



# CHURCH OF GOD BANNER

onalaskachurchofgod.com



JUNE, 2005

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD: 3RD. AVE. & HWY. 508 ONALASKA, WASHINGTON 98570

## IS OUR NEWSLETTER A BLESSING TO YOU?

One of the blessings of our ministry is doing our Newsletter. I have always enjoyed putting it together and sending it out to those who I felt would enjoy receiving it and to whom it would be a blessing. But I also know that not everyone has the time or desire to read all the mail they receive and so last month we sent out with our Newsletters a note asking those who want to continue receiving the Newsletter to contact us and let us know. We send over 100 newsletters every month to those who do not regularly attend our church services. Some of these live in the Onalaska area while many others live throughout the United States.



I have been very pleased with the positive response we have received. As of this writing we have received 38 responses requesting to continue receiving the newsletter and only one request to have their name removed from our mailing list.

It is our desire that this newsletter would be a blessing to those who read it and that it would turn their thoughts towards Jesus Christ, our Lord and

Savior.

This month we will again be sending out this request. If you receive this request and want to continue to receive our newsletter, please reply. We want to send it to you, but at the same time we don't want you to keep getting something that you would rather not receive. If there is no request attached to your newsletter it means that you will continue to receive the newsletter unless you contact us and ask to be removed from our mailing list.

We want to thank you for allowing us to serve you and may God richly bless you and yours.

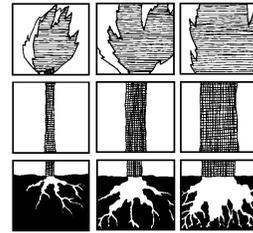
Pastor Mulkins

## CHURCH GROWTH HOW CAN IT HAPPEN?

Are you interested in seeing our church grow? Are you willing to set aside a Saturday to come and listen to someone who might be able to give us some ideas on how our church can grow and be a greater impact in our community for Jesus Christ? The Church Council is investigating

the possibility of having someone from our national headquarters in Anderson, Indiana come out and spend a weekend with our church.

This person would meet with the Pastor and his wife on Friday night. On Saturday he would hold an all day seminar for the entire congregation. On Sunday morning he would address the



## **GROWTH**

Adult Sunday School Class and preach in the morning service. On Sunday evening or possibly afternoon, we would hold a question and answer period.

The cost to our church would be between \$ 400.00 - \$ 500.00 for air travel. The Council does not what to invite someone to come out from Anderson if only a few are willing to attend. We would like to know if you would be willing to set aside one Saturday to investigate the growth potential of our Church. We will address this question during the Sunday Morning service on June 12.

If you have any questions or comments, please share them with Pastor Mulkins.

### **ECCLESIASTES 10:18**

*By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.*

## A FATHER'S HAND

Author Unknown

My son Gilbert was eight years old and had been in Cub Scouts only a short time. During one of his meetings he was handed a sheet of paper, a block of wood and four tires and told to return home and give all to "dad."

That was not an easy task for Gilbert to do. Dad was not receptive to doing things with his son. But Gilbert tried. Dad read the paper and scoffed at the idea of making a pine wood derby car with his young, eager son.

The block of wood remained untouched as the weeks passed. Finally, mom stepped in to see if I could figure this all out. The project began. Having no carpentry skills, I decided it would be best if I simply read the directions and let Gilbert do the work. And he did. I read aloud the measurements, the rules of what we could do and what we couldn't do.

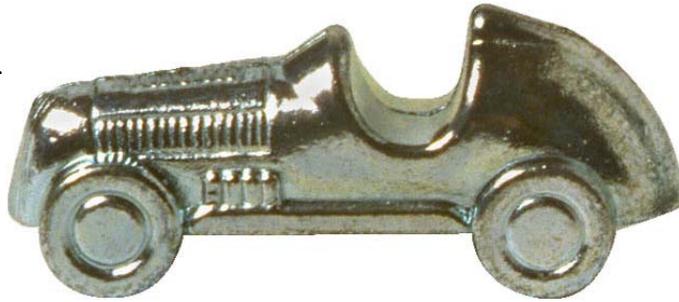
Within days his block of wood was turning into a pine wood derby car. A little lopsided, but looking great (at least through the eyes of mom). Gilbert had not seen any of the other kids cars and was feeling pretty proud of his "Blue Lightning," the pride that comes with knowing you did something on your own.

Then the big night came. With his blue pine wood derby in his hand and pride in his heart we headed to the big race. Once there my little one's pride turned to humility. Gilbert's car was obviously the only car made entirely on his own. All the other cars were a father-son partnership, with cool paint jobs and sleek body styles made for speed.

A few of the boys giggled, as they looked at Gilbert's, lopsided, wobbly, unattractive vehicle. To add to the humility, Gilbert was the only boy without a man at his side. A couple of

the boys who were from single parent homes at least had an uncle or grandfather by their side, Gilbert had "mom."

As the race began it was done in elimination fashion. You kept racing as long as you were the winner. One by one the cars raced down the finely sanded ramp. Finally it was between Gilbert and the sleekest, fastest looking car there. As the last race was about to begin, my wide-eyed, shy, eight year



old ask if they could stop the race for a minute, because he wanted to pray.

The race stopped.

Gilbert hit his knees clutching his funny looking block of wood between his hands. With a wrinkled brow he set to converse with his Father. He prayed in earnest for a very long minute and a half. Then he stood, smile on his face and announced, "Okay, I am ready."

As the crowd cheered, a boy named Tommy stood with his father as their car sped down the ramp. Gilbert stood with his Father within his heart and watched his block of wood wobble down the ramp with surprisingly great speed and rushed over the finish line a fraction of a second before Tommy's car.

Gilbert leaped into the air with a loud "Thank you" as the crowd roared in approval. The Scout Master came up to Gilbert with microphone in hand and asked the obvious question, "So you prayed to win, huh, Gilbert?" To which my young son answered, "Oh, no sir. That wouldn't be fair to ask God to help you beat someone else. I just asked Him to make it so I don't cry when I lose."

Children seem to have wisdom far beyond us. Gilbert didn't ask God to win the race; he didn't ask God to fix the outcome. Gilbert asked God to give him strength in the outcome. When Gilbert first saw the other cars he didn't cry out to God, "No fair, they had a fathers help." No, he went to his Father for strength.

Perhaps we spend too much of our prayer time asking God to rig the race, to make us number one, or too much time asking God to remove us from the struggle, when we should be seeking God's strength to get through the struggle. "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." **Philippians 4:13**

Gilbert's simple prayer spoke volumes to those present that night. He never doubted that God would indeed answer his request. He didn't pray to win, thus hurt someone else; he prayed that God supply the grace to lose with dignity. Gilbert, by his stopping the race to speak to his Father also showed the crowd that he wasn't there without a "dad," but His Father was most definitely there with him. Yes, Gilbert walked away a winner that night, with his Father at his side.

*I can truly identify with this story. As a young boy growing up without a father in the home, I can remember many times not able to go to a father and son function at school, or having to ask a neighbor to go with me. I spent a lot of time seeking a father image and in doing so, I ended up finding men that caused me a lot of pain in my teenage years.*

*As we celebrate Father's Day this month, I would like to encourage every dad to spend a little more time with your children showing to them that you love them. I would also like to encourage men that know of young boys who do not have a dad at home to show them Christian love and acceptance.*

# ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

## FREE FOOD FOR KIDS

### SUNDAYS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM  
MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM

EVENING SING & PRAISE  
SERVICE  
6:00 PM

### TUESDAYS

JUNE 7 WILL BE THE LAST  
KID'S CLUB UNTIL  
SEPTEMBER

### WEDNESDAYS

MEN'S BREAKFAST  
@  
THE BURGER BAR 6:00 AM

THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE  
STUDY HAS BEEN CANCELED  
DURING THE SUMMER

### THURSDAYS

HOME BIBLE STUDY  
@  
ELVA SMOOTS 1:00 PM  
809 GISH ROAD

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

FRIDAY, JUNE 3  
1:00 PM  
AT THE PARSONAGE

### WCG LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, JUNE 11  
12:00 PM

*FUN, LAUGHTER AND SUPPRISES.  
COME AND JOIN US.*

*If you have any questions please  
call Mert at 978-4380*

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

High School Baccalaureate  
Tuesday, June 7  
7:00 PM  
Community Presbyterian  
Church

Class of 2005 Graduation  
Friday, June 10  
7:00 PM  
High School Gym

Seniors on the Go potluck  
Wednesday, June 15  
12:00 noon



VBS at the  
Community  
Presbyterian  
Church

June 20th - 24th  
8:45 am - 12:00 noon

Breakfast and Lunch will be  
provided for all  
kids under 19 at  
no cost.



June 20 - 24 at the  
Community  
Presbyterian Church. 8:30 & 12:00  
June 27 - July 21 (Mon - Thurs) at  
the Onalaska Elementary Cafeteria.

If you have any questions, please  
contact Jerry Carlson at  
(360) 978-4115 ext. 325  
SENIOR & JUNIOR HIGH

## PNA EVENTS

### YOUTH CAMP

July 4 - 9

### FAMILY CAMP

July 17 - 22

### JUNIOR CAMP

July 24 - 29

Contact Pastor for details

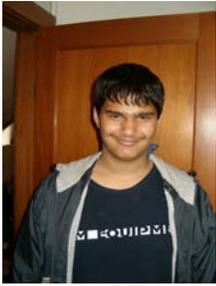
## RUMMAGE, BAKE & PLANT SALE

The WCG, Women of the Church of God, will be holding their annual Rummage, Bake and Plant Sale on Friday and Saturday, June 3 & 4. This is a wonderful time to complete your spring cleaning by donating your usable items, baking your favorite goody and sharing your green thumb with other ladies of our church to help raise money for the WCG. Mert Horrocks still needs help to set up on Thursday and clean up on Saturday following the sale, as well as selling on Friday and Saturday. If you are willing to give of your time to help make this event a great success, please call Mert at 978-4380.



**YOUTH OF THE MONTH**

In the next several months we will be introducing different members of our Youth Group.



**EUGENE WALDOW**

Eugene lives with Jeanie and Carl Gardner. Eugene was born on December 26, 1988 in Bulgaria and moved to the United States when he was four years of age. Eugene is in the tenth grade and attends High School in Centralia. His favorite subject in school is math. His best friend is Angel Mendoza. His favorite food is sugar and he has plans on being an electrician. When asked what he like best about church, he replied, "Getting to know who Christ really is".

**YOUTH CAMPS**

Summer is just around the corner and Youth Camps are coming. We have as many as 12 or more kids that are eligible for camp this year.

The cost of the Junior & Senior High Camp is \$250.00.



The cost for Junior Camp is \$100.00.

We need sponsors who are willing to help pay for the camping cost. If you are willing to help, please let Pastor or Carol Haun know.

**MISSIONS FOCUS**  
**IN MAY**

This month we are focusing on missionaries who are connected to Onalaska First Church of God! Mark Elefritz (son of Jack and Gerry) has just returned from a 5 year stint in Africa. The school where he taught has now been turned



over to nationals. Mark has mixed emotions about leaving, but knows God has his steps planned. He will spend the summer at various church camps in Washington and Oregon; and in the fall visiting supporters. He's not sure yet where God will be directing him to next. Mark serves with CB International. Please keep him in prayer as he seeks the Lord's guidance.

Nina Banks, (Carmen Eastman's sister) is investigating the call to Nigeria, Africa through Mercy Land Children Outreach International, Inc. She plans to go to Nigeria in July to help set up a clinic and birthing center and then to Ede, Nigeria to finish the orphanage there. If God confirms the call, she will become the new director at the orphanage. Funds have to be in by the first week of July. Nina says it is always exciting to hear how much God has done in the lives of those who go, as well as what He has done through them.

Reva Rice, (Pastor Mulkins daughter) has been praying about a short-term mission trip to Australia this summer. The church they attend has a mission minded Pastor, who has set up short-term

missions all over the world, to give people the opportunity to get a taste of missions. Sharing their testimony, in churches or on the streets, and experiencing a new culture can be a life changing experience for those who go.

Please keep Mark, Nina and Reva in your prayers as they seek to trust God for direction. If you are interested in investing in the ministries of any of these three individuals, please contact them directly or the missions chair (Kathleen Mulkins).

**KID'S CORNER**

I'm sure most of you recognized the young man who we are featuring this month in our Kid's Corner. His name is Tommy Poole and he lives in the house across the street from the church

with his two brother; Kevin and Charles, and his father, Layman .



Tommy is ten years old and was born May 3, 1995. He attends Onalaska Elementary School and is in the fourth grade. When asked what he liked best about church, he replied, "I like to learn about God."

I would like to encourage each of us to take the time to introduce ourselves to the young people we feature each month, and let them know we are praying for them.

*"Do you believe in life after death?" the boss asked one of his employees.*

*"Yes, sir," the new employee replied.*

*"Well, then, that makes everything just fine," the boss went on. "After you left early yesterday to go to your grandmother's funeral, she stopped in to see you!"*

## CHOCOLATE SINGS

*Author Unknown*

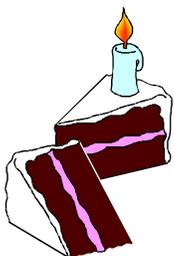
One day I had a date for lunch with friends. Mae, a little old "blue hair" about 80 years old, came along with them All in all, a pleasant bunch. When the menus were presented, we ordered salads, sandwiches, and soups, except for Mae who said, "Ice Cream, please, chocolate, two scoops."

I wasn't sure my ears heard right, and the others were aghast. "Along with heated apple pie," Mae added, completely unabashed. We tried to act quite nonchalant, as if people did this all the time. But when our orders were brought out, I didn't enjoy mine. I couldn't take my eyes off Mae as her pie a-la-mode went down. The other ladies showed dismay. They ate their lunches silently and frowned.

The next time I went out to eat, I called and invited Mae. I lunched on white meat tuna. She ordered a par-fait. I smiled. She asked if she amused me. I answered, "Yes, you do, but also you confuse me. How come you order rich desserts, while I feel I must be sensible?"

She laughed and said, with wanton mirth, "I'm tasting all that's possible. I try to eat the food I need, and do the things I should. But life's so short, my friend, I hate missing out on something good. This year I realized how old I was. (She grinned) I haven't been this old before."

"So, before I die, I've got to try those things that for years I had ignored. I haven't smelled all the flowers yet. There are too many books I haven't read. There's more fudge sundaes to wolf down and kites to be flown overhead.



There are many malls I haven't shopped. I've not laughed at all the jokes. I've missed a lot of Broadway hits and potato chips and cokes.



I want to wade again in water and feel ocean spray on my face. I want to sit in a country church once more and thank God for His grace. I want peanut butter every day spread on my morning toast. I want UN-timed long distance calls to the folks I love the most. I haven't cried at all the movies yet, or walked in the morning rain. I need to feel wind in my hair. I want to fall in love again. So, if I choose to have dessert, instead of having dinner, then should I die before nightfall, I'd say I died a winner, because I missed out on nothing. I filled my heart's desire. I had that final chocolate mousse before my life expired."

With that, I called the waitress over. "I've changed my mind," I said. "I want what she is having, only add some more whipped cream!"

Be mindful that happiness isn't based on possessions, power, or prestige, but on relationships with people we love and respect.

Remember that while money talks,  
**CHOCOLATE SINGS**

◆ *Received from Eva Dean Stone*

Last month the only person to come up with the correct answer for the quiz was my wife, Kathleen. The answer is God who is never mentioned in the book of *Esther*. Since I wrote the quiz I have also learned that God is not mentioned in the book of *The Song Of Solomon*.



Here is the quiz for the month of June.

*Avarice and self-indulgence was my game*

*But in the Bible you can't find my name.*

*I only thought of what I possessed  
The things of God I had laid to rest.*

*I saved my money I made what counts*

*But the things of God I did without  
The things of eternity never entered my mind*

*I knew that I had plenty of time.*

*One night I went to bed to sleep  
Dreaming of all the wealth I did keep*

*I woke up only to find it all gone  
And Hell is where I did belong.*

*All the money I had scrimped and saved*

*Never got past my earthly grave.  
I found myself in Eternal Hell  
And so my story to you I tell.*

*Don't make money what you crave  
For in the end you'll become its slave  
Put your riches in God alone  
Then after death you'll have a heavenly home.*

*What good is money and fancy cars  
If in the end your soul they'll mar.  
The love for money will ruin our soul  
We can lose it all for a pot of gold.*

*Put your trust in the Savior's love  
And set you eyes on the goal above.  
What good is money when you die  
If a home in Heaven it cannot buy.*

*Now if you can tell me who I am  
A candy bar you'll hold in your hand.  
My story is there for you to find  
My name is not, so have a good time.*

*My poetry may be real sad  
But I hope it doesn't make you mad  
I want your face to have a grin  
When a candy bar you win.*