



# CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



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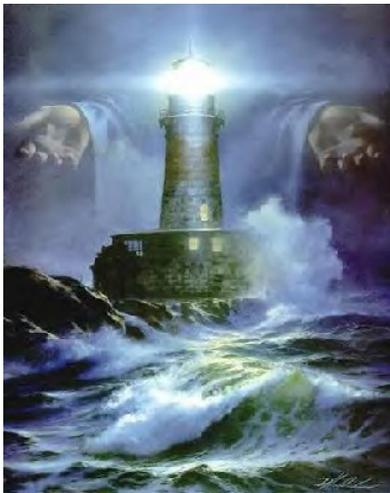
SEPTEMBER, 2007

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

## WHEN STORMS

### RAGE

Mary Warner



Painting by  
Danny Hahlbohm

*When storms rage and the seas  
roll,  
And the tempest is sure to  
consume,  
When the skies darken and the  
rain pours,  
And you are nearly covered in  
gloom,  
In the weakest hour when your  
strength wanes,  
And things look hopeless and  
bleak,  
Listen and wait and cling to the  
boat,  
For the Lord draws near to the  
weak,  
He has promised to save at the  
very last hour  
The child who calls on His  
Name,*

*And no matter the trial the Lord  
will preserve  
The tired, the weary, the lame,  
The tempest obeys the sound of  
His voice,  
And waves in His Presence are  
stilled,  
Hold on and rest in the crook of  
His Arm  
And trust in His Perfect Will.*

## THE DONKEY IN THE WELL

Author Unknown

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally, he decided the animal was old, and the well needed to be covered up anyway; it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey.



He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement he quieted down.

A few shovel loads later, the farmer finally looked down the well. He was astonished at what

he saw. With each shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up.

As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up.

Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and happily trotted off!

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a stepping stone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping, never giving up! Shake it off and take a step up.

◆ Received from Joe & Freda Downs

## THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

Giving someone all your love is never an assurance that they'll love you back!

Don't expect love in return; just wait for it to grow in their heart but if it doesn't, be content it grew in yours. It takes only a minute to get a crush on someone, an hour to like someone, and a day to love someone, but it takes a lifetime to forget someone.

When you were born, you were crying and everyone around you was smiling. Live your life so that when you die, you're the one who is smiling and everyone around you is crying.

## EVERYONE WANTS AND NEEDS IT

*Excerpt from The Simple Truths of Appreciation*

No matter who we are or what our actions may say, we all want to be recognized and appreciated. I often quote Lou Holtz, the famous Notre Dame Coach, who said, "Why is it that the people who need love, (appreciation), and understanding the most usually deserve it the least?"

**Jaime Escalante**, the teacher on whom the movie **Stand and Deliver** was based, tells an amazing story about a mistaken identity and the difference it made in a young man's life.

This teacher had two students in his class who were both named Johnny. One Johnny was an excellent student, a happy child, and always had his homework completed on time. The other Johnny was always in trouble, never had his work finished, and generally made the teacher's life miserable.

The night of their first PTA Open House of the year a mother stayed after the meeting to ask about her son, Johnny, and how he was getting along in the class. Assuming it was the mother of the "good" Johnny, the teacher replied, "I can't tell you how much I appreciate him. I am so glad he's in my class."

The next day, for the first time all year, the "problem" Johnny had all his work done, he spoke up in class, and never once caused a disruption. He even volunteered to

help another student. The teacher was astounded!

At the end of the day when everyone else had left, "problem" Johnny came up to the teacher and said, "My Mom told me what you said about me last night. ***I haven't ever had a teacher who wanted me in his class.***"

That Johnny became one of the best students the teacher ever had – and all because of a mistaken dose of appreciation! No matter who we are and what our situation in life is, we all want and need to be appreciated.

♦ *Received from James Sparks*

## MAKE A MEMORY TODAY

By ROBERT ROGERS

"Daddy, can we build a birdhouse today?" my 7-year-old daughter, Makenah, asked me early one Saturday morning as I was knee-deep in a "honey-do" project list.

"Well..." I hesitated. With a house and four children under 8, I had discovered that my project list never ended. I had tucked away the birdhouse instructions for weeks, after promising Makenah we would build it some day.

I paused a moment and took to heart my wife's daily mantra: "Let's make a memory." Then without further hesitation, I decided that "someday" had just arrived.

"OK, Makenah. Let's build that birdhouse.

We spent that afternoon measuring, cutting, and piecing together spare cedar planks in the garage. Makenah colored arrows, directing the birds to the food.

A few weeks later, memories such as this one were all I had left of my family. As we drove home from a relative's wedding one stormy evening, our minivan was

caught in a flash flood. My wife of nearly 12 years and all four of our small children went home to heaven. Somehow, I survived.

Amid the perpetual pain of missing my family, I have peace because I cherished them while I could. I built that birdhouse with Makenah – seven weeks before it was too late. We spent quality time with our children; I have no regrets.

Today, start living a life of no regrets with your family. Make a memory. None of us is guaranteed tomorrow.

Excerpted from Robert Roger's article "Parenting with No Regrets" from the August 2007 Focus on the Family magazine. Copyright © 2007, Robert Rogers. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

## THINGS I BELIEVE

**I believe** - That money is a lousy way of keeping score.

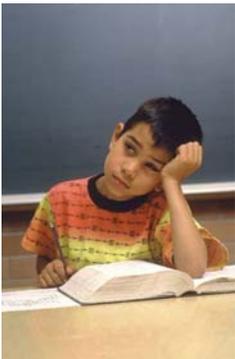
**I believe** - That my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.

**I believe** - That sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down will be the ones to help you get back up.

**I believe** - That sometimes when I'm angry I have the right to be angry, but that doesn't give me the right to be cruel.

**I believe** - That just because someone doesn't love you the way you want them to doesn't mean they don't love you with all they have.

♦ *Received from Joe & Freda Downs*



# ALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

# DECLINING NATION

**SUNDAYS**

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

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**EVENING SING & PRAISE  
SERVICE  
6:00 PM**

~

**WEDNESDAYS**

**BIBLE STUDY  
7:00 PM**

~

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**

**THE LADIES LUNCHEON  
12:00 NOON**

~

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  
10:00 AM**

~

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

**FOOD BANK SUNDAY**

~

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

**REFLECTIONS OF LOVE  
CONCERT**

**6:00 PM**

~

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

**ALL CHURCH GAME NIGHT  
6:30 PM**

~

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

**POTLUCK SUNDAY  
&**

**OUR AREA ADMINISTRATOR  
LLOYD MORITZ  
WILL BE HERE**

This will give everyone a opportunity to meet Pastor Moritz and learn some of the things the PNA has planned for the future.

**PNA  
EVENTS**

**FRIDAY—SATURDAY**

**SEPTEMBER 21—22  
WCG RETREAT @  
DOUBLE K**

**COMMUNITY  
EVENTS**

**UNITY  
WORSHIP & HEALING  
SERVICE**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16  
6:00 PM  
COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN**

~

**SENIORS ON THE GO**

**WEDNESDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 19  
12:00 NOON**

~

**AMERICAN LEGION**

**THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 20  
7:00 PM**

I notice some things about our country that disturb me. Read to the end of this brief discourse and you will understand.

1. The undermining of the dignity and sanctity of the home, which is the basis for human society.
2. Higher and higher taxes, the spending of public money for free bread and circuses for the populace.
3. The mad craze for pleasure, with sports and plays becoming more exciting, more brutal, and more immoral.
4. The building of great armaments, when the real enemy was within-decay of individual responsibility.
5. The decay of religion, whose leaders lost touch with life and their power to guide.

It seems to me these things are all happening today. This list, however, was written in 1788 By Edward Gibbon. He was citing the five primary reasons for "The Decline And Fall of the Roman Empire". Think about it!

# ANNUAL CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

Our Annual Church Business Meeting will be coming up in the month of October. We need those who are willing to serve the church through various roles. Some of the areas that we will need to fill are Church Council Member, Sunday School Superintendent, Asst. Sunday School Superintendent, Head Usher, Benevolent Committee, representative of the church to the PNA and a alternate representative.

If you are willing to serve in one of this positions or you would like to nominate someone, please let one of the members of the Nominating Committee know. The Nominating Committee is made up of Don Smoots, Chairman, Claudia Privette and Fay Nederlander.

We will also be voting on the Budget for next year. The Budget Committee's meeting will be announced so that you can come and share your ideas and concerns.

## ONLY THREE STRINGS

On Nov. 18, 1995, Itzhak Perlman, the violinist, came on stage to give a concert at Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center in New York City. If you have ever been to a Perlman concert, you know that getting on stage is no small achievement for him. He was stricken with polio as a child, and so he has braces on both legs and walks with the aid of two crutches. To see him walk across the stage one step at a time, painfully and slowly, is an awesome sight.

He walks painfully, yet majestically, until he reaches his chair. Then he sits down, slowly, puts his crutches on the floor, undoes the clasps on his legs, tucks one foot back and extends the other foot forward. Then he bends down and picks up the violin, puts it under his chin, nods to the conductor and proceeds to play.

By now, the audience is used to this ritual. They sit quietly while he makes his way across the stage to his chair. They remain reverently silent while he undoes the clasps on his legs. They wait until he is ready to play.

But this time, something went wrong. Just as he finished the first few bars, one of the strings on his violin broke. You could hear it snap - it went off like gunfire across the room. There was no mistaking what that sound meant. There was no mistaking what he had to do. We figured that he would have to get up, put on the clasps again, pick up the crutches



and limp his way off stage - to either find another violin or else find another string for this one. But he didn't. Instead, he waited a moment, closed his eyes and then signaled the conductor to begin again.

The orchestra began, and he played from where he had left off. And he played with such passion and such power and such purity as they had never heard before.

Of course, anyone knows that it is impossible to play a symphonic work with just three strings. I know that, and you know that, but that night Itzhak Perlman refused to know that.

You could see him modulating, changing, re-composing the piece in his head. At one point, it sounded like he was de-tuning the strings to get new sounds from them that they had never made before. When he finished, there was an awesome silence in the room. And then people rose and cheered. There was an extraordinary outburst of applause from every corner of the auditorium. We were all on our feet, screaming and cheering, doing everything we could to show how much we appreciated what he had done.

He smiled, wiped the sweat from this brow, raised his bow to quiet us, and then he said - not boastfully, but in a quiet, pensive, reverent tone - "You know, sometimes it is the artist's task to find out how much music you can still make with what you have left."

Here is a man who has prepared all his life to make music on a violin of four strings, who,

all of a sudden, in the middle of a concert, finds himself with only three strings; so he makes music with three strings, and the music he made that night with just three strings was more beautiful, more sacred, more memorable, than any that he had ever made before, when he had four strings.

So, perhaps our task in this shaky, fast-changing, bewildering world in which we live is to make music, at first with all that we have, and then, when that is no longer possible, to make music with what we have left.

◆ Received from Susan Olsen

## *ANCHORED TO SHORE*

*Mary Warner*

No matter how lost I feel as I drift  
away from shore,  
I know there is an anchor, strong  
and true,  
My heart will learn to trust Him  
more and more,  
For it is the Lord, my God who  
makes things new,

It is He who hung each star in its  
place,  
And He who taught each wave to  
break,  
It is He who formed the black in  
space,  
And He who rippled every lake,

He paints the colors of each sun-  
set, bold  
Across each blazing sky,  
And in His mighty hands, He  
holds,  
The likes of you and I,

He is the anchor firmly tethered  
still,  
In the tempest strong and wild,  
I will rest there in His will,  
And know I am His child.

## NEED A HAIRCUT

A pastor, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man get up and leave during the middle of his message.



The man returned just before the conclusion of the service.

Afterward the pastor asked the man where he had gone. "I went to get a haircut," was the reply.

"But," said the pastor, "Why didn't you do that before the service started?"

"Because," the gentleman said, "I didn't need one then."

## FOX HUNT

When you are in deep trouble, look straight ahead, keep your mouth shut and ... Say nothing.



◆ Received from James Sparks



## Q U I Z

Last month's winner was Rev. Jeanne Hossler of the Olympia/Lacey Church of God. She has answered the last two quizzes. Last month's answer was Jonathan and his armor-bearer. The story is found in the 14 chapter of I Samuel.

Here is the quiz for this month.

*I was sent on a mission to find  
some grass  
When I met this man who a favor  
did ask.*

*He said to me, "Go find this man  
And bring him back to where I  
stand."*

*When he told me what I was to do,  
I thought he thought that I was a  
fool.*

*I told him, "If I go it will be suicide,  
Don't you know I'm on your side?"*

*I did the best that I could do  
I save some lives and not a few  
But if I went and found this man  
I'm sure I would die right where I  
stand.*

*He told me not to fret or fear  
That when I returned he'd still be  
here.*

*And so I went and did as he said  
And I didn't lose my head.*

*Now there are three names you  
must know.*

*The name of the one who told me  
to go.*

*My name you must be able to say,  
And the name of the one I brought  
back that day.*

*Now if you're the first to get all  
three of us*

*A candy bar will be yours with out a  
fuss.*

*So scratch your head and squint  
your eyes*

*Tell us who we are and win the  
prize.*

## THE STORY OF ELIJAH

The Sunday school teacher was carefully explaining the story of Elijah the Prophet and the false prophets of Baal. She explained how Elijah built the altar, put wood upon it, cut the steer in pieces, and laid it upon the altar.

And then, Elijah commanded the people of God to fill four barrels of

water and pour it over the altar. He had them do this four times "Now, said the teacher, "can anyone in the class tell me why the Lord would have Elijah pour water over the steer on the altar?"

A little girl in the back of the room started waving her hand, "I know! I know!" she said, "To make the gravy!"

## GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan, in which a man was beaten, robbed and left for dead. She described the situation



in vivid detail so her students would catch the drama.

Then, she asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?"

A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, "I think I'd throw up."

## A HOME-COOKED MEAL

When the power failed at the elementary school, the cook couldn't serve a hot meal in the cafeteria, so at the last minute



she whipped up great stacks of peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches.

As one little boy filled his plate, he said, "It's about time, at last -- a home-cooked meal!"