



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER

www.onalaskachurchofgod.com



AUGUST, 2011

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

A GALLON OF MILK

A young man had been to Wednesday Night Bible study. The Pastor had shared about listening to God and obeying the Lord's voice. The young man couldn't help but wonder, 'Does God still speak to people?'

After service, he went out with some friends for coffee and pie and they discussed the message. Several different ones talked about how God had led them in different ways.

It was about ten o'clock when the young man started driving home. Sitting in his car, he just began to pray, 'God...If you still speak to people, speak to me. I will listen. I will do my best to obey.'

As he drove down the main street of his town, he had the strangest thought to stop and buy a gallon of milk. He shook his head and said out loud, 'God is that you?' He didn't get a reply and started on toward home.

But again, the thought, buy a gallon of milk. The young man thought about Samuel and how he didn't recognize the voice of God, and how little Samuel ran to Eli.



'Okay, God, in case that is you, I will buy the milk.' It didn't seem like too hard a test of obedience. He could always use the milk. He stopped and purchased the gallon of milk and started off toward home.

As he passed Seventh Street, he again felt the urge, 'Turn Down that street.' This is crazy he thought, and drove on past the intersection.

Again, he felt that he should turn down Seventh Street. At the next intersection, he turned back and headed down Seventh.

Half jokingly, he said out loud, 'Okay, God, I will.'

He drove several blocks, when suddenly, he felt like he should stop. He pulled over to the curb and looked around. He was in a semi-commercial area of town. It wasn't the best but it wasn't the worst of neighborhoods either. The businesses were closed and most of the houses looked dark like the people were already in bed.

Again, he sensed something, 'Go and give the milk to the people in the house across the street.' The young man looked at the house. It was dark and it looked like the people were either gone or they were already asleep. He started to open the door and then sat back in the car seat.

'Lord, this is insane. Those people are asleep and if I wake them up, they are going to be mad and I will look stupid.' Again, he felt like he should go and give the milk.

Finally, he opened the door, 'Okay God, if this is you, I will go to the door and I will give them the milk. If you want me to look like a crazy person, okay. I want to be obedient. I guess that will count for something, but if they don't answer right away, I am out

of here.'

He walked across the street and rang the bell. He could hear some noise inside. A man's voice yelled out, 'Who is it? What do you want?' Then the door opened before the young man could get away.

The man was standing there in his jeans and T-shirt. He looked like he just got out of bed. He had a strange look on his face and he didn't seem too happy to have some stranger standing on his doorstep. 'What is it?'

The young man thrust out the gallon of milk, 'Here, I brought this to you.' The man took the milk and rushed down a hallway.

Then from down the hall came a woman carrying the milk toward the kitchen. The man was following her holding a baby. The baby was crying. The man had tears streaming down his face.

The man began speaking and half crying, 'We were just praying. We had some big bills this month and we ran out of money. We didn't have any milk for our baby. I was just praying and asking God to show me how to get some milk.'

His wife in the kitchen yelled out, 'I ask him to send an Angel with some. Are you an Angel?'

The young man reached into his wallet and pulled out all the money he had on him and put in the man's hand. He turned and walked back toward his car and the tears were streaming down his face.

He knew that God still answers prayers.

NEWS FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

New Zealand Update

Dear Family and Friends,

We wish to, once again, greet you from Auckland, New Zealand. As I write this, we are in the middle of a cold wet winter. We still have trouble with the short days and cold of winter in the month of July but we do have the hope that with September comes spring.

There are many exciting things happening within our church and we are so happy to share them with you. Our small group has been studying the book of Acts. We were struck with the prayer meeting that was going on while Peter was in jail. As they prayed, God began to work. Our people said, "We need to pray like this!" So we had a 24 hour time of prayer in the church. 35 of our congregation actively participated in this time and it was life changing for them. Now, there is an expectation that God is going to do something special.

We have several new families that are coming along to church now so we greeted them with a "welcome to the family dinner." One of the families has two daughters who never say a word at church. During the dinner, they began to open up and by the end of the evening, we had some special new friends. Isn't this a lot like our relationship with God? He wants to get to

know us but we just keep quiet and don't want to say a word. It is when we open up and began to have that conversation with Him that our relationship grows.

Danette and I have been in charge of the local Middle School's drama production again this year. This play has full costumes, make-up, a very fancy set and about 45 actors. The show opened this



week and we have four performances for the public. We have had such a great time investing in this community through this production. We find the relationships that we have developed in the community through events like this are becoming more and more valuable to our church work. The community knows us and welcomes us now in a way that they would not if we kept within the walls of the church.

In about another week, our youth group will be on their way to the slopes of Mount Ruapehu for a ski outing. I know the Beisley kids are getting excited. Last Friday we had 17 kids at the youth group event. It is exciting to see them growing both in

numbers and in their faith.

One of the ladies in our church began a parenting course recently. She taught a six week course on parenting young kids. (By the way, she is the mum of Rhea, whom we have all prayed for). There was such a huge response that she actually had to close the class to any new attendees. This was going on at the same time as our second Marriage course of the year. The Marriage course was led by another couple in the church. Danette and I are so excited to see people taking on the minis-tries of the church. We get to act as mentors and helpers in these areas now which we love!

Danette continues to have large numbers of kids in the Sunday school pro-gram at church and has begun rostering on several other teachers. She gets the entire curriculum together for them to teach and then allows them to do the ministry.

All of the Beisley kids are doing really well. The school year will reach the halfway point next week and then they will get two weeks off. Then it will on to the final semester of school of Alex and Allison before they each graduate. I think December will be a welcome sight for both of them!

As always, thank you for your faithfulness. God has been moving and blessing in this ministry and we know it is because there are many who pray. We love you and are so blessed to be partnered with you in ministry!

ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

SUNDAYS

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

MONDAYS

"JACOB'S DOZEN"
 IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
 2:00 PM

TUESDAYS

AL-ANON MEETING
 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS

BIBLE STUDY
 7:00 PM

SUNDAY - SATURDAY
AUGUST 7th - 13th

JUNIOR CAMP @ BLACK LAKE

MONDAY- THURSDAY
AUGUST 8th - 11th

TEEN RIVER RAFTING CAMP

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
 9:00 AM

LADIES LUNCHEON
 12:00 NOON

LIVIN' HARMONY CONCERT
 6:00 PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

REST HOME SUNDAY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

O. C. Y. C. NIGHT

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

**YOUTH
EVENTS**

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
AUGUST 5th & 6th

The Youth will be cooking hamburgers & hotdogs at the Rummage and Bake sale to help raise money for their summer camping program. Come hungry and invite you friends for lunch.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

OCEAN BEACH TRIP
 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

If you have any questions regarding these events, please contact Pastor Esther.

**COMMUNITY
EVENTS**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20th

SENIORS ON THE GO
 12:00 NOON

THURSDAY, JULY 21st

AMERICAN LEGION
 6:00 PM

**LIVIN' HARMONY
CONCERT**

Once again we have the privilege of hosting the Livin' Harmony quartet, **Saturday, Aug. 13 @ 6:00 pm.** They were here last year and we thoroughly enjoyed them. They sing Barber Shop Style. Invite your neighbors and friends. There will be a time of fellowship following the concert.



RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE



The WCG will be holding their Annual Rummage and Bake Sale Thursday and Friday, August 4 & 5 from



10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Saturday, August 6th, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The youth will be cooking hamburgers and hotdogs on Friday and Saturday, to help raise money for summer camps.

PANCAKES

Six-year-old Brandon decided one Saturday morning to fix his parents pancakes. He found a big bowl and spoon, pulled a chair to the counter, opened the cupboard and pulled out the heavy flour canister, spilling it on the floor.

He scooped some of the flour into the bowl with his hands, mixed in most of a cup of milk and added some sugar, leaving a floury trail on the floor which by now had a few tracks left by his kitten.

Brandon was covered with flour and getting frustrated. He wanted this to be something very good for Mom and Dad, but it was getting very bad. He didn't know what to do next, whether to put it all into the oven or on the stove

and he didn't know how the stove worked! Suddenly he saw his kitten licking from the bowl of mix and reached to push her away, knocking the egg carton to the floor. Frantically he tried to clean up this monumental mess but slipped on the eggs, getting his pajamas white and sticky.

And just then he saw Dad standing at the door. Big crocodile tears welled up in Brandon's eyes. All he'd wanted to do was something good, but he'd made a terrible mess. He was sure a scolding was coming, maybe even a



spanking. But his father just watched him.

Then, walking through the mess, he picked up his crying son, hugged him and loved him, getting his own pajamas white and sticky in the process!

That's how God deals with us. We try to do something good in life, but it turns into a mess. Our marriage gets all sticky or we insult a friend, or we can't stand our job, or our health goes sour.

Sometimes we just stand there in tears because we can't think of anything else to do. That's when God picks us up and loves us and forgives us, even though some of our mess gets all over Him.

But just because we might mess up, we can't stop trying to "make pancakes" for

God or for others. Sooner or later we'll get it right, and then they'll be glad we tried...

I was thinking, and I wondered if I had any wounds needing to be healed, friendships that need rekindling or three words needing to be said, sometimes, "I love you" can heal & bless! Remind every one of your friends that you love them. Even if you think they don't love back, you would be amazed at what those three little words, a smile, and a reminder like this can do.

◆ Received from Ruth Bushnell

THE PROBLEM OF GROWING OLD

As we grow older we see more and more of our friends pass away. This always brings pain and grief to our hearts but for those who know the Lord as their Savior we rejoice in knowing they are now in the presence of Jesus and will never suffer pain or sorrow again.

This past week two of our friends enter into heaven. I wish to share this poem with you written by Sarah Frase. The daughter-in-law of Gene Frase.

GOING HOME

*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
On the other side.*

*I love you all so very much,
But this is for the best.
I've lived a good and fruitful
life
An 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.*

Q
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Z



Last month only my sister, Katie Jackson of Scottsdale, Arizona was able to come up with the correct answer, which was Nahash, king of Ammon, his son Hanun, David king of Israel and his general Joab. The story is found in the tenth chapter of 2 Samuel.

Here is this month's quiz.

*I saw him traveling by one day,
And I asked him if he could stay.
He stopped to stay once in a
while
And always greeted me with a
smile.*

*He wanted a gift to bring
But I told him I didn't need a thing.
But he gave me the greatest gift,
He fulfilled my secret wish.*

*The gift he gave made my heart
so glad
And then one day it made me
sad.
For it was taken away from me
And it made me cry in agony.*

*I went to him that awful day
And asked why my gift was taken
away.
He prayed unto the God above
Who once again showered me
with love.*

*The gift was returned once more
to me.
It made me happy and filled with
glee.
Now tell me who was the man
And who I am if you think you
can.*

ALLIGATOR SHOES

After becoming very frustrated with the attitude of one of the shopkeepers, the young lady declared, 'Well, then, maybe I'll just go out and catch my own alligator and get a pair of alligator shoes for free!' The shopkeeper replied with a sly



smile, 'Well, little lady, why don't you go on and give it a try?' The blonde headed off to the swamp, determined to catch an alligator. Later in the day, as the shopkeeper was driving home, he spotted the same young woman standing waist deep in the murky water, shotgun in hand.

As he brought his car to a stop, he saw a huge 9-foot gator swimming rapidly toward her. With lightning reflexes, the woman took aim, shot the creature and hauled it up onto the slippery bank. Nearby were 7 more dead gators all lying belly up. The shopkeeper stood on the bank, watching in silent amazement as the blonde struggled mightily and barely managed to flip the gator onto its back.

Then, rolling her eyes heavenward, she screamed in frustration..... 'DRAT! THIS ONE'S BAREFOOT, TOO!

◆ Received from James Sparks

A CHILD'S PRAYER

Charles B. Vaughan

A grandfather was walking through his yard when he heard his granddaughter repeating the alphabet in a tone of voice that sounded like a prayer. He asked her what she was doing. The little girl explained: "I'm praying, but I can't think of exactly the right words, so I'm just saying all the letters, and God will put them together for me, because He know what I'm thinking."

Received from Mary Noland

NEW WINDOWS

Last year I replaced all the windows in my house with that expensive double-panel energy efficient kind, and today, I got a call from the contractor who installed them.

He was complaining that the work had been completed a whole year ago...and I still hadn't paid for them.....just because I'm blonde doesn't mean that I am automatically stupid.

So, I told him just what his fast talking sales guy had told me last year, that in ONE YEAR these windows would pay for themselves! Helllllooooo? It's been a year! I told him.

There was only silence at the other end of the line, so I finally just hung up.

I bet he felt like an idiot.

◆ Received from Jim Sparks

