



# CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



[www.onalaskachurchofgod.com](http://www.onalaskachurchofgod.com)

SEPTEMBER, 2015

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

## IT'S A WALK OF FAITH

As I was driving one foggy night, I topped a hill and I could see through the fog for a moment. What an awesome sight! The clouds were scurrying along at a rather quick pace, across the face of the huge moon that seemed to softly light up the entire sky. Quite a change from driving in that fog with "no vision".



I could tell that going down the other side of that hill, I was about to enter the thick fog again, so I stayed my eyes on that view, as I slowly lost sight of that moonlit night and slipped back into the fog. Once I was back in the frustrating fog again, it dawned on me...That moon and clouds were still there. I couldn't see them, but I knew they were there, and if I could raise myself high enough, I would be able to see them. This experience reminded of how we walk by faith through the tough times, not by what we see around us, but by faith we believe...and if we magnify the Lord through praise and worship, to a point higher than we are, He shows Himself bigger than our problems, and they seem to shrink or slip back into the fog as we lean back on our faith once again.

## OPPORTUNITY COMES TO PASS

"As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work" (Jesus, John 9:4, NIV).

Once upon a time a city dweller moved to the country and bought a farm with a cow. In no time his cow went dry. When he told this to the neighboring farmer, he was surprised as this cow had always given lots of milk.

The city man was surprised, too, and told the other farmer how considerate he had been of the cow. He said, "I never took more milk than I needed. If I only needed a quart, that's all I took. If I didn't need any milk, I didn't milk her that day!"



What the city man didn't realize is that to keep a cow producing milk, what she has to give needs to be taken.

In some ways, people are like that. If we don't develop and use the gifts we have, we may lose them. And if we don't take the opportunities for service, for growth, for spiritual enrichment while we have them, we may lose them.

As an old friend of mine used to say, "Opportunity comes to pass, not to pause!"

Before you think of saying an unkind word - Think of someone who can't speak.

Before you complain about the taste of your food - Think of someone who has nothing to eat.

Before you complain about your husband or wife - Think of someone who's crying out to God for a companion.

Today before you complain about life - Think of someone who went too early to heaven.

Before you complain about your children - Think of someone who desires children but they're barren.

Before you argue about your dirty house, someone didn't clean or sweep - Think of the people who are living in the streets.

Before whining about the distance you drive - Think of someone who walks the same distance.

And when you are tired and complain about your job - Think of the unemployed, the disabled and those who wished they had your job.

But before you think of pointing the finger or condemning another - Remember that not one of us are without sin and we all answer to one Maker.

And when depressing thoughts seem to get you down - Put a smile on your face and thank God you're alive and still around.

Life is a gift... Live it... Enjoy it... Celebrate it... And fulfill it.

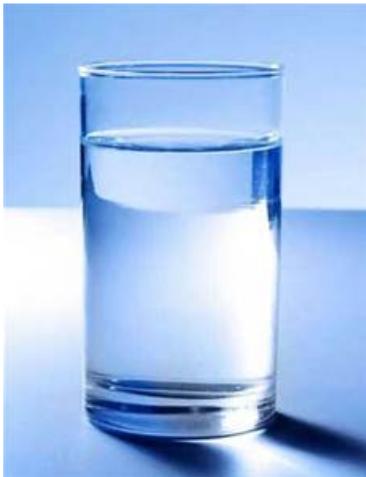
## FOG IN A GLASS

According to the National Bureau of Standards, a dense fog covering seven city blocks to a depth of 100 feet is composed of something less than one glass of



water. That is, all the fog covering seven city blocks 100 feet deep could be, if it were gotten all together, held in a single drinking glass; it would not quite fill it.

This can be compared to the things we worry about. If we could



see into the future and if we could see our problems in their true light, they wouldn't blind us to the world - to living itself - but instead could be relegated to their true size and place. And if all the things most people worry about were reduced to their true size, you could probably stick them all into a water glass, too. The worrying Christian does not trust God to do what's right in his life. Worry is a lack of trust and faith in God.

*"Anything that is not done in faith is sin."*

**Romans 14:23b**

## LIFE IS A GIFT

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Today before you complain about life - Think of someone who went too early to the grave.

Before you complain about your children - Think of someone who desires children but they're barren.

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## THE BLUE ROSE

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 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

# ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM**

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## WEDNESDAYS

SALAD & SANDWICHES  
5:45 PM

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BIBLE STUDY  
6:15 PM

HELD AT 221 LEONARD ROAD

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## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th

MEN'S BREAKFAST  
AT LISA'S DINER  
8:00 AM

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CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING  
9:30 AM

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LADIES LUNCHEON  
12:00 NOON

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## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th

SENIORS ON THE GO:  
12:00 NOON

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### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th

AMERICAN LEGION:  
6:00 PM  
COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
288 CARLISLE AV.

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## PNA EVENTS

WOMEN'S RETREAT  
@  
DOUBLE K  
SEPTEMBER 18-19, 2015

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 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.

From <http://www.promiseofgod.com/blue-rose/>

## CHURCH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING



Our Annual Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2015 following the 11:00 am Morning Worship Service. We will be electing members to the Church

Council and voting on the Annual Budget.

If you eighteen years of age or older, have accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior and have worshipped at the Onalaska First Church of God for the past six months, you are able to vote in this meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact either Pastor Mulkins or Wally True.

## LITTLE SINS

"Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom."

**Song of Solomon 2:15 (NIV)**



In their book, *Living a Power-Filled Life*, Bill Tucker with Pat Maxwell

talk about a 400-year-old tree that crashed to the forest floor. Over the centuries it had been struck by lightning fourteen times, braved great windstorms, and even defied an earthquake. In the end, however, it was killed by little beetles. Boring under the bark, they chewed away its mighty fibers until the giant of the forest lay broken on the ground.

How true it is, it's the little things in life, which at the time seem harmless, but when you put them all together, they can cause great devastation. As another has said, "Many a marital grave has been dug by a lot of little digs." And as the ditty puts it:



*It's the little things that bother us  
and put us on the rack,  
you can sit upon a mountain  
but you can't sit on a tack!*

But the biggest danger of all is found in our so-called "little sins." Eventually they will catch up with us and inch by silent inch will drive us farther and farther away from God. And as Edmund Burke said, "By gnawing through a dike, even a rat may drown a nation."

Sins—large or small—are a spiritual cancer and unless we get

the cancer, the cancer will get us. As God's Word says, "*Be sure your sin will find you out.*"

**Numbers 32:23**

The good news is that God's Word also says, "*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*"

**1 John 1:9**

Suggested prayer: "Dear God, Your Word warns us about the dangers of sin. Please help me to see and admit to my sins, confess them to You, and receive Your forgiveness. And help me to resolve and overcome any habitual sin I may have in my life. Gratefully, in Jesus's name. Amen."

⇒ *Daily Encounter: Dick Ennis*

## THE SPIDER'S WEB

During the War, a US marine was separated from his unit. The fighting had been intense, and in the smoke and the crossfire he had lost touch with his comrades.

Alone in the hills, he could hear enemy soldiers coming in his direction. Scrambling for cover, he found his way up a high ridge to several small caves in the rock. Quickly he crawled inside one of the caves. Although safe for the moment, he realized that once the enemy soldiers looking for him swept up the ridge, they would quickly search all the caves and he would be killed.

As he waited, he prayed, "Lord, if it be your will, please protect me. Whatever your will though, I love you and trust you. Amen."

After praying, he lay quietly listening to the enemy begin to draw close. He thought, "Well, I guess the Lord isn't going to help me out of this one." Then he saw a spider begin to build a web over the front of his cave.

As he watched, listening to the enemy searching for him all the while, the spider lay-  
e r e d



strand after strand of web across the opening of the cave.

"Ha, he thought. What I need is a brick wall and what the Lord has sent me is a spider web. God does have a sense of humor."

As the enemy drew closer he watched from the darkness of his hideout and could see them searching one cave after another. As they came to his, he got ready to make his last stand. To his amazement, however, after glancing in the direction of his cave, they moved on. Suddenly, he realized that with the spider web over the entrance, his cave looked as if no one had entered for quite a while. "Lord, forgive me," prayed the young man. "I had forgotten that in you a spider's web is stronger than a brick wall."

We all face times of great trouble. When we do, it is so easy to forget the victories that God would work in our lives, sometimes in the most surprising ways. As the great leader, Nehemiah, reminded the people of Israel when they faced the task of rebuilding Jerusalem, "In God we will have success!" Nehemiah 2:20

*Remember: Whatever is happening in your life, with God, a mere spider's web can become a brick wall of protection. Believe He is with you always. Just speak His name through Jesus His son, and you will see His great power and love in your life.*

From <http://www.promiseofgod.com/>

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The answer to last month's quiz is found in the 13 Chapter of the Book of Nehemiah. The correct answer was Nehemiah, Eliashib & Tobiah. The only one I can remember answering the quiz was my sister Katie from Scottsdale. If you answered the quiz, please forgive me for not remembering.

Here is this month's quiz.

*God told me to dine on some  
very strange food  
And fire I cook on was not  
made of wood.  
I had to lay on my side for  
many days  
To show the people the errors  
of their ways*

*To play soldier was one of my  
tasks  
To show the people the city  
won't last  
I used an iron pan to resemble  
a wall  
To show how that city was sure  
to fall.*

*Now tell me my name, I know  
that you can  
Tell me where the story is found  
for that is the plan  
And if you live close and not  
very far  
I will be glad to give you a  
candy bar.*

## WILL THE REAL DUM- MY PLEASE STAND UP

### 1. THEY DID WHAT?

AT&T fired President John Walter after nine months, saying he lacked intellectual leadership. He received a \$26 million severance package. Perhaps it's not Walter who's lacking intelligence.?

### 2. WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS:

Police in Oakland, CA spent two hours attempting to subdue a gunman who had barricaded himself inside his home. After firing ten tear gas canisters, officers discovered that the man was standing beside them in the police line, shouting, 'Please come out and give yourself up.'

### 3. WHAT WAS PLAN B?

An Illinois man, pretending to have a gun, kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to two different automated teller machines, wherein the kidnapper proceeded to withdraw money from his own bank accounts.

### 4. THE GETAWAY!

A man walked into a Topeka, Kansas Kwik Stop and asked for all the money in the cash drawer. Apparently, the take was too small, so he tied up the store clerk and worked the counter himself for three hours until police showed up and grabbed him.

### 5. DID I SAY THAT?

Police in Los Angeles had good luck with a robbery suspect who just couldn't control himself during a lineup. When detectives asked each man in the lineup to repeat the words: 'Give me all your money or I'll shoot', the man shouted, 'That's not what I said!'.

### 6. ARE WE COMMUNICATING?

A man spoke frantically into the phone: 'My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two

minutes apart'. 'Is this her first child?' the doctor asked. 'No!' the man shouted, 'This is her husband!'

### 7. NOT THE SHARPEST TOOL IN THE SHED!

In Modesto, CA, Steven Richard King was arrested for trying to hold up a Bank of America branch without a weapon. King used a thumb and a finger to simulate a gun. Unfortunately, he failed to keep his hand in his pocket.

### 8. THE GRAND FINALE

Last summer, down on Lake Isa-



bella, located in the high desert, an hour east of Bakersfield, CA, some folks, new to boating, were having a problem. No matter how hard they tried, they couldn't get their brand new 22 foot boat, going. It was very sluggish in almost every maneuver, no matter how much power they applied. After about an hour of trying to make it go, they putted into a nearby marina, thinking someone there may be able to tell them what was wrong. A thorough topside check revealed everything in perfect working condition The engine ran fine, the out-drive went up and down, and the propeller was the correct size and pitch. So, one of the marina guys jumped in the water to check underneath. He came up choking on water, he was laughing so hard. NOW REMEMBER...THIS IS TRUE. Under the boat, still strapped securely in place, was the trailer!

⇒ Received from Ginger Burton