

Church of the Open Bible



(Church of God General Conference, McDonough GA)

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Pastor Rex F. Cain / 440.232.3970 / May 17, 2009

Run! The House Is On Fire

By Pastor Wally Winner / SC

There is a parable told by Danish theologian and philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard (1813 - 1855) describing his vision of the end of the world. He said, imagine a theater in which a variety show is playing. The programs included musical acts, dancers, magicians, comedians, acrobats - one amazing act after another. Each act receives thunderous applause from the audience.

Suddenly, the theater manager steps onto the stage and interrupts the show. He talks in calm tones, not wanting to panic his patrons. The manager says, "Ladies and gentlemen, I regret to inform you that the theater is on fire. Please get up and move in an orderly fashion to the exits. There is plenty of time for you all to leave safely, but please do so at once." For a moment there is stunned silence - and then the audience breaks out in laughter and applause. The theater patrons believe it's an act! They think the manager is a comedian! "No! You don't understand," the manager says. "There really is a fire! You must get up and leave the building immediately!"

The people laugh even more uproariously, and they applaud and cheer even more loudly. The manager tries again to warn the people, but they will not believe him. Even when smoke and flames appear at the back of the stage, the audience thinks it is merely done for effect. The manager sees he can do no more, so he runs off the stage and out of the building. The audience, meanwhile, continued their hoots and cheers and claps in appreciation of the manager's "performance." Seconds later, fire sweeps through the building, killing everyone inside. Kierkegaard concluded his parable by saying, "And so will our age, I think, go down in fiery destruction to the applause of a crowded house of cheering spectators."



In the days before the flood people ate and drank, men and women married, up to the very day Noah went into the boat; yet they did not realize what was happening

until the flood came and swept them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man comes. (Matthew 24:38-39)

5-12-09 THRIVE devotional

Our Sympathy

KING EDWARD BLANKENSHIP (80), Pam Weaver's uncle, died last Sunday. Keep this family in your prayers. Soon, sickness and death will be a thing of the forgotten past. *"Come, Lord Jesus!"*

GRACE WHALEY'S brother, Keith William (62), of Akron, died unexpectedly week before last. He was a veteran and in recent years ran a used bookstore in the Akron area. We extend our sympathy and prayers for this family.

JACOB CAIN & ANNABELLE MAY plan to enjoy our State Youth Camp. Karen Cain plans to spend the week there too to assist in the nursing aspect & to be available to help in other ways. Susan May intends to spend a couple days at the camp as well.



Any other 3-9th graders you know who would like to attend? It runs from June 21st to the 26th. Speak TODAY to Rex or Sharon Cain for information; we're already past the date for the "early bird" rate.

INSTALLATION of church officers will be conducted during the worship hour today.

DONNA SABAT'S recent tests all came out normal. She is very relieved and we're giving God thanks. She wrote: *"I am so thankful for all your thoughts and prayers."*

FRANK AND AL met a couple times within the last couple weeks to level a few tons of gravel that were spread on the parsonage driveway. Big improvement. Our thanks!

FRANK, AL, ARLENE & MICHAL did more work on the "Memorial Garden" this past week by adding flowers and mulch. It's looking nice!

THE TRUSTEES may have arranged to have the gravel leveled on the lot this week – this was published when still in talking stage. The rotting railroad tie bumpers along the lot's edge are also to be taken away.

RICK PHILLIS of our Golden Rule Church has a new email address:

goldenrulerick@att.net

ANITA CAIN, we very much regret now sleeps in the Lord and cannot provide us with book reviews any longer (her memorial service is today at 3p.m.). However, one of her very close friends in FL (who is still helping to settle her estate) sent me the following "book review." I'll quote her email as she sent it to me. Maybe a book like this would be encouraging to you? I've read the other book he wrote (mentioned in the email) and it was very good.

Rex, There's a great book by Stan Toler, "The Buzzard's are Circling, but God's not finished with me yet" (His earlier book was, "God has never failed me, but He's sure scared me to death a few times")

Here are some chapter titles:

- * God created the World in Six Days and did not once ask my advice (Letting God take control of the Situation)*
- * When your World Crumbles, you don't have to be one of the crumbs (You can survive your situation)*
- * When the Fountain of Youth has Rusted (Learning to cope with Life's Challenges)*
- * Don't take my plate just yet; I'm getting up enough courage to finish the broccoli (Surviving the Lean & Mean times)*

Submitted by Tina Speller / 4-23-09)

Months after Hurricanes, Haiti Is Worse Than Ever

Mission News Network reports that conditions in Haiti have not improved since several major hurricanes hit the country last year. According to Eva DeHart of For Haiti With Love, conditions are worse than ever. "The roads are worse, getting around is worse, obstacles in trying to help are worse... It is worse than it was 40 years ago," she said. "The needs basically are the same." Government incompetence and red tape has only exacerbated the situation, preventing relief groups from bringing many supplies into the country. "People are starving to death, they haven't recouped the loss of their gardens and their animals and stuff from the hurricane, and it's just really, really bad." DeHart said the country cannot withstand another hit from hurricanes this year.

PRAY FOR: Quick INS inspection approval of ABC campuses, Annabelle May, W.C. Blankenship (heart), Susan May, Jacob Hinton, Kris Fiocca (by SBurnham), Lucinda (by ASzekely), Jean Szantes

(cancer, by Arlene), Josh Eberly (by SMay), David Krogh, Pastors Earl Poland, Ed Goit, Alva Huffer, Don Ward & Leon Driskill; Ken Cramer, Tammy (Koston) Lisiecki, Gene & Gloria Faehnrich, Leslie & Stanley Hervert (by Grace), Carol Reed, Ruth Schuld, Susan (Stine) Bradley, Edith Speer, Jack Hearp, Kathy Reed, Craig Blankenship, **College students:** Laura Schuld, Halee Fertig, Andrew Weaver, **Shut-ins:** Evelyn Pennington, Amy Dunbar Puehler **Military:** Rodger Schuld, **Missionaries in other countries:** Gaston Ucanay-Peru, Mauro Apolos Gonzalez-Uruguay, Lupe Badillo-Mexico, Tracy Zhykhovich-Russia, Pastors in Malawi & Mozambique, Lesly Bertrand and the Pastors in Haiti. / **Churches:** Knightstown Family Fellowship IN, Korean Extension Steve & Sam An, RRCC, ABC, Golden Rule, Grace Brethren and for the peace of Jerusalem, Ps. 122:6; Isa. 62:6, 7

MAY 2009

31 Fellowship Carry-in Dinner

JUNE 2009

1-5 Christian Worker's Seminar / Black Mountain NC

21-26 /SUMMIT / Ohio State Camp / St Paris, OH

Future Dates: Jul 8-10 G.C. in Oregon IL / Jul 19-24 National Youth Camp, Manchester College (IN)

SEPT. 13, 2009 / 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45A.M.
WORSHIP 10:45A.M.

Musicians: Doris Schuld and Mark Cain

Welcome / Announcements / Prayer

Worship Hymns: Mark Cain

278 In The Garden

291 I Need Thee Every Hour

Prayer / Offering

Installation Service (Preprinted)

Message: Saved By The Skin of Our Teeth!

Key Verses: 1 Cor 3:10-15; 4:5; 2 Thess 1:6-10; Jude 17-25

407 Faith of Our Fathers