



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



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

FACING LIFE'S STORMS

Do you ever feel as though your life is being swamped by the waves of trouble, responsibility, disappointment? If so, listen to this reading from the Bible, *“And behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves; but he was asleep.”*

This verse is found in **Matthew 8:24**. Jesus and his disciples were in a small boat on the Sea of Galilee, and as was not unusual for that little sea, a violent storm arose. The boat was being swamped by the waves, but Jesus was asleep. The disciples were terrified and woke Jesus up with the words, “Lord, save us; we perish”. And he said unto them, “Why are you fearful, Oh you of little faith?” Then he arose, and rebuked the winds, and the sea; and there was a great calm.

The contrast between the frantic fear of the disciples and the calm repose of Jesus is obvious. Why the difference? Jesus had explicit faith in the Father while the disciples thought only of their own human resources. That made the difference.

And that is also what makes the difference today. Life gets rather hectic sometimes, doesn't it? It has its storms. We are afraid. We are sometimes sure

we are about to perish. The inward storms of the heart, of the family, of our business, and of life in general sometimes seem destined to overwhelm us. But what do we do when these storms arise?

If we have our anchor firmly planted in the Father, we can remain calm through it all. As the storm raged, Jesus was asleep! It is difficult to imagine his total lack of fear. When he awoke, he first rebuked the disciples for their fear, and then rebuked the



wind. What we need today is that inward peace that provides calm amidst outward turmoil. And that comes only by having our feet firmly planted on the rock our salvation, Jesus Christ. Christ was resting in the Father, and we can rest in Him.

David said in **Psalms 4:8**, *“I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep; for thou, Lord, only makes me dwell in safety”*. And

in **Psalm 25:12-13**, *“What man is he that feareth the Lord? Him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose. His soul shall dwell at ease”*. In **Psalm 37:37**, *“Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace”*. Sin brings shame and fear. A bad conscience makes a coward. In **Psalms 119:165**, David said, *“Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them”*. Listen to Isaiah, *“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee.”* **Isaiah 26:3**.

Just before Jesus returned to heaven he said, *“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid”*. **John 14:27**. The world offers but cannot produce peace. The man with millions is still afraid of a depression. The man with a storm shelter is still afraid. But there is real inward peace and calmness to be found in unreserved trust in the Lord. Are you like Jesus

who could sleep through the storms, or like the disciples who were terrified? In **Romans 8:6**, Paul said, *“To be spiritually minded is life and peace”*. One of the fruits of the spirit which comes into our heart and lives after we have been born again is love, joy, and peace. (Galatians 5:22). But it comes only after we have genuinely submitted our lives to God.

◆ Received from Joe Downs

Aviation History Charlie Brown's Story

Charlie Brown was a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot with the 379th Bomber Group at Kimbolton, England. His B-17 was called 'Ye Old Pub' and was in a terrible state, having been hit by flak and fighters. The compass was damaged and they were flying deeper over enemy territory instead



of heading home to Kimbolton.

After flying over an enemy airfield, a pilot named Franz Steigler was ordered to take off and shoot down the B-17. When he got near the B-17, he could not believe his eyes. In his words, he 'had never seen a plane in such a bad state'. The tail and rear section was severely damaged, and the tail gunner wounded. The top gunner was all over the top of the fuselage. The nose was smashed and there were holes everywhere.

Despite having ammunition, Franz flew to the side of the B-17 and looked at Charlie Brown, the pilot. Brown was scared and struggling to control his damaged and blood-stained plane.

Aware that they had no idea where they were going, Franz waved at Charlie to turn 180 degrees. Franz escorted and guided the stricken plane to and slightly over the North Sea towards England. He then saluted Charlie Brown and turned away, back to Europe.

When Franz landed he told his commanding officer that the plane

had been shot down over the sea, and never told the truth to anybody. Charlie Brown and the remains of his crew told all at their briefing, but were ordered never to talk about it.

More than 40 years later, Charlie Brown wanted to find the Luftwaffe pilot who saved the crew. After years of research, Franz was found. He had never talked about the incident, not even at post-war reunions.

They met in the USA at a 379th Bomber Group reunion, together with 25 people who are alive now - all because Franz never fired his guns that day.

Research shows that Charlie Brown lived in Seattle and Franz Steigler had moved to Vancouver, BC after the war. When they finally met, they discovered they had lived less than 200 miles apart for the past 50 years!!

◆ *Received from Jude Cooper*

SAYING GRACE IN A RESTAURANT

Last week, I took my children to a restaurant.

My six-year-old son asked if he could say grace.

As we bowed our heads he said, "God is good, God is great. Thank you for the food, and I would even thank you more if Mom gets us ice cream for dessert. And Liberty and justice for all! Amen!!"

Along with the laughter from the other customers nearby, I heard a woman remark, "That's what's wrong with this country. Kids today don't even know how to pray. Asking God for ice cream! Why, I never!"

Hearing this, my son burst into

tears and asked me, "Did I do it wrong? Is God mad at me?"

As I held him and assured him that he had done a terrific job, and God was certainly not mad at him, an elderly



gentleman approached the table. He winked at my son and said, "I happen to know that God thought that was a great prayer."

"Really?" my son asked. "Cross my heart," the man replied. Then, in a theatrical whisper, he added (indicating the woman whose remark had started this whole thing), "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes."

Naturally, I bought my kids ice cream at the end of the meal. My son stared at his for a moment, and then did something I will remember the rest of my life. He picked up his sundae and, without a word, walked over and placed it in front of the woman. With a big smile he told her, "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes; and my soul is good already."

◆ *Received from Kathleen Mulkins*

***O Lord, help us to be content
With all that we possess.
And may we show our gratitude
With heartfelt thankfulness.***

◆ *Sper*

***You are rich when you are
satisfied with what you have.***

Copied from Our Daily Bread
February 23, 2007
RBC Ministries
Permission granted.

ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

SUNDAYS

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

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EVENING SING & PRAISE SERVICE
6:00 PM

We are studying a series on the **NAMES OF GOD**

The more you know about God, the stronger your faith will be, the more you will love Him, and the more you will want to worship Him.

~

WEDNESDAYS

SUP & STUDY

We will gather at **6:30 PM** for a light supper and then at **7:00 PM** we will have a Bible Study.

We are studying the life of Moses.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 3

WCG LUNCHEON
12:00 NOON

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SATURDAY, MARCH 10

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
10:00 AM

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SATURDAY, MARCH 17

MEN'S BREAKFAST
7:00 AM

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SUNDAY, MARCH 18

FOOD BANK SUNDAY
11:00 AM

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THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY NIGHT SING AND PRAISE SERVICES ON MARCH 11 & 18

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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AMERICAN LEGION
THURSDAY, MARCH 15
7:00 PM

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SENIORS ON THE GO
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21
12:00 NOON

PNA EVENTS

WARM

Western Area Regional Ministerium

Of the Church of God

NATIONAL PREACHING CLINIC

April 17, 18 & 19

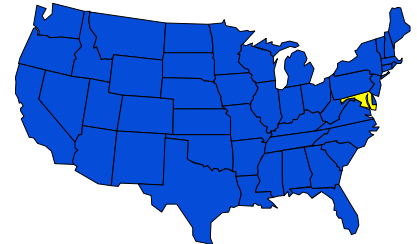
Abundant Life Christian Center

Mountain View, California

THE MAP

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by his little girl, Shelby. She wanted to know what the United States looked like. Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine on which was printed the map of the country. Cutting out all the states, he gave it to Shelby, and said, "Go into the other room and see if you can put this together. This will show you our whole country today."

After a few minutes, Shelby returned and handed him the map correctly fitted together. The fa-



ther was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. Oh," she said, "on the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got all of Jesus back where He belonged, then our country just came together."

◆ Received from Ruth Bushnell

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Mulkins will be attending the Lewis County Pastor's Prayer Summit at Cannon Beach in Oregon from Monday March 5 until Thursday, March 8, with several other Pastors in Onalaska. Please pray for Pastor Mulkins as he seeks God's direction for our church. Pray also that this will be a time of spiritual renewal for him.

Pastor will be on vacation from March 12 through March 18. Pastor Jeanne Hossler will be ministering during the Sunday morning service on March 18th.

There will be no evening services on either March 11 or March 18.



FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

It has been a number of years since the documents that pertain to the church's operational imperatives have been updated. In order to remain within federal and state guidelines it has been necessary to review all of our governing documents. The Church

Council is currently updating the By-Laws, our Pastor's contract and insurance covering the three buildings owned by the congregation. As we complete these tasks we will present them for ratification by the congregation.

Last month our church was able to donate almost three tons (we were short twenty seven pounds) of frozen food to our local food bank. Many people living in the area will benefit from such a generous donation. It was especially pleasing that our small church was able to provide for so many.

In checking our records we have \$7,000 of church money and \$500 of Women's Association money dedicated to our building fund. Tim Timmreck, John Haun and Delbert Grenz are speaking with the owner of the two lots adjoining our parking lot to try to work out some kind of purchase arrangement. There have been many legal changes since last an attempt was made to add on to the current Community Hall. In our research we have found the County cannot give permission to encroach on State property; and if we add on to the building, we must also provide additional parking spaces to satisfy the current codes. The enlargement task remains within the bounds of being something we can do. We simply



Church Council News

need to find a way to raise the money to accomplish it without accumulating debt.

One of our Church Council members suggested we keep a gallon jar on the coffee serving counter in the Community Hall so we can put spare change in as our pockets allow. It's a painless fast way of accumulating needed funds.. We might also be able to reserve a place at a rest area on 1-5 to provide coffee and cookies to travelers. From experience with other groups I know a two day stint can earn as much as \$700.00 after expenses.

We always are pleased when members of the congregation attend our deliberations. You all need to be aware we are not faulting anything that was done in the past; but we are sincerely trying to keep the church safe both legally and physically by keeping up with current laws and codes.

Our next Church Council meeting will be March 10, at 10: a.m. in the Community Hall. You are cordially invited to attend.

Susan Olsen, Chairperson

FOUR SEASONS

There was a man who had four sons. He wanted his sons to learn not to judge *things too quickly*. So he sent them each on a quest, in turn, to go and look at a pear tree that was a great distance away.

The first son went in the winter, the second in the spring, the third in *summer*, and the youngest son in the fall.

When they had all gone and



come back, he called them together to describe *what they had seen*.

The first son said that the tree was ugly, bent, and twisted. The second son said *no it was covered with green buds and full of promise*.

The third son disagreed; he said it was laden with blossoms that smelled so *sweet and looked so beautiful, it was the most graceful thing he had ever seen*.

The last son disagreed with all of them; he said it was ripe and drooping *with fruit, full of life and fulfillment*.

The man then explained to his sons that they were all right, because they *had each seen but only one season in the tree's life*.

He told them that you cannot judge a tree, or a person, by only one season, *and that the essence of who they are and the pleasure, joy, and love that come from that life can only be measured at the end, when all the seasons are up*.

If you give up when it's winter, you will miss the promise of your spring, *the beauty of your summer, fulfillment of your fall*.

Moral: *Don't let the pain of one season destroy the joy of all the rest. Don't judge life by one difficult season. Persevere through the difficult patches and better times are sure to come some time or later.*

◆ Received from Katie Jackson

WHEN I AM OLDAuthor Unknown**Dedicated to Reva & Marlana**

*When I am old, I'll live with each
kid,
And bring so much happiness ...
just as they did.
I want to pay back all the joy they've
provided.
Returning each deed! Oh, they'll be
so excited!
When I am old and live with my
kids.

I'll write on the walls with reds,
whites and blues,
And I'll bounce on the furniture
wearing my shoes.
I'll drink from the carton and then
leave it out.
I'll stuff all the toilets and oh, how
they'll shout!
When I am old and live with my
kids.

When they're on the phone and just
out of reach,
I'll get into things like sugar and
bleach.
Oh, they'll snap their fingers and
then shake their head,
When I am old and live with my
kids.

When they cook dinner and call me
to eat,
I'll not eat my green beans or salad
or meat,
I'll gag on my okra, spill milk on
the table,
And when they get angry... I'll run...
if I'm able!
When I am old and live with my
kids.

I'll sit close to the TV, through the
channels I'll click,
I'll cross both eyes just to see if
they stick.
I'll take off my socks and throw one*



*away,
And play in the mud until the end of
the day!
When I am old and live with my kids.

And later in bed, I'll lay back and
sigh,
I'll thank God in prayer and then
close my eyes.
My kids will look down with a smile
slowly creeping,
And say with a groan, "He's so sweet
when he's sleeping!"*



Last month my daughter, Marlana was the first one to come up with the correct answer, which was the lions in Daniel's lion den. The story is found in the sixth chapter of the book of Daniel. Who will win this month?

*The day was long,
The battle was hard
But we won the war
I led the charge.*

*The day seemed long
Like it would never end.
But that's OK
As long as we would win.*

*The sun it shone
So very bright
And we won
As we fought will all our might.*

*So my friend
It's up to you to tell
Who we are
And why we fought so well*

*If you're first
You know what you'll win
A candy bar
To keep you slim.*

THE INSPECTION

A Department of Agriculture representative stopped at a farm and talked with the old farmer.

"I'm going to inspect your farm."

The old farmer said, "You better not go in that field."

The Ag representative said in a wise tone, "I have the authority of the U. S. Government with me. See this card? I am allowed to go wherever I wish on agricultural land."

So, the old farmer went about his farm chores. Later, the farmer heard loud screams and saw the Department of Agriculture rep running for the fence and close behind was the farmer's prize bull.



The bull was madder than a full nest of hornets and the bull was gaining at every step.

The old farmer called out, "Show him your card!"

◆ Received from Jude Cooper