

## **A Word from Jawn**

**February 16, 2020**

I have mentioned that my Family lived in a rather modest house during the 1960's. All the rooms were quite small, except for the dining room. The dining room was the full width of the house and about twenty feet wide. The room was crowded with my Mom's china cabinet, her sideboard, a piano, an overstuffed chair and a couple of small side tables. Right in the middle of the room was a Dining Room Table with an odd collection of chairs around it. The 'Table', as it sat there day-by-day, was not particularly remarkable. It stayed unremarkable until 'Company' came to dinner. You see, our Dining Room Table was the original Transformer.

My Mom would go to some secret location and reappear with 'the boards'. Then began the transmutation. The 'Table' would be pulled apart and the expansion-boards would be inserted. How many boards, you ask? Well, it all depended on the number of guests expected. My Mom seemed to have an unlimited supply of 'boards'. The 'Table' could be pulled out so far that at one end a chair would barely fit in place and, at the other end, some lucky visitor sat on the piano bench. I have a clear memory of more than twenty people sitting down to a meal. There always seemed to be just enough room for one more to sit around our 'Table'.

I think back to those Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter dinners with wonder and awe. Mom, Dad, Sisters, Brothers Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Girl Friends, Boy Friends and any Happy Wanderer who happened by, were all able to find a welcome place at our Dining Room Table . . . elbows included. It was phantasmagorical!

Our Creator's 'heart' is like that Dining Room Table. It expands to include and welcome any who show up . . . elbows and all. My Heart and Soul should be so expansive and welcoming.

In Jesus' name . . . Peace.