



# CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



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

JANUARY, 2006

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

## HE IS GOD

*Author Unknown*

*He is the First and Last,  
The Beginning and the End!  
He is the keeper of Creation and  
the Creator of all!  
He is the Architect of the uni-  
verse and the Manager of all  
times.*

*He always was, He always  
is, and He always will be ...  
unmoved, Unchanged, Unde-  
feated, and never Undone!*

*He was bruised and brought  
healing!  
He was pierced and eased pain!  
He was persecuted and brought  
freedom!*

*He was dead and brought life!  
He is risen and brings power!  
He reigns and brings Peace!  
The world can't understand him,  
The armies can't defeat Him,  
The schools can't explain  
Him, and The leaders can't ig-  
nore Him.*

*Herod couldn't kill Him, The  
Pharisees couldn't confuse  
Him, and The people couldn't  
hold Him!*

*Nero couldn't crush Him, Hitler  
couldn't silence Him,  
The New Age can't replace  
Him, and "Oprah" can't explain  
Him away!*

*He is light, love, longevity, and  
Lord.  
He is goodness, Kindness, Gen-  
tleness, and God.  
He is Holy, Righteous, mighty,  
powerful, and pure.*

*His ways are right,  
His word is eternal,  
His will is unchanging, and His  
mind is on me.*

*He is my Savior,  
He is my guide, and He is my  
peace!  
He is my Joy,  
He is my comfort,  
He is my Lord, and He rules my  
life!*



*I serve Him because His bond is  
love,  
His burden is light, and His goal  
for me is abundant life.  
I follow Him because He is the  
wisdom of the wise,  
the power of the powerful,  
the ancient of days, the ruler of  
rulers, the leader of leaders, the  
overseer of the overcomers, and  
is to come. And if that seems im-  
pressive to you, try this for size.*

*His goal is a relationship with  
ME!*

*He will never leave me,  
never forsake me,  
never mislead me,*

*never forget me,  
never overlook me and  
never cancel my appointment in  
His appointment book!*

*When I fall, He lifts me up!  
When I fail, He forgives!  
When I am weak, He is strong!  
When I am lost, He is the way!  
When I am afraid, He is my cour-  
age!*

*When I stumble, He steadies  
me!*

*When I am hurt, He heals me!  
When I am broken, He mends  
me!*

*When I am blind, He leads me!  
When I am hungry, He feeds me!  
When I face trials, He is with me!*

*When I face persecution, He  
shields me!*

*When I face problems, He com-  
forts me!*

*When I face loss, He provides  
for me!*

*When I face Death, He carries  
me Home!*

*He is everything for everybody  
everywhere, every time, and  
every way.*

*He is God, He is faithful. I am  
His, and He is mine!*

*My Father in heaven can whip  
the father of this world.*

*So, if you're wondering why I feel  
so secure, understand this...*

*He said it and that settles it.  
God is in control, I am on His  
side,*

*and that means all is well with  
my soul.*

*Everyday is a blessing for GOD  
Is!*

*Received from Eva Dean Stone*

## HOW TO FORGIVE

Author Unknown

One day a while back, a man, his heart heavy with grief, was walking in the woods. As he thought about his life this day, he knew many things were not right. He thought about those who had lied about him back when he had a job.

His thoughts turned to those who had stolen his things and cheated him.

He remembered family that had passed on. His mind turned to the illness he had that no one could cure. His very soul was filled with anger, resentment and frustration.

Standing there this day, searching for answers he could not find, knowing all else had failed him, he knelt at the base of an old oak tree to seek the one he knew would always be there. And with tears in his eyes, he prayed:

"Lord- You have done wonderful things for me in this life. You have told me to do many things for you, and I happily obeyed. Today, you have told me to forgive. I am sad, Lord, because I cannot. I don't know how. It is not fair Lord. I didn't deserve these wrongs that were done against me and I shouldn't have to forgive. As perfect as your way is Lord, this one thing I cannot do, for I don't know how to forgive. My anger is so deep Lord, I fear I may not hear you, but I pray that you teach me to do this one thing I cannot do - Teach me To Forgive."

As he knelt there in the quiet

shade of that old oak tree, he felt something fall onto his shoulder. He opened his eyes. Out of the corner of one eye, he saw something red on his shirt.

He could not turn to see what it was because where the oak tree had been was a large square piece of wood in the ground. He raised his head and saw two feet held to the wood with a large spike through them.

He raised his head more, and tears came to his eyes as he saw Jesus hanging on a cross. He saw

spikes in His hands, a gash in His side, a torn and battered body, deep thorns sunk into His head. Finally he saw the suffering and pain on His precious face. As their eyes met, the man's tears turned to sobbing, and Jesus began to speak.

"Have you ever told a lie?" He asked?

The man answered - "Yes,

Lord."

"Have you ever been given too much change and kept it?"

The man answered - "Yes, Lord." And the man sobbed more and more.

"Have you ever taken something from work that wasn't yours?" Jesus asked?

And the man answered - "Yes, Lord."

"Have you ever sworn, using my Father's name in vain?"

The man, crying now, answered - "Yes, Lord."

As Jesus asked many more times, "Have you ever"? The man's crying became uncontrollable, for

he could only answer - "Yes, Lord."

Then Jesus turned His head from one side to the other, and the man felt something fall on his other shoulder. He looked and saw that it was the blood of Jesus. When he looked back up, his eyes met those of Jesus, and there was a look of love the man had never seen or known before.

Jesus said, "I didn't deserve this either, but I forgive you."

It may be hard to see how you're going to get through something, but when you look back in life, you realize how true this statement is. Read the following first line slowly and let it sink in.

**If God brings you to it - He will bring you through it.**

Lord I love You and I need You, come into my heart, today. For without You I can do nothing.

♦ Received from Carol Haun



## SOMETHING GOOD

Author Unknown

Wouldn't this old world be better  
If folks we meet would say,  
"I know something good about you"  
And then treat us just that way.

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy  
If each handclasp worm and true  
Carried with it the assurance,  
"I know something good about you"!

Wouldn't life be lots more happy  
If the good that's in us all  
Were the only things about us  
That folks bothered to recall?

Wouldn't life be lots more happy  
If we praised the good we see?  
For there's such a lot of goodness  
In the worst of You and Me.

Wouldn't it be nice to practice  
That fine way of thinking, too?  
You know something good about me!  
I know something good about you!

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January, February, March 2006

# ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

## SUNDAYS

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM  
MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM

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EVENING SING & PRAISE  
SERVICE  
6:00 PM

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## WEDNESDAYS

MEN'S BREAKFAST

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THE BURGER BAR 6:00 AM

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## THURSDAYS

BIBLE STUDY AT ELVA'S  
1:00 PM

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## FRIDAYS

KID'S CLUB  
3:30 PM — 4:30 PM

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## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7  
10:00 AM

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## WCG LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14  
12:00 NOON

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## "REFLECTIONS OF LOVE" CONCERT

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15  
6:00 PM

REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW

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## COMMUNITY SINGSPIRIATION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25  
6:00 PM

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

TEA & PRAISE  
MONDAY, JANUARY 9  
10:00 AM  
VALLEY OF BLESSINGS  
MINISTRIES

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SENIORS ON THE GO  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18  
12:00 NOON

## YOUTH OF THE MONTH

Troy, (TJ) Van Horn is our youth for the month of January. Troy lives with his two brothers,

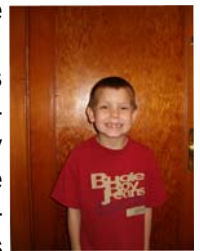


Robert & Michael and his sister Amber. Troy is 13 years of age and is in the 7th grade. His favorite subject is Math. In his

spare time Troy enjoys playing Video Games. One of his favorite TV shows is the "Simpson's". Pizza is his favorite food and he hopes to serve our country in the Army when he is able. Andrew Randall, who also attends our church is Troy's best friend. When asked what he likes about our church, Troy replied, the people and learning about God.

~

**Nathan Patrick Anderson Fuss** is the young man we have chosen this month to be the Kid of the Month.



Nathan is 7 years old and attends Onalaska Elementary where he is in the 2nd grade. He enjoys school but likes P.E. the best. Nathan enjoys building and tearing down things. He has a very inquisitive mind and enjoys using it. His favorite TV show is, "How Its Made" Nathan enjoys a good hamburger. He lives with his mother and sister, Linda. He enjoys the people of the church and worshipping God.

# **FASTING & PRAYER DAY**

The first Tuesday of every month we have set aside for "Fasting & Prayer". There are many ways to fast, from total fasting, no food or liquid, to fasting by giving something up for that day that you normally do and enjoy doing. The time you would spend doing what you are fasting, could be spent in prayer. There are several things I would like to encourage you to be praying about.

- ◆ The moving of God's Holy Spirit in our Church.
- ◆ The direction of the Holy Spirit for our church leadership, Pastor and Church Council.
- ◆ God's vision for our church.
- ◆ How to reach the unsaved and un-churched of our community.
- ◆ For the resources of our church, TIME - TALENT - TREASURE.

I will be sending out a postcard reminding you of the time you have signed up for prayer.

## MY BIRTHDAY

*Author Unknown*

As you well know, last month was my birthday. Every year there is a celebration in my honor and last year the celebration was repeated. During that time there were many people shopping for gifts, there were many radio announcements, TV commercials, and in every part of the world everyone is talking that the date of my birthday was getting closer and closer. It is really very nice to know, that at least once a year, some people think of me. But this year more and more was speaking of



the date of my birthday but no mention of me was made. In fact there were some places and people we were offended if someone mentioned my name or that it was my birthday they were celebrating. As you know, the celebration of my birthday began many years ago. At first people seemed to understand and be thankful of all that I did for them, but in these times, no one seems to know the reason for the celebration. Family and friends get together and have a lot of fun, but they don't know the meaning of the celebration.

I remember that last year there was a great feast in my honor. The dinner table was full of delicious foods, pastries, fruits, assorted nuts and chocolates. The decorations were exquisite and there were many, many beautifully wrapped gifts. But, do you want to know something? I wasn't invited. I was the guest of honor and they didn't remember to send me an invitation.

The party was for me, but when that great day came, I was left outside, they closed the door in my face...and I wanted to be with them and share their table. In truth, that didn't surprise me because in the last few years all close their doors to me.

Since I was not invited, I decided to enter the party without making any noise. I went in and stood in a corner. They were all drinking; there were some who were drunk and telling jokes and laughing at everything. They were having a great time. To top it all, this big fat man all dressed in red wearing a long white beard entered the room yelling Ho-Ho-Ho! He seemed drunk. He sat on the sofa and all the children ran to him, saying: "Santa Claus, Santa Claus"...as if the party were in his honor!

At 12 midnight all the people began to hug each other; I extended my arms waiting for someone to hug me and...do you know...no one hugged me.

Suddenly they all began to share gifts. They opened them one by one with great expectation. When all had been opened, I looked to see if,

maybe, there was one for me. But there was not gift for me.

What would you feel if on your birthday everybody shared gifts and you did not get one? I then understood that I was unwanted at that party and quietly left.

Every year it gets worse. People only remember to eat and drink, the gifts, the parties and nobody remembers me. I would like this Christmas that you allow me to enter into your life.

I would like that you recognize the fact that almost two thousand years ago I came to this world to give my life for you, on the cross, to save you. Today, I only want that you believe this with all your heart.

I want to share something with you. As many didn't invite me to their party, I will have my own celebration, a grandiose party that no one has ever imagined, a spectacular party.

I'm still making the final arrangements. Today I am sending out many invitations and there is an invitation for you. I want to know if you wish to attend and I will make a reservation for you and write your name with golden

letters in my great guest book. Only those on the guest list will be invited to the party. Those who don't answer the invitation will be left outside.

Do you know how you can answer this invitation? It is by extending it to others whom you care for...I'll be waiting for all of you to attend my party this year.

See you soon. I love you!  
-Jesus-



◆ *Received from Jude Cooper*

**IF I WERE YOUR...**

**WIFE...**and you missed supper, I'd want to know where you were!  
**BOSS...**and you missed work, I'd want to know where you were!  
**COACH...**and you missed practice, I'd want to know where you were!  
**GOLF PARTNER...**and you missed picking me up, I'd want to know where you were!  
**CAR POOL FRIEND...**and you missed our tee-off, I'd want to know where you were!  
**TEACHER...**and you missed class, I'd want to know where you were!  
**BUT, I'M YOUR PASTOR...**and you missed church Sunday, but I'm not supposed to be so nosey.

I do believe I was able to stump everyone on the quiz last month including my sister Katie from Scottsdale. It was so difficult I had a hard time coming up with the correct answer myself and I wrote the question. The answer is found in the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke and its the census that Caesar Augustus issued forcing Joseph and Mary to go to Bethlehem.



Here is this month's quiz. Better luck this time.

*They must of thought I was a lazy priest  
 A lazy prophet that's for sure.  
 I laid around doing nothing  
 For over one whole year.*

I had some very strange dreams  
 Strange visions went through my head

I even saw a bunch of bones  
 That I knew for sure were dead.

*I saw wheels high in the air  
 And strange beasts which did fly  
 The bones I thought were dead  
 They all became alive.*

Now this is a very short one  
 And it's as easy as can be  
 If you're the first with the correct answer  
 A candy bar will belong to thee.

**THE ATHEIST'S HOLIDAY**

In Florida, an atheist became incensed over the preparation for Easter and Passover holidays and decided to contact the local ACLU about the discrimination inflicted on atheists by the constant celebrations afforded to Christians and Jews with all their holidays while the atheists had no holiday to celebrate.

The ACLU jumped on the opportunity to once again pick up the cause of the godless and assigned their sharpest attorneys to the case.

The case was brought before a wise judge who after listening to the long, passionate presentation of the ACLU lawyers, promptly banged his gavel and declared, "Case dismissed!"

The lead ACLU lawyer immediately stood and objected to the ruling and said, "Your honor, how can you possibly dismiss this case?"

Surely the Christians have Christmas, Easter and many other observances.

And the Jews--why in addition to Passover they have Yom Kippur and Hanukkah...and yet my client and all other atheists have no such

holiday!"

The judge leaned forward in his chair and simply said, "Obviously your client is too confused to know about, or for that matter, even celebrate the atheists' holiday!"

The ACLU lawyer pompously said "We are aware of no such holiday for atheists, just when might that be, your honor?"

The judge said "Well it comes every year on exactly the same date...April 1st!"

*The fool says in his heart,  
 "There is no God."*

- Psalm 14:1, Psalm 53:1

◆ Received from Joe Downs

**THE BEST POSITION FOR PRAYER**

A priest, a minister and a guru sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby.

"Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the priest said. "No," said the minister. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." "You're both wrong," the guru said. "The most effective prayer position is lying down with your face on the floor."

The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted.

"The best praying I ever did was when I was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

