



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



www.onalaskachurchofgod.com

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

DO NOT BE ANXIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING



An old train on a branch line was puffing and creaking

slowly through the countryside when suddenly it lurched to a stop. The only passenger in the three-car train rose quickly to his feet and hurried to find the conductor. "Why have we stopped?" he demanded. "I'm a salesman and I have an appointment in less than an hour in the next town. Surely this old train can make it through a pasture!"

The conductor smiled, "Nothing to worry about, sir. Just a cow on the tracks. Gotta wait her out." The salesman returned to his seat, fuming and fidgeting until the train began to creep forward again about ten minutes later. It chugged along for a mile or two and then ground to a halt once again.

This time the conductor found the salesman. "Don't worry," he said. "We'll be on our way shortly. It's just a temporary delay." The exasperated salesman asked, "What now? Did we catch up to the cow again?"

What the salesman didn't know



was that the schedule for this particular train had been made so as to allow for temporary delays and cows on the track! The salesman made his appointment, but he was worn to a frazzle by his own frustration and concern.

Allow for delays. You'll enjoy life's journey more.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." **Philippians 4:6 (NIV)**

◆ Received from Joe & Freda Downs

TO PRAY OR NOT TO PRAY

"This is a statement that was read over the PA system at the football game at Roane County High School, Kingston, Tennessee by school Principal Jody McCloud, on September 1, 2000.

I thought it was worth sharing with the world, and hope you will forward it to all your friends. It clearly shows just how far this country has gone in the wrong direction.

"It has always been the custom at Roane County High School football games to say a prayer and play the National Anthem to honor God and Country. Due to a recent ruling by the Supreme Court, I am told that saying a prayer is a violation of Federal Case Law.

As I understand the law at this time, I can use this public facility to approve of sexual perversion

and call it an alternate lifestyle, and if someone is offended, that's OK.

I can use it to condone sexual promiscuity by dispensing condoms

and calling it safe sex. If someone is offended, that's OK.

I can even use this public facility to present the merits of killing an unborn baby as a viable means of birth control, if someone is offended, no problem.

I can designate a school day as earth day and involve students in activities to religiously worship and praise the goddess, mother earth, and call it ecology.

I can use literature, videos and presentations in the classroom that depict people with strong, traditional, Christian convictions as simple minded and ignorant and call it enlightenment.

However, if anyone uses this facility to honor God and ask Him to bless this event with safety and good sportsmanship, Federal Case Law is violated.

This appears to be at best, inconsistent and at worst, diabolical. Apparently, we are to be tolerant of everything and anyone except God and His Commandments.

Nevertheless, as a school principal, I frequently ask staff and students to abide by rules which they do not necessarily agree,



◆ Continued on page two

To Pray or Not to Pray: for me to do otherwise would be at best, inconsistent and at worst, hypocritical. I suffer from that affliction enough unintentionally. I certainly do not need to add an intentional transgression. For this reason, I shall, "Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's," and refrain from praying at this time.

HOWEVER, if you feel inspired to honor, praise and thank God, and ask Him in the name of Jesus to bless this event, please feel free to do so. As far as I know, that's not against the law---yet."

◆ Received from Velma Chilson



a loud voice, "Mommy, I ' m over here."

It was obvious now, he was mentally challenged, and also startled as he turned and saw me standing so close to him, waiting to squeeze by. His eyes widened and surprise exploded on his face as I said, "Hey Buddy, what's your name?"

"My name is Denny and I ' m shopping with my mother," he responded proudly. "Wow," I said, "that's a cool name; I wish my name was Denny, but my name is Hal."

"Hal, like Halloween?" he asked. "Yes," I answered. "How old are you Denny?"

"How old am I now, Mommy?" he asked his mother as she slowly came over from the next aisle. "You're fifteen-years-old Denny; now be a good boy and let the man pass by."

I acknowledged her and continued to talk to Denny for several more minutes about summer, bicycles and school. I watched his brown eyes dance with excitement because he was the center of someone's attention. He then abruptly turned and headed toward the toy section.

Denny's mom had a puzzled look on her face and thanked me for taking the time to talk with her son. She told me that most people wouldn't even look at him, much less talk to him. I told her that it was my pleasure and then I said something I have no idea where it came from, other than by the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

I told her that there are plenty of red, yellow and pink roses in God ' s garden, however, "Blue Roses" are very rare and should be appreciated for their beauty and distinctiveness. You see, Denny is a Blue Rose and if someone doesn't t stop and smell that rose with their heart and touch that rose

with their kindness, then they've missed a blessing from God.

She was silent for a second, then with a tear in her eye she asked, "Who are you?"

Without thinking I said, "Oh, I ' m probably just a dandelion but I sure love living in God's garden."

Please, the next time you see a BLUE ROSE don't turn your head and walk off, take the time to smile and say

Hello. Because by the grace of GOD this mother could be you. This could be your child, grandchild, niece, or nephew. What a difference a moment can mean to that person or their family.

From an old dandelion. Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.



A BLUE ROSE
AND
A OLD DANDELION

THOUGHTS TO
PONDER

Keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.

Drive carefully. It's not only cars that can be "Recalled" by their maker.

If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time because then you won't have a leg to stand on.

When everyone is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.

A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour. (A camera is optional but handy!)

◆ Received from Joe & Freda Downs



Why do I always have to be the one that starts to do laundry and there's no detergent? Well, I guess it was time for me to do my store run, which included light bulbs, paper towels, trash bags and Clorox. So off I go.

I scurried around the store, gathered up my goodies, and headed for the checkout counter only to be blocked in the narrow aisle

by a young man that appeared to be about sixteen-years-old. I wasn't in a hurry, so I patiently waited for the boy to realize that I was there. This was when he waved his hands excitedly in the air and declared in

ALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

SUNDAYS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
 MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM
 EVENING WORSHIP 5:00 PM
 YOUTH 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS

BIBLE STUDY
 7:00 PM

THURSDAYS

KID'S CLUB
 3:30 — 4:30

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

CHURCH BREAKFAST
 8:00 AM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
 9:00 AM

LADIES LUNCHEON
 12:00 PM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

POTLUCK
 FOLLOWING MORNING SERVICE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18

SENIORS ON THE GO
 12:00 NOON

THURSDAY, NOV. 19

AMERICAN LEGION
 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING
 EVE SERVICE
 @
 BETHEL CHURCH
 7:00 PM

*Thanks be unto God for his
 unspeakable gift.*
2 Corinthians 9:15

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Thanksgiving Day in the church fellowship hall. It will begin at 1:00 PM. Pastor and Kathleen will provide the turkey and ham and the rest of the dinner is potluck. We will need hot dishes, vegetables, bread or rolls, salads, relish trays, deserts and whatever you would like to bring. Coffee and drinks will be provided.



We would like to invite everyone who would like to come to join us as we celebrate our thankfulness for the many blessings God has provided for us during this past year.

CHURCH BREAKFAST

This month our Men's Breakfast will be a Church Breakfast. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a great breakfast on Saturday, November 7. Following the breakfast we will be meeting with the architect and engineer to discuss the prospect and what it will entail to build a church on the Leonard Road property. There will be a time for questions and discussion.

As we begin considering building on the Leonard Road property we realize that it will take a long time and a lot of money to build. Unless God does a great miracle we will not be able to turn the first shovel for quite some time. But God tells us to count the cost before we begin and the first step in counting the cost is having a Feasibility Study that will lay out the steps we need to take. We will also have to have an environmental study before we can begin. We encourage all who are interested to attend this meeting.



Please pray that we will have the faith to trust God as He leads us.

WHAT ARE WE MISSING?

In Washington, DC Metro Station on a cold January morning in 2007. The man with a violin



played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time approx.

2 thousand people went through the station, most of them on their way to work. After 3 minutes a middle aged man noticed there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds and then hurried to meet his schedule.

4 minutes later: The violinist received his first dollar: a woman threw the money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.

6 minutes: A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

10 minutes: A 3-year old boy stopped but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head all the time. This action was repeated by several other children. Every parent, without exception, forced their children to move on quickly.

45 minutes: The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.

1 hour: He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed.

No one applauded, nor was there any recognition.

No one knew this, but the violinist was Joshua Bell, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before Joshua Bell sold out a theater in Boston where the seats averaged \$100.

This is a true story. Joshua Bell playing incognito in the metro station was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about perception, taste and people's priorities.

The questions raised:

- ◆ *In a common place environment at an inappropriate hour, do we perceive beauty?*
- ◆ *Do we stop to appreciate it?*
- ◆ *Do we recognize talent in an unexpected context?*

One possible conclusion reached from this experiment could be this: If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made.

How many other things are we missing?

◆ *Received from Joe Downs*

"AMERICA, PRAYER IS OUR ONLY HOPE"

I remember reading about the children of Israel who turned from God time and time again, only to realize their mistake and pray for forgiveness. Each time, God would forgive them and they would walk with him for a time. So, I am going to ask you to join me in praying for our nation every day. Please read the verse below. God is in control.

When I was in Atlanta last week, there were signs in people's yards that said, "America, prayer is our

only hope" with 2 Chronicles 7:14 underneath. We certainly need God's help!

I have no idea who started this, but I certainly agree with this e-mail. I heard a preacher on TV tonight who said if we pray for our nation things will turn around. After a day of contemplation and soul searching, I have decided to reach out to my friends and relatives and ask you to do something that has been troubling me for a long time.

Our nation is/has been on the slippery slope for a long time. If you look around you will find corruption, greed, moral decay, and a steady move away from the things that made us great. The principles upon which this nation was founded are no longer our backbone.

However, we can reverse this trend. **2 Chronicles 7:14** in God's Word, He states, "If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

I am convinced that we must pray for our nation and its leaders and ask for forgiveness. So I ask you to join me in this plea to our Lord.

*Here's a quote from Ronald Reagan: "If we ever forget that we are one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

I truly believe this is why the United States of America is in the shape it's in today.

Most people have forgotten that we are **ONE NATION UNDER GOD!** Let us as Christians stand up and remind people of this.

GOD BLESS AMERICAN AND PROTECT OUR TROOPS.

◆ *Received from Lee Rosson & Betty Pilo*

Q
U
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Z



We had two winners last month for the quiz. The first was Nathan Fuss, who just beat Mildred Dunham. They found the answer in the third chapter of Second Kings. The name of the prophet is Elisha, and the name of the two kings is, Jehoram king of Israel, and Jehoshaphat king of Judah.

Here is this month's quiz.

*He shouldn't have done what he did
Allowed a man in the Temple to live
It broke my heart to see him there
So I threw him out along with his chair.*

*I restored the room to what it was built for
Frankincense, new wine & vessels to store
It was built for Levites, and priest don't you know
So out of the room his belongings I did throw.*

*I commanded that they come and clean up the room
Using mops, and water, and don't spare the broom
They cleaned and scrubbed as hard as they could
They did a good job like I knew they would.*

*I put back the things that should have been there,
Frankincense, new wine & vessels with care.
The room once again was like it should be
Used for God's glory, thanks to me.*

*Now there are three names you must know
If to you the candy bar would go.
My name is the first one you must find,
It's been in the Book a very long time.*

*The name of the man who put him in that room
And the name of the man I chased with a broom
If you're right and first don't you see,
A candy bar will be given to thee.*

F16 vs C-130

A C-130 was lumbering along when a cocky F-16 flashed by. The jet jockey decided to show off.

The fighter jock told the C-130 pilot, 'watch this!' and promptly went into a barrel roll followed by steep climb. He then finished with a sonic boom as he broke the sound barrier. The F-16 pilot asked the C-130 pilot what he thought of that?



The C-130 pilot said, 'That was impressive, but watch this!' The C-130 droned along for about 5 minutes and then the C-130 pilot came back on and said: 'What did you think of that?'

Puzzled, the F-16 pilot asked, 'What the heck did you do?' The C-130 pilot chuckled. 'I stood up, stretched my legs, walked to the back, then got a cup of coffee and a cinnamon roll.'



When you are young & foolish, speed & flash may seem a good thing !!!

When you get older & smarter - comfort & dull is not such a bad thing !!!

Us older folks understand this one.

◆ Received from Mary Noland

MOM

A young man shopping in a supermarket noticed a little old lady following him around. If he stopped, she stopped. Furthermore she kept staring at him.

She finally overtook him at the checkout, and she turned to him and said, "I hope I haven't made you feel ill at ease; it's just that you look so much like my late son."

He answered, "That's okay."

"I know it's silly, but if you'd call out "Good bye, Mom" as I leave the store, it would make me feel so happy."



She then went through the checkout and, as she was on her way out of the store, the man called out, "Good-bye, Mom."

The little old lady waved, and smiled back at him.

Pleased that he had brought a little sunshine into someone's day, he went to pay for his groceries.

"That comes to \$121.85," said the clerk.

"That can't be right... I only bought 5 items."

The clerk replied, "Yeah, but your Mother said you'd be paying for her things, too."

Don't trust little old ladies!!!

◆ Received from Mary Noland