



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



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JANUARY, 2007

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

HE TOOK AWAY THE PAIN

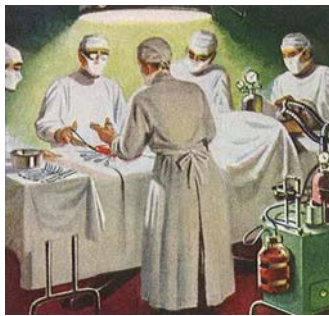
Author Unknown

On February 15, 1921, there was a doctor who performed an appendectomy. The doctor performing the surgery was Dr. Evan Kane who over his 37-year medical career had performed nearly 4,000 appendectomies, so this surgery was not at all unusual except for two things.

First of all, this was the first time that local anesthesia had ever been used in major surgery. Dr. Kane believed that local anesthesia was safer than putting a patient completely to sleep. Most of his colleagues agreed with him in principle, but they wanted to see first if it would actually work.

So Dr. Kane searched for a volunteer, a patient who would be willing to undergo surgery while under local anesthesia. It wasn't easy to find one. Most people are squeamish at the thought of being awake during their own surgery. Others are fearful that the anesthesia might wear off too soon.

Finally, though, Dr. Kane found a volunteer, and on Tuesday morning, February 15th, the operation began. The patient was prepped and wheeled into the operating room. A local anes-



thetic was applied. And as Dr. Kane had done thousands of times before, he cut open the tissues and removed the appendix. The patient had only minor discomfort and recovered quickly, dismissed two days later.

Dr. Kane had proven his theory. Thanks to the willingness of a brave volunteer, Dr. Kane demonstrated that local anesthesia was an alternative, even a preferred alternative.

But I said there were two facts that made this surgery unusual. I've told you the first: the use of local anesthesia. The second unusual thing was the patient, the patient was Dr. Kane.

You see, in order to prove his point, Dr. Kane operated on himself. The doctor became a patient in order to convince the patients to trust the doctor.

As unbelievable as that may seem, it is insignificant compared with what Jesus Christ did for us. The Great Physician voluntarily became one of us. He placed himself in our shoes. He left the glories of heaven to live on this earth as one of us; to suffer our pains and feel our fears. Why? So that when you hurt, you will know that you have someone who understands, "your Great Physician" and you will have confidence to go to him for healing.

Inasmuch then as the children

have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same... "For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted." (Hebrews 2:14a,18)

CHRISTIANS

By Maya Angelou

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'."
I'm whispering "I was lost, now
I'm found and forgiven."

When I say, "I am a Christian" I
don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble and
need Christ to be my guide.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak and
need His strength to carry on.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed and
need God to clean my mess.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible But,
God believes I am worth it.

When I say, "I am a Christian" I
still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches
so I call upon His name.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner who re-
ceived God's good grace, some-
how!

WET PANTS

Author Unknown

Come with me to a third grade classroom...

There is a nine-year-old kid sitting at his desk and all of a sudden, there is a puddle between his feet and the front of his pants are wet. He thinks his heart is going to stop because he cannot possibly imagine how this has happened. It's never happened before, and he knows that when the boys find out he will never hear the end of it.

When the girls find out, they'll never speak to him again as long as he lives. The boy believes his heart is going to stop; he puts his head down and prays this prayer, "Dear God, this is an emergency!

I need help now! Five minutes from

now I'm dead meat." He looks up from his prayer and here comes the teacher with a look in her eyes that says he has been discovered.

As the teacher is walking toward him, a classmate named Susie is carrying a goldfish bowl that is filled with water. Susie trips in front of the teacher and inexplicably dumps the bowl of water in the boy's lap.

The boy pretends to be angry, but all the while is saying to himself, "Thank you, Lord! Thank you, Lord!"

Now all of a sudden, instead of being the object of ridicule, the boy is the object of sympathy. The teacher rushes him downstairs and gives him gym shorts to put on while his pants dry out. All the other children are on their hands and

knees cleaning up around his desk.

The sympathy is wonderful. But as life would have it, the ridicule that should have been his has been transferred to someone else - Susie.

She tries to help, but they tell her to get out. You've done enough, you klutz!"

Finally, at the end of the day, as they are waiting for the bus, the boy walks over to Susie and whispers, "You did that on purpose, didn't you?"

Susie whispers back, "I wet my pants once too."

◆ *Received from Jude Cooper*

THE VALUE OF A MINUTE

Imagine there is a bank which credits your account each morning with \$86,400, carries over no balance from day to day, allows you to keep no cash balance, and every evening cancels whatever part of the amount you had failed to use during the day. What would you do? DRAW OUT EVERY CENT, OF COURSE.

Well, everyone has such a bank. Its name is TIME. Every morning it credits you with 86,000 seconds. Every night it writes off as lost, whatever of this you have failed to invest to good purpose. It carries over no balance. It allows no overdraft. Each day it opens a new account for you. Each night it burns the records of the day. If you fail to use the days deposits, the loss is yours. There is no going back. There is no drawing against the tomorrow.

You must live in the present on today's deposits. Invest it so

as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success!

The clock is running. Make the most of today.

- ◆ *To realize the value of ONE YEAR ask a student who has failed his exams.*
- ◆ *To realize the value of ONE MONTH ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.*
- ◆ *To realize the value of ONE WEEK ask an editor of a weekly newspaper.*
- ◆ *To realize the value of ONE DAY as a daily wage laborer who has ten kids to feed.*
- ◆ *To realize the value of ONE HOUR ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.*
- ◆ *To realize the value of ONE MINUTE ask a person who has missed the train.*
- ◆ *To realize the value of ONE SECOND ask the person who has won a silver medal in Olympics.*

Treasure every moment that you have! And treasure it more because you shared it with someone special. Special enough to have your time... And remember time waits for no one.

◆ *Received from Joe & Freda Downs*

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible; Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the verse. Little Rick was excited about the task -- but, he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Rickey was so nervous.

When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."



ALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

SUNDAYS

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

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EVENING SING & PRAISE
SERVICE
6:00 PM

We will be beginning a series on the **NAMES OF GOD**. The more you know about God, the stronger your faith will be, the more you will love Him, and the more you will want to worship Him.

~

WEDNESDAYS

SUP & STUDY

We will gather at **6:30 PM** for a light supper and then at **7:00 PM** we will have a Bible Study. We are studying the life of Moses.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
10:00 AM

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

WCG LUNCHEON
12:00 NOON

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

MEN'S BREAKFAST
7:00 AM

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

FOOD BANK SUNDAY
11:00 AM

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PSALMS 122:1 (KJV)

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TEA & PRAISE

MONDAY
JANUARY 8

@

VALLEY OF BLESSING
10:00 AM

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SENIORS ON THE GO

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17
12:00 NOON

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AMERICAN LEGION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18
7:00 PM

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS JESUS DOING?

The Church Council voted last month to begin to help support Bob and JoAnn Tate, missionaries to Trinidad. They will be working at the West Indies Theological College.

Bob will be using his agricultural skills to produce food for the college's use and to sell, thus aiding in the financing of the college programs. His other major responsibility will be maintaining the grounds and buildings of the college.

JoAnn will be training future pastors and Christian workers by teaching Bible and theology.

There is a great spiritual hunger in the Caribbean area and this presents a wonderful opportunity to reach souls for the cause of Jesus Christ.

Please remember Bob and JoAnn Tate in prayer as they seek to reach lost souls for Jesus Christ.

SAVES THOSE CANS



We would like to encourage everyone to begin to collect pop cans and bring them to the church. Duane & Louise Wood would like to help raise money for our Youth by collecting these cans and recycling them. If you could please bring your cans to the church, we will crush them and recycle them with the money we raise going to help our Youth to attend Youth Camps and to do other activities.

During the Christmas holidays ten youth and seven adults attended the Leonardo da Vinci exhibit at the Boeing Air Museum. Susan Olsen lead our group and everyone had a wonderful and informative time.

We are looking for activities that not only will be beneficial to the physical, but the mental and spiritual needs of our youth as well.

If you have any ideas for youth activities, please contact Ruth Bushnell or Pastor.

5 LESSONS ABOUT THE WAY WE TREAT PEOPLE

◆ **First Important Lesson - Cleaning Lady.**

During my second month of college, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one:

"What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?" Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50s, but how would I know her name?

I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade.

"Absolutely," said the professor. "In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say 'hello.'"

I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

◆ **Second Important Lesson - Pickup in the Rain.**

One night, at 11:30 p.m., an older African American woman was standing on the side of an Alabama highway trying to endure a lashing rain storm. Her car had broken down and she desperately needed a ride. Soaking wet, she decided to flag down the next car. A young white man stopped to help her, generally unheard of in those conflict-filled 1960's. The man took her to safety, helped her get assistance and put her into a taxicab.

She seemed to be in a big hurry, but wrote down his address and thanked him. Seven days went by and a knock came on the man's door. To his surprise, a giant console color TV was delivered to his home. A special note was attached.

It read: "Thank you so much for assisting me on the highway the other night. The rain drenched

not only my clothes, but also my spirits. Then you came along. Because of you, I was able to make it to my dying husband's bedside just before he passed away... God bless you for helping me and unselfishly serving others."

Sincerely,
Mrs. Nat King Cole.

◆ **Third Important Lesson - Always remember those who serve.**

In the days when an ice cream sundae cost much less, a 10-year-old boy entered a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water in front of him.

"How much is an ice cream sundae?" he asked.

"Fifty cents," replied the waitress.

The little boy pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied the coins in it.



"Well, how much is a plain dish of ice cream?" he inquired.

By now more people were waiting for a table and the

waitress was growing impatient.

"Thirty-five cents," she brusquely replied.

The little boy again counted his coins.

"I'll have the plain ice cream," he said.

The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table and walked away. The boy finished the ice cream, paid the cashier and left. When the waitress came back, she began to cry as she wiped down the table. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were two nickels and five pennies... You see, he couldn't have the sundae, because he had to have enough left to leave her a tip.

◆ **Fourth Important Lesson. - The obstacle in Our Path.**

In ancient times, a King had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest

merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the King for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the King indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway. The peasant learned what many of us never understand!

Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

◆ **Fifth Important Lesson - Giving When it Counts.**

Many years ago, when I worked as a volunteer at a hospital, I got to know a little girl named Liz who was suffering from a rare & serious disease. Her only chance of recovery appeared to be a blood transfusion from her 5-year old brother, who had miraculously survived the same disease and had developed the antibodies needed to combat the illness. The doctor explained the situation to her little brother, and asked the little boy if he would be willing to give his blood to his sister.

I saw him hesitate for only a moment before taking a deep breath and saying, "Yes I'll do it if it will save her." As the transfusion progressed, he lay in bed next to his sister and smiled, as we all did, seeing the color returning to her cheek. Then his face grew pale and his smile faded.

He looked up at the doctor and asked with a trembling voice, "Will I start to die right away?"

Being young, the little boy had misunderstood the doctor; he thought he was going to have to give his sister all of his blood in order to save her.

◆ *Received from Joe & Freda Downs*



QUIZ

My sister came up with the correct answer to last month's quiz. The story is found in the book of Genesis and the name of the person is Reuben.

Here is this month's quiz.

*It was my inheritance
And I love it quite well,
My father left it to me
As the story did tell.*

*But another wanted it
And tried it to buy,
But I told him no way
I would rather die.*

*He pouted and cried
Like a bad little boy
Because of my answer
He lost all his joy.*

*He had so much himself
He didn't need mine,
But he cried and fumed
All of the time.*

*His wife said quit crying
Stand up like a man
I'll get what you want
I know that I can.*

*So she hired two men
Who told a fat lie
And because of what they said
I had to die.*

*Now its no longer mine
Nor my son's after me
They stole it away
Its as plain as can be.*

*But God up in Heaven
Had seen what they had done
So He sent them his prophet
To pronounce judgment against
everyone.*

*Now tell me my name
And his if you can,
If you tell her name
A candy bar will be in your hand.*

AMEN PHARAOH

A visiting minister was very long-winded. Worse, every time he would make a good point during his sermon and a member of the congregation responded with "Amen" or "That's right, preacher" he would get wound up even more and launch into another lengthy discourse.

Finally, the host pastor started responding to every few sentences with "Amen, Pharaoh!"



The guest minister wasn't sure what that meant, but after several more "Amen,

Pharaohs" he finally concluded his very lengthy sermon.

After the service concluded and the congregation had left, the visiting minister turned to his host and asked, "What exactly did you mean when you said "Amen, Pharaoh?"

His host replied, "I was telling you to let my people go!"

◆ Received from Joe Downs

CRAZY AT WORK

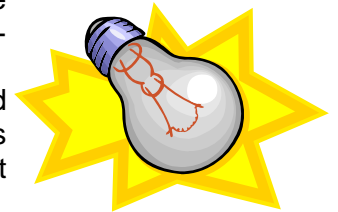
I urgently needed a few days off work, but I knew the Boss would not allow me to take a leave. I thought that maybe if I acted "CRAZY" then He would tell me to take a few days off. So I hung upside down from the ceiling and made funny noises.

My coworker 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 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 coworker followed me, the Boss said to her, "And where do you think you're going?"

She said, "I'm going home too, I can't work in the dark!"

I'VE GOT SHINGLES

Bubba walked into a doctor's office and the receptionist asked him what he had.

Bubba said, "Shingles." So she wrote down his name, address, medical insurance number and told him to have a seat.

A half hour later a nurse came in as asked Bubba what he had.

Bubba said, "Shingles." So the nurse gave Bubba a blood test, a blood pressure test, and electrocardiogram, and told Bubba to take off all his clothes and wait for the doctor.

An hour later the doctor came in and asked Bubba, "So Bubba what brings you here today?"

Bubba said, "I've got shingles."

The doctor asked, "Where."

Bubba replied, "Outside in the truck, where do you want them?"

◆ Received from Elva Smoots