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Presbyterian Church in America

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Although many publishers do not capitalize terms, and particularly pronouns, which refer to the Trinity, content original to CDM publications will capitalize those elements for clarity of reference.

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This revised version of *Anyway and Always* is a gift to the Body of Christ from the church family of Grace Presbyterian Church in Peoria, IL, in recognition of the many ways God blessed our congregation through the ministry of Bryan and Kathy Chapell.



## *DEDICATION*

With hearts full of thanksgiving for children and grandchildren who love Jesus we dedicate this book to the One who assures us the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who honor Him, and His Righteousness to children's children.

—Bryan and Kathy Chapell

ONE DAY, KATY WAS HELPING her mother water flowers in their garden. Mommy said, “You can water all the flowers that you want, except for Daddy’s favorite flower. It is a very special flower called an orchid, and only Daddy knows how much water it needs.” So, Katy watered all the rest of the flowers in the garden: daffodils, roses, buttercups, and lilies. She knew the water would make the flowers grow more beautiful.

Then Katy thought, “Daddy wants his special orchid flower to be beautiful, too. I will water it for him!” She put a deep pool of water around Daddy’s flower. Katy did not know that the orchid could only drink a little water at a time. Too much water made the orchid sick. Soon its beautiful blossoms fell to the ground.

That evening Katy’s daddy saw the sick flower. He was very sad. Katy was so sorry that she had disobeyed. She said to her father, “Daddy, you are sad because I hurt your flower. I am so sorry, Daddy!” A little tear ran down her cheek and she asked, “Will you still love me?”





Katy's daddy took her in his arms. He said, "Sweetie, because you disobeyed, you and I are both sad. But nothing you do will ever make my love go away. I will love you anyway and always!"


Then, Katy's daddy put her on his lap and began to tell her about the day she was born. He said, "When God gave you to Mommy and me, we were so happy! You were very small. You had tiny little fingers and itsy bitsy toes. Your hair was very soft and silky. Your nose was no bigger than a pea." Katy laughed when he said that.



Daddy laughed, too, and continued, “Your eyes were so pretty like your mommy’s eyes. You were beautiful, but you were just a baby. You could not do anything that would make us love you. So, right then Mommy and I decided that we would love you the way that God loves us.”

Daddy stroked her hair, kissed her eyelids, and said, “Close your eyes, Katy, and I will tell you how God loves us:





“You know, Katy, that God made all things, right?” Katy nodded. “Well, when God finished making the heavens and the earth, He made a man named Adam and a woman named Eve. God loved Adam and Eve. He told them to take care of everything that He had made.

“Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful garden named Eden. But Adam and Eve did not take care of the plants in the garden the way that God said they should. One day they took fruit from a tree they were supposed to protect. That made everything in the garden sick and everything in their hearts sad because they had disobeyed God.”

Katy looked at her daddy and asked, “That made God sad, too, didn’t it?”

“Yes, it did,” said Daddy. “Then, God told them that they could not live in the beautiful garden anymore. That really made them sad.

“But, then, God said, ‘What you did will not make My love go away. You didn’t take care of My garden, but I will send My Son to take care of you. I will love you anyway and always.’”





Daddy said, “Adam and Eve had many children and grandchildren. When they grew up, some of them loved God, but many did not. Soon the whole world was full of bad people doing bad things.

“So, God decided to make the world new again. He told a great, great, great . . . grandson of Adam, named Noah, to build a BIG boat. It was called an ark.”

Katy tugged on Daddy’s sleeve. “I know about the ark,” she said. “It had lots of animals.”

Daddy smiled at her. “Yes,” he said. “God brought all the animals two-by-two and put them in the ark with Noah’s family. Then God made it rain for a LONG time—for forty days and forty nights! All that water was called a flood, and it covered the earth. But God kept everyone in the ark safe.

