



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



www.onalaskachurchofgod.com

JUNE, 2013

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

AN ANGEL

*by a Physician
of Metro Denver Hospice*

I was driving home from a meeting this evening about 5, stuck in traffic on Colorado Blvd., and the car started to choke and splutter and die - I barely managed to coast, cursing, into a gas station, glad only that I would not be blocking traffic and would have a somewhat warm spot to wait for the tow truck. It wouldn't even turn over. Before I could make the call, I saw a woman walking out of the 'quickie mart' building, and it looked like she slipped on some ice and fell into a Gas pump, so I got out to see if she was okay.

When I got there, it looked more like she had been overcome by sobs than that she had fallen; she was a young woman who looked really haggard with dark circles under her eyes. She dropped something as I helped her up, and I picked it up to give it to her. It was a nickel.

At that moment, everything came into focus for me: the crying woman, the ancient Suburban crammed full of stuff with 3 kids in the back (1 in a car seat), and the gas pump reading \$4.95.

I asked her if she was okay and if she needed help, and she just kept saying 'don't want my kids to see me crying,' so we stood on the other side of the pump from

her car. She said she was driving to California and that things were very hard for her right now. So I asked, 'And you were praying?' That made her back away from me a little, but I assured her I was not a crazy person and said, 'He heard you, and He sent me.'

I took out my card and swiped it through the card reader on the pump so she could fill up her car completely, and while it was fueling, walked to the next door McDonald's and bought 2 big bags of food, some gift certificates for more, and a big cup of coffee. She gave the food to the kids in the car, who attacked it like wolves, and we stood by the pump eating fries and talking a little.

She told me her name, and that she was from Kansas City. Her boyfriend left 2 months ago and she had not been able to make ends meet. She knew she wouldn't have money

to pay rent Jan 1, and finally in desperation had finally called her parents, with whom she had not spoken in about 5 years. They lived in California and said she could come live with them and try to get on her feet there.

So she packed up everything she owned in the car. She told the kids they were going to California for Christmas, but not that they were going to live there.

I gave her my gloves, a little hug and said a quick prayer with her for safety on the road. As I was walking over to my car, she said, 'So, are you like an angel or something?' This definitely made me cry. I said, 'Sweetie, at this time of year angels are really busy, so sometimes God uses regular people.'

It was so incredible to be a part of someone else's miracle. And of course, you guessed it, when I got in my car it started right away and got me home with no problem. I'll put it in the shop tomorrow to check, but I suspect the mechanic won't find anything wrong.

Sometimes the angels fly close enough to you that you can hear the flutter of their wings....Friends are God's way of taking care of us.

A TRUE FATHER

by: Angel O'Hara

Yesterday, Miranda, my four year old daughter, came up to me and said "It's Father's Day."

"Yes, I know" I said. I had to smile.

"And Daddy is a Father." Again I smiled.

"He's a True Father." She said, and we left it at that.

Later I told my husband what she had said. He asked her, "What makes me a true father?"

"Because you love me. That's what makes you a true father."

Both of us had tears in our eyes.



A FEW GOOD MEN

*This is little-known story
from the Pentagon on 09/11/2001:*

During a visit with a fellow chaplain, who happened to be assigned to the Pentagon, I had a chance to hear a first-hand account of an incident that happened right after Flight 77 hit the Pentagon.

The chaplain told me what happened at a day care center near where the impact occurred. This day care had many children, including infants who were in heavy cribs. The day care supervisor, looking at all the children they needed to evacuate, was in a panic over what they could do. There were many children, mostly toddlers, as well as the infants that would need to be taken out with the cribs.

There was no time to try to bundle them into carriers and strollers. Just then a young Marine came running into the center and asked what they needed. After hearing what the center director was trying to do, he ran back out into the hallway and disappeared. The director thought, 'well, there we are—on our own.'



About 2 minutes later, that Marine returned with 40 other Marines in tow. Each of them grabbed a crib with a child, and the rest started gathering up toddlers. The director and her staff then helped them take all the children out of the center and down toward the park near the Potomac and the

Pentagon. Once they got about 3/4 of a mile outside the building, the Marines stopped in the park, and then did a fabulous thing - they formed a circle with the cribs, which were quite sturdy and heavy, like the covered wagons in the Old West. Inside this circle of cribs, they put the toddlers, to keep them from wandering off. Outside this circle were the 40 Marines, forming a perimeter around the children and waiting for instructions. There they remained until the parents could be notified and come get their children.

The chaplain then said, "I don't think any of us saw nor heard of this on any of the news stories of the day. It was an incredible story of our men there. There wasn't a dry eye in the room. The thought of those Marines and what they did and how fast they reacted; could we expect any less from them? It was one of the most touching stories from the Pentagon.

Remember Ronald Reagan's great compliment: "Most of us wonder if our lives made any difference. Marines don't have that problem."

ONLY TWO OR THREE GOOD MEN

"Three military recruiters accepted an invitation to address the senior class of a local high school. Graduation was only a few months away, and the prin-



cipal wanted his two hundred young men to hear the options available in the military. The assembly was to be forty-five minutes in length. It was agreed that each recruiter would have fifteen minutes to make his pitch and then have another twenty minutes in the cafeteria to meet with interested boys. The Army recruiter went first and got so excited about his speech that he

went over twenty minutes. The Navy recruiter, not to be outdone, stood up and also spoke for twenty minutes.

"The Marine Corps recruiter, realizing that his fifteen-minute

speech had been cut to two, walked up to the podium and spent the first sixty seconds in silence. Wordlessly, he gazed over the group of high school seniors. They knew he was sizing them up. After what seemed to be an eternity, the recruiter said, 'I doubt whether there are two or three of you in this room who could cut it as marines. I want to see those three men as soon as this assembly is dismissed.' He was mobbed by a herd of young men when he arrived in the cafeteria."

The military needs and is always looking for good men and women. So is God. And he is calling you and me to play a part in what He is doing in the world today. And that is impacting the world for Jesus Christ by living and sharing the gospel and by being "as Jesus" in some way to every life we touch. When we do this, we do make a difference—for both time and eternity.

ALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

**MORNING WORSHIP 8:15 AM
& 11:00 AM**

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM

WEDNESDAYS

SOUP & SANDWICHES
6:00 PM

BIBLE STUDY
6:30 PM

TUESDAY, JUNE 4th

LADIES LUNCHEON
12:00 NOON

SATURDAY, JUNE 8th

MEN'S BREAKFAST
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
8:00 AM

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
9:30 AM

SUNDAY, JUNE 16th

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 30th

POTLUCK SUNDAY

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TUESDAYS

AL-ANON MEETING
6:00 PM

THURSDAY, JUNE 20th

AMERICAN LEGION
6:00 PM

PNA EVENTS

DOUBLE K FAMILY CAMP

Plans are well underway for this year's Family Camp, and **pre-registration is now available.** Family Camp is going through some exciting changes this year,

and is now under the direction of Double K. The event will begin on Sunday evening, July 14th and conclude Thursday evening, July 18th. All ages are invited to come for a time of refreshment and spiritual growth! (Note that a special day for senior citizens will be on Monday). Our guest speaker this year is **Jeannette Flynn**, a former PNA pastor now ministering in Florida.

PASTOR'S DAY

This year the PNA is launching an annual gathering of PNA credentialed ministers (senior pastors, associate pastors, retired ministers, etc.) and their spouses. Pastors' Day will take place immediately following Double K Family Camp, on **Friday, July**

19th, and will be a tremendous occasion of fellowship, support, equipping, and visioning.

JUNIOR CAMP



The 2013 PNA Junior Camp will take place this year **July 25-28**, at Double K Christian Re-

treat Center. This camp is for children ages 9-11 (i.e. entering grades 4-6 in the fall). Registration information is now available for download on PNA's website.

JUNIOR HIGH CAMP

The 2013 PNA Junior Camp will take place this year **July 29—August 1** at Double K Christian Retreat Center.

**REMEMBERING
DELBERT GRENZ**

*Born
April 9, 1932*

*Passed away
May 16, 2013*



GOING HOME

Sarah Frase

*He said, "It's time to go now.
Time to say good-bye.
It's really for the best, you know,
But it's OK to cry.*

*When I leave I'm going home;
God's arms are open wide
To receive me as His own
Upon the other side.*

*I love you all so very much,
But this is for the best.
I've lived a good and fruitful life
And now it's time to rest.*

*I'm reunited with the ones
Who've gone on before;
And when some day you join me,
I'll meet you at the door.*

*So please be faithful - live for God
In all you do and say
And leave your burdens at the cross
For Jesus is the way.*

HAVING COMPASSION

At age five, John Gilbert was diagnosed with Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy, a genetic, progressive, debilitating disease. At age 25, the disease finally claimed John's life.

Every year John lost something. One year, he lost the ability to run, so he couldn't play sports with the other kids. Another year he could no longer walk straight, so all he could do was watch others play. He lost the ability to do all the outward things that we think of that make us human. Eventually, he even lost the ability to speak....

John Gilbert suffered far more than what most of us can imagine during those years. Groups of students humiliated him because of his condition and because he had to bring a trained dog to school to help him. A bully used to torture him in the lunchroom where there were no supervising teachers. No one ever stood up for him; maybe they were afraid for themselves; who knows?

"What a silly species we are," John writes. "We all need to feel accepted ourselves, but we constantly reject others."

But John had other moments in his life, too. Once he was invited to a National Football League fundraising auction. When it began, one item in particular caught John's eye: a basketball signed by the players of the Sacramento Kings professional team. John so desperately wanted that ball that when it came up for bid, he felt his hand raise up in the air. Not having the funds to participate, John's mother quickly brought it back down.

They watched the bidding go up and up and up. It rose to an astounding amount compared to the value of the ball and especially compared to other items at the

auction. Finally, a man made a bid that no one else could possibly match, and he won the prize.

The man walked to the front and claimed the basketball. But instead of going back to his



seat, the man walked across the room and gently placed it into the thin, small hands of the boy who had desired it so strongly. The man put that ball into hands that would never dribble a ball down a court, never throw it to a teammate, never fire it from the foul line. But those hands would cherish it for as long as they lived.

"It took me a moment to realize what the man had done," John writes. "I remember hearing gasps all around the room, then thunderous applause and weeping eyes. To this day I'm amazed...Have you ever been given a gift that you could have never gotten for yourself? Has anyone ever sacrificed a huge amount for you without getting anything in return...except the joy of giving?"

SURROUNDED

During the Korean War, Marines in the Baker Company found themselves cut off while enemy forces advanced. For several hours, no word was heard from them. Finally a faint signal came through. Straining to hear each word, the radio operator asked, "Do you read me?"

"This is Baker Company," came

the reply.

"What is your situation?"

"The enemy is to the east of us. The enemy is to the west of us. The enemy is to the south of us and to the north of us..." The soldier then paused briefly and continued, "And we are not going to let them escape this time!"

That is the attitude we should have when the devil seems to be hitting us from every side. As Bible commentator John Phillips wrote, "Satan is now like a caged lion, enraged beyond words by the limitations now placed upon his freedom. He picks himself up from the dust of the earth, shakes his fist at the sky, and glares around, choking with fury for ways to vent his hatred and spite upon humankind."

The devil does not want you to know that he is doomed. Revelation 12:12 tells us, "The devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time." The phrase for "great wrath" refers to a violent outburst of rage. It depicts a turbulent emotional fury rather than rational anger.

Even if some don't believe it, the devil knows that Jesus Christ is coming back. Until then, his objective is to wreak as much havoc as he can.

Sometimes it seems as though everywhere we turn, there is an attack. There is temptation. There is a problem. There is an issue. But listen: God will give us the strength to get through.

⇒ Received from Jim Sparks

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1 John 4:4 (NIV) *You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.*

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Z



The only ones who were able to come up with the correct answer to last month's quiz was by brother, Jim from Mount Vernon and my sister, Katie from Scottsdale.

The answer is found in the second chapter of 1 Chronicles verse 16. David had two sisters, Zeruah and Abigail.

Here is this month's quiz.

The day was long, so very long I thought that it would never end. But because the day was long, so very long the victory we did win.

Now tell me what's my name
And who fought that day.
And if your right
A candy bar will come your way.

DIRECTIONS

A friend was thinking about buying a new house in the country and asked me to come out and look at it. We found the town, but we couldn't locate the road. We drove over to city hall, where a community get-together was going on, and asked around, but no one had heard of the road. Even the policemen and



fire personnel were stumped.

We went in to city hall and consulted a map, with no luck, until finally one young man came to our aid. He pointed to the map, showing us exactly how to get there. I thanked the young man and asked if he was with the police or fire department.

"Neither," he replied. "I deliver pizzas."

SUMMER CAMP

A counselor was helping his kids put their stuff away on their first morning in Summer Camp. He was surprised to see one of the youngsters had an umbrella. The counselor asked, "Why did you bring! an umbrella to camp?"



The kid answered, "Did you ever have a mother?"

TELEPHONE CALL

I heard a story about a man who went to see the doctor with two severely burned ears. The doctor said, "You have to tell me—how did this happen?"



The man said, "Let me explain. I was ironing a shirt when someone called me on the phone, and I answered the iron instead of the phone."

"That is horrible!" the doctor said. "That explains one of your ears being burned. How did you burn the other?"

"They called back."

SICK LEAVE

I urgently needed a few days off work, but, I knew the Boss would not allow me to take a leave.

I thought that maybe if I acted 'Crazy' then he would tell me to take a few days off.

So I hung upside-down on the ceiling and made funny noises.

My co-worker asked me what I was doing.

I told her that I was pretending to be a light bulb so that the Boss would think I was 'Crazy' and give me a few days off.



A few minutes later the Boss came into the office and asked, 'What in the name of good GOD are you doing?'

I told him I was a light bulb.

He said, 'You are clearly stressed out.' Go home and recuperate for a couple of days.'

I jumped down and walked out of the office.

When my co-worker followed me, the Boss asked her, 'And where do you think you're going?'

FORGETTING SOMETHING

A man was on his way home with a new car, which was absorbing all his attention, when it struck him that he had forgotten something.

Twice he stopped, counted his parcels, searched his pockets, but finally decided he had everything with him. Yet the feeling persisted.

When he reached home his daughter ran out, stopped short, and cried: "Daddy, where's Mommy?"

GREAT SALES TECHNIQUE

A newsboy was standing on the corner with a stack of papers, yelling, "Read all about it. Fifty people swindled! Fifty people swindled!"

Curious, a man walked over, bought a paper, and checked the front page. What he saw was yesterday's paper.

The man said, "Hey, this is an old paper. Where's the story about the big swindle?"

The newsboy ignored him and went on calling out, "Read all about it. Fifty-one people swindled!"

* Received the above stories from Jim Sparks

