



# CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



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

OCTOBER, 2016

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

## **RUNNING IN THE RAIN**

She must have been 6 years old, this beautiful brown haired, freckled-faced image of innocence. Her Mom looked like someone from the Walton's or a moment captured by Norman Rockwell. Not that she was old-fashioned. Her brown hair was ear length with enough curl to appear natural. She had on a pair of tan shorts and light blue knit shirt. Her sneakers were white with a blue trim. She looked like a Mom. It was pouring outside. The kind of rain that gushes over the tops of rain gutters, so much in a hurry to hit the earth it has no time to flow down the spout. Drains in the nearby parking lot were filled to capacity and some were blocked so that huge puddles lake around parked cars. We all stood there under the awning and just inside the door of the Wal-Mart.

We waited, some patiently, others aggravated because nature messed up their hurried day. I am always mesmerized by rain-fall. I get lost in the sound and sight of the heavens washing away the dirt and dust of the world. Memories of running, splashing so carefree as a child come pouring in as a welcome reprieve from the worries of my day.

Her voice was so sweet as it broke the hypnotic trance we were all caught in. "Mom, let's run through the rain," she said.

"What?" Mom asked.

"Let's run through the rain!" she repeated.

"No, honey. We'll wait until it slows down a bit," Mom replied.

This young child waited about another minute and repeated her statement. "Mom, let's run through the rain."

"We'll get soaked if we do," Mom said.

"No we won't, Mom. That's not what you said this morning," the young girl said as she tugged at her Mom's arm.

"This morning? When did I say we could run through the rain and not get wet?"



"Don't you remember? When you were talking to Daddy about his cancer, you said, "If God can get us through this, He can get us through anything!"

The entire crowd stopped dead silent. I swear you couldn't hear anything but the rain. We all stood silently. No one came or left in the next few minutes. Mom paused and thought for a moment about what she would say. Now some would laugh it off and scold her for being silly. Some might even ignore what was said. But this was a moment of

affirmation in a young child's life. A time when innocent trust can be nurtured so that it will bloom into faith.

"Honey, you are absolutely right. Let's run through the rain. If God lets us get wet, well maybe we just needed washing," Mom said.

Then off they ran. We all stood watching, smiling and laughing as they darted past the cars and yes through the puddles. They held their shopping bags over their heads just in case. They got soaked. But they were followed by a few believers who screamed and laughed like children all the way to their cars. Perhaps inspired by their faith and trust.

I want to believe that somewhere down the road in life, Mom will find herself reflecting back on moments they spent together, captured like pictures in the scrapbook of her cherished memories. Maybe when she watches proudly as her daughter graduates. Or as her Daddy walks her down the aisle on her wedding day. She will laugh again. Her heart will beat a little faster. Her smile will tell the world they love each other.

But only two people will share that precious moment when they ran through the rain believing that God would get them through. And Yes, I did. I ran. I got wet. I needed washing. To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

**I HOPE YOU ALL STILL HAVE THE TIME TO RUN THROUGH THE RAIN.**

## UNFOLDING A ROSE

A young, new preacher was walking with an older, more seasoned preacher in the garden one day, and feeling a bit insecure about what God had for him to do. He was inquiring of the older preacher. The older preacher walked up to a rosebush, and handed the young preacher a rosebud and told him to open it without tearing off any petals.

The young preacher looked in disbelief at the older preacher and was trying to figure out what a rosebud could possibly have to do with his wanting to know the will of God, for his life and for his ministry.

Because of his high respect for the older preacher, he proceeded to try to unfold the rose, while keeping every petal intact... It wasn't long before he realized how impossible it was to do.

Noticing the younger preacher's inability to unfold the rosebud while keeping it intact, the older preacher began to recite the following poem...

### UNFOLDING THE ROSEBUD

It is only a tiny rosebud,  
A flower of God's design;  
But I cannot unfold the petals  
With these clumsy hands of mine.

The secret of unfolding flowers  
Is not known to such as I.  
GOD opens this flower so sweetly,  
When in my hands they fade and die.

If I cannot unfold a rosebud,  
This flower of God's design,  
Then how can I think I have wisdom  
To unfold this life of mine?

So I'll trust in Him for His leading

Each moment of every day,  
I will look to Him for His guidance  
Each step of the pilgrim way.

The pathway that lies before me,  
Only my Heavenly Father knows.  
I'll trust Him to unfold the moments,  
Just as He unfolds the rose.

## THE MAYONNAISE JAR AND 2 CUPS OF COFFEE

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 Hours in a day is not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar and 2 cups of coffee.

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls.

He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls.

He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full.

The students responded with an unanimous "yes."

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the Empty space between the sand.

The students laughed.

"Now," said the professor, as

the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things - God, family, children, health, friends, and Favorite passions -- things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.

The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, house, and car.

The sand is everything else -- the small stuff.

"If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you.

So... Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play With your Children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your spouse out to dinner. Play another 18.

There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. "Take care of the golf balls first -- the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented.

The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked". It just goes to show



you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."

⇒ Received from Joe Downs & Katie

# ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

## SUNDAYS

MORNING WORSHIP 8:15 AM  
& 11:00 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM

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## MONDAY'S

BIBLE STUDY: REVELATION  
1:00 PM

IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

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## WEDNESDAYS

THE TRIAL AND TESTIMONY OF THE  
EARLY CHURCH: 6:00 PM

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## SATURDAY OCTOBER 8th

MEN'S BREAKFAST @ LISA'S:  
8:00 AM

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CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING:  
9:30 AM

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LADIES LUNCHEON:  
11:00 AM

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## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9th

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING FOL-  
LOWING 11:00 AM SERVICE

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## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16th

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

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## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30th

POT LUCK SUNDAY FOLLOWING  
11:00 AM SERVICE

SINGSPIRATION @ NAPAVINE  
ASSEMBLY OF GOD: 6:00 PM

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19th

SENIORS ON THE GO: 12 Noon

## HEARING GOD THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Kathleen Mulkins

When I was camp counselor one summer for some high school girls, our topic for evening devotions was about hearing God. I had the girls write a letter to God, telling Him about the issue that was most pressing. After they wrote for about ten to fifteen minutes, I told them to place the letter before them, and ask God for his answer and sit and listen.

One girl, after less than five minutes of sitting in silence, suddenly grabbed her Bible, turned pages and read and then said, "I don't need to hear from God, the answer is right here... and she read the passage aloud to us.

I smiled and asked, "How did you know to turn to that passage?"

"The passage came to mind just now."

My smile got even bigger and told her, "It seems to me, you just heard from God. He answered

you with His Word."

Her eyes got big and her mouth dropped open.

The rest of the week, when I got up at five A.M. for my quiet time, most of the girls were up and slipping out to quiet places in the camp to read their Bibles and hear from God. They had previously thought my getting up that early was nuts.

There is a warning here, though. Satan can use scripture too. He is very good at it. He tempted Jesus with scripture (Matt 4:6). That is why it is imperative that Christians learn to "accurately handle the word of truth" (2 Tim 2:14). Learn the rules to good study methods, pulling out the truth instead of reading into scripture what you want to hear. The more of scripture you know, the less likely you can be misled by the evil one and accurately hear from the One Who Loves you.



## ANNUAL CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

We will be holding our Annual Church Business Meeting on Sunday, October 9th following the 11:00 am service. **If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, are 18 years of age or older and have attended the Onalaska First Church of God for the past 6 months you are eligible to vote in this meeting.**

We have four people running for three Church Council positions; Marcie Eidsmoe, Elizabeth Sullivan, Gordon Tirrill & Wally True.

We have one person running for Sunday School Superintendent; Elizabeth Sullivan.

We have on person running for Head Usher; Debbie Brehmeyer. & Glenda Coleman.

We have one person running for PNA representative: Linda Schieck.



## THE ROCK

A man was sleeping at night in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light, and God appeared. The Lord told the man he had work for him to do, and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. The Lord explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might. So, this the man did, day after day.

For many years he toiled from sun up to sun down; his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock, pushing with all of his might. Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain. Since the man was showing discouragement, the Adversary (Satan) decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into the weary mind. "You have been pushing against that rock for a long time, and it hasn't moved." Thus, giving the man the impression that the task was impossible and that he was a failure. These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man. "Why kill myself over this?" he thought. "I'll just put in my time, giving just the minimum effort; and that will be good enough." And that is what he planned to do, until one day he decided to make it a matter of prayer and take his troubled thoughts to the Lord. "Lord," he said, "I have labored long and hard in Your service, putting all my strength to do that which You have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimeter. What is wrong? Why am I failing?"

The Lord responded compassionately, "My friend, when I asked you to serve Me and you accept-



ed, I told you that your task was to push against the rock with all of your strength, which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push. And now you come to Me with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed. But, is that really so? Look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back sinewy and brown, your hands are callused from constant pressure, your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. Yet you haven't moved the rock. But your calling was to be obedient and to push and to exercise your faith and trust in My wisdom. This you have done. Now I, My friend, will now move the rock."

At times, when we hear a word from God, we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what He wants, when actually what God wants is just a simple obedience and faith in Him. By all means, exercise the faith that moves mountains, but know that it is still God who moves mountains.

When everything seems to go wrong ... just **P.U.S.H.!**

When the job gets you down ... just **P.U.S.H.!**

When people don't react the way you think they should... just **P.U.S.H.!**

When your money looks "gone" and the bills are due...just **P.U.S.H.!**

When people just don't understand you ... just **P.U.S.H.!**

**P**= Pray

**U**= Until

**S**= Something

**H**= Happens

⇒ Received from Mary Warner

## SOME TIMES A NAP IS THE BEST MEDICINE

This bridge is on the Old Donner Pass Highway. It has a spectacular view of Donner Lake and Donner Pass on Route 80. A bear was walking across Rainbow Bridge (Old Hwy 40 at Donner Summit Truckee ) on Saturday when two cars, also crossing the bridge, scared the bear into jumping over the edge of the bridge. Somehow the bear caught the ledge and was able to pull itself to safety. Authorities decided that nothing could be done to help it Saturday night. They returned Sunday morning to find the bear sound asleep



on the ledge.

After securing a net under the bridge the bear was tranquilized, fell into the net, lowered, then woke up and walked out of the net.

There is a moral to this story; this old bear made a wrong move and found he was hanging by his nails. Somehow he was able to pull himself up onto the ledge where he saw he was in a very bad, impossible situation and what did he do? He took a nap and sure enough the Lord took care of the situation while he was asleep.

The moral of the story is that when confronted with a bad situation, sometimes the best solution is to take a nap and let the Lord take care of the rest.

I think I'm going to take a nap right now. The Lord is on the job.

⇒ Received from Joe Downs

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The winner to last month's quiz is Mert Horrocks. It didn't take her long to come up with the correct answer.

The answer is Johoiachin and Evil-merodach the story is found in two places; **2 Kings 25: 27-30** & **Jeremiah 52:31-34**

*Here is this month's quiz.*

*Boy was I proud for he was my man*

*He was the king's favorite throughout the land*

*He was proud as he could be And I was glad he was married to me.*

*But one day he became very mad*

*And of course that made me very sad*

*It broke my heart to see him cry He said that man would have to die*

*But his God had a different plan Instead of dying He saved that man*

*My husband tried to cop a plea But instead he was hung high for all to see*

*Now here's your task if you want to win*

*Give me three names, and two are men*

*There's one more name I want to see*

*The name that was given to me.*

## WHO DOES WHAT

A man and his wife were having an argument about who should brew the coffee each morning.

The wife said, 'You should do it because you get up first, and then we don't have to wait as long to get our coffee.'

The husband said, 'You are in charge of cooking around here and you should do it, because that is your job, and I can just wait for my coffee.'

Wife replies, 'No, you should do it, and besides, it is in the Bible that the man should do the coffee.'

Husband replies, 'I can't believe that, show me.'

So she fetched the Bible, and opened the New Testament and showed him at the top of several pages, that it indeed says... **'HEBREWS'**



## THE SILENT TREATMENT

A man and his wife were having some problems at home and were giving each other the silent treatment.

Suddenly, the man realized that the next day, he would need his wife to wake him at 5:00 AM for an early morning business flight. Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and LOSE), he wrote on a piece of paper, 'Please wake me at 5:00 AM.' He left it where he knew she would find it.

The next morning, the man woke up, only to discover it was 9:00 AM and he had missed his light...Furious, he



was about to go and see why his wife hadn't wakened him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed.

The paper said, 'It is 5:00 AM. Wake up.'

## 62 AND PREGNANT

A woman went to the doctor's office where she was seen by one of the younger doctors. After about four minutes in the examination room, she burst out screaming as she ran down the hall.

An older doctor stopped her and asked what the problem was and she told him her story.

After listening, he had her sit down and relax in another room.

The older doctor marched down the hallway to the back where the young doctor was writing on his board.

"What's the matter with you?" the older doctor demanded. "Mrs Reid is 62 years old, has four grown children and seven grandchildren and you just told her she was pregnant?"

The younger doctor continued writing and without looking up said, "Does she still have the hic-cups?"



The reason Politicians try so hard to get re-elected is that they would "hate" to have to make a living under the laws they've passed.

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If the human brain was simple enough for us to understand, we'd be so simple we couldn't understand.