



March, 2016

Vol. 4, No. 7

Awfully Personal Thoughts Written on “Super Tuesday!”

Yes, I’m a news junkie who relishes this every-four-year extravaganza called Primary Season. This time around, the nomination of two candidates for a place on the November presidential ballot has lost its PG rating, and has evolved into something real close to a slugfest from the World Wrestling Federation (WWF).

I’m writing this month’s editorial on “Super Tuesday.” Since I’ve never lived in a state that holds a primary election, I am swept away by the excitement caused from the dozen or so states that are selecting delegates to the two national conventions that will elect each party’s presidential candidate. I can scarcely believe what I’m hearing from the mouths of our country’s potential “Leader of the Free World.”

In spite of it all, I’m having my own Super Tuesday for the following very personal reasons”

-- As of yesterday (Monday), my Super Day, the greatly-feared and worried-over physical problem that has filled my prayers and sometimes less than faith-filled mind, has been conquered. Thank you, Heavenly Father.

—I’m spending part of my Super Tuesday expressing the deepest and most sincere appreciation for all the expressions of friendship and family support that has been mine. St. Paul, you were right, “The greatest of these is love” (1Corinthians 13).

—Yeah, I know my son-in-law is my pastor, but let me say this anyway; fellow members and friends of OHNaz, we are part of a local church that recognizes and preserves our God-given heritage, “the faith once

delivered to the saints”: that means we believe in prayer, the efficacy of the inspired Word of God, caring for one another, the necessity to share our time, talents, and treasure, receiving God’s grace as His spirit moves us in Communion, worship, fellowship, and service. My Super Tuesday declaration is, “I’m so glad I’m a part of the family of God”, here in Oak Harbor Church of the Nazarene!

Know what? This is the month of March! That means there is a glorious day ahead that out-supers any political contest—I’m talking about Easter Sunday, March 27. All the good things I’ve enumerated above were made possible because “Up from the grave He (Jesus Christ) arose!”

I’m forgetting “Super Tuesday,” and concentrating on the “superset” first day of the week this world will ever know. See you in church? Good.

Pmm

Overheard in the Foyer

“Is your Daddy a dem’crat or a publican?”

“He’s a Nazarene.”

“Oh.”

“My Mommy says she’s a Vegetabletarian.”

“Oh.”

“Know what I am?”

“Uh-uh.”

“I’m going to be a golden-egg finder at church on Easter Sunday!”

PB's

Current



SPEAKING OF EASTER...

A skeptical friend once asked pastor & author William Willimon, "Why do you need a supernaturally resurrected body of Jesus to make your faith work?" Willimon replied: I don't need a resurrected Jesus. Come to think of it, I'm not sure I want a resurrected Jesus. In fact, [in one sense] a resurrected Jesus is a real nuisance for me, personally. I've got a good life, I've figured out how to work the world, on the whole, to the advantage of me and my friends and family. My health is good, and everybody close to me is doing fine. I have the illusion that I'm in control, that I'm making a significant contribution to help Jesus ... on my own. No, I don't need a bodily resurrected Jesus. In fact, [once I truly embrace the resurrection of Jesus], my life would become much more difficult. [So] when the possibility of resurrection really comes through to you, when the rumor that something's afoot becomes a reality for you, well, you can see why the women [in the Gospel stories] were scared that first Easter.

...SOME FURTHER THOUGHTS ON EASTER

*Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there. ~ Clarence W. Hall

*The stone was rolled away from the door, not to permit Christ to come out, but to enable the disciples to go in. ~ Peter Marshall.

*We live and die; Christ died and lives! ~ John Stott

*Do not abandon yourselves to despair: We are the Easter people, and Hallelujah is our song. ~ John Paul II. *Christ has not only spoken to us by his life but has also spoken for us by his death. ~ Soren Kierkegaard.

*If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ~ 1 Corinthians 15:14.

*Jesus did not die on the cross just so we could live comfortable, well-adjusted lives. His purpose is far deeper: He wants to make us like himself before he

takes us to heaven. This is our greatest privilege, our immediate responsibility and our ultimate destiny. ~ Rick Warren.

*Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time. ~ Martin Luther.

*Our old history ends with the cross; our new history begins with the resurrection.

~ Watchman Nee.

*Easter is always the answer to "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me!" ~ Madeleine L'Engle.

*We must not forget that it wasn't the Jews that put him on the cross, and it wasn't the Romans. It was my sins, it was your sins, the sins of this world. ~ Franklin Graham.

*A dead Christ I must do everything for; a living Christ does everything for me. ~ Andrew Murray.

*Let every man and woman count himself immortal. Let him catch the revelation of Jesus in his resurrection. Let him say not merely, "Christ is risen," but "I shall rise." ~ Phillips Brooks.

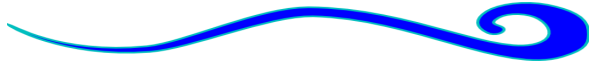
*"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He is risen; he is not here." ~ Mark 16:6.

*"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ~ Jesus Christ - John 11:25, 26

I HOPE YOU ARE MAKING **big** PLANS TO BE HERE AT OHNAZ FOR EASTER. IT IS THE ONE TIME EACH YEAR THAT PEOPLE EXPECT AN INVITATION TO CHURCH... AND THEY JUST MIGHT COME! *Pastor Ben*



JUST BLEW IN . . .



News from the pews

Sorry folks, another late edition of your highly anticipated BREEZES. I promise we'll do better. And speaking of this newsletter, the office staff wants to know how we can do a better job (besides on-time delivery). Sunday's bulletin will contain five questions about BREEZES; 1) Grab the Connection Card in your bulletin, 2) write your answers on the card, 3) Provide your name; 4) Expect to receive one of Pmm's humor books as a reward. Please participate.

Inquiring minds need to know. The congregation is astir over the rumor that crippled **Jacque Fye** is representing OHNaz in a series of Seattle drag races. There is some discussion whether scooters are acceptable vehicles. . . . Back by popular demand: **Merrie Pickens** and her wonderfully meaningful "stick people" will be part of our Easter Sunday worship service. This interpretive movement group will make the sacred meaning of Easter take on new dimension. . . . Speaking of Easter, **Children's Director Lisa** announces that more than one thousand candy-filled eggs will be part of the kid's egg hunt this year. That means we are in need of one thousand pieces of wrapped candy to fill said eggs. Your help is needed. Please contribute Please help us by contributing large bags of candy. . . . Resurrection worship needs Easter flowers; Tulips and Lilies that honor friends and loved ones can be purchased at a reasonable price. Bulletin to carry details.

Departing kitchen assistant **Merideth Minch** has been a weekly Service Alternative volunteer for a number of years. Her services and friendly personality will be missed by all who worked here with her. God bless your next assignment, Merideth. . . .

Talented Bible quizzer **Nicholas Pryce** earned a third place award in recent competition at Hillside Nazarene Church in Kent. We're proud of you, Nic.

Seventh grader **Audrey Moyes** made the special honor chorus at Oak Harbor Middle School. One person per grade level from each of the city's school was selected to sing. . . . The **Church Trustees** announce the first church property clean-up for the season. It's scheduled for Saturday, March 12 from 9:00 to 12:30 p.m. A pizza lunch will be provided. Teens can count their involvement for community service. Just back from the Land of the Rising Sun (Japan to us less informed) are **Jim and Sandi Murdy**. The M's were in Tokyo 13 days, February 17 – March 1, visiting daughter Jessica and son-in-law Will, and three granddaughters, Payton (9), Harlyn (6), and Jynsyn (4) at Fussa Air Force Base.



**Murdys
And
Bustillos**

Kidz and Teen camps will be here before we know it! Watch how you can help send our kidz and teens to camp this summer.

Kidz Camp	July 11-15	\$275
Jr. High Camp	July 18-22	\$270
Sr. High Camp	August 8-12	\$270

OHNaz Online!
For Sunday Sermons & Info
www.ohnaz.com

In Guatemala City: “The Pryce Was Right”

If this is March, can summer be far behind? And you know what summer means—Vacation Bible School!

OHNaz VBS volunteer and International VBS experiencer Brad Pryce was part of a Nazarene Work & Witness project sponsored by his parent’s Indianapolis church last summer in Guatemala City. He joined his dad and two brothers in the experience. The following is a conversation and interview Pmm had with Pryce some months ago.

Interestingly, this VBS was held in the month of October? Yeah, the “vacation” part of VBS wasn’t too relevant in this case. It was more of a boy’s and girl’s club.

So, obviously, Guatemala City isn’t located on the other side of the equator. That’s right! G.C. is the capital of the Central American country of Guatemala. It’s bordered by three countries’ Mexico, Belize, and Honduras. The seasons are the same as ours.

Was the evening’s VBS format basically the same as ours? The four VBS evenings were Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Sunday. Like our OHNaz VBS, we started each night all together with lots of energetic singing . . .

In English? Of course not, *en Espanol!*

So, how’s your Spanish? *No muy bien, gracias.* Though I did pick up some *Espanol* from the kids; I was great entertainment for them.

Then what? One of the Indianapolis Work & Witness ladies told a Bible story in English, which was translated by a Spanish-speaker. The rest of the evening was spent in crafts and refreshments. On the closing night, Monday, the kids brought their parents. During the kids’ craft period, the parents were involved in a Bible study upstairs.

Tell me about the kids. I really wanted to bring some of those kids home with me. Most were very respectful (We did have some “misguided” ones as well.)

By the way, what kind of recreation was on the program? Officially, there was no recreation time, but it is kinda cool how a simple ball can get those kids out of their shyness. As the boys and girls arrived I would start kicking balls to them. When the ball came to them, a big smile broke out and even the most shy, clinging to his or her sibling, got into the game.

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OHNaz Seniors


Friendship Gathering for March


In Honor of  St. Patrick


Game Night at Kay's

Friday, March 18 @ 7:00 p.m.

443 SW 10th Ave.

 Spend an evening with friends playing table games, including a smashing dominoe game with double 15s!

 Please bring a can of Patty-Green veggies for Help House.

 Also something good to munch. Coffee, tea, and ice water provided.

IMPORTANT: Please give Kay a call if you'll be there. And, please be there!



Opera, Anyone?

Saturday, April 2,

Oak Harbor Cinema @ 9:45 a.m.

Experience a live performance from

NYC's Metropolitan Opera

Puccini's "Madama Butterfly"

via HD Simulcast. Tickets: \$16 for

seniors. Late lunch at Wendy's.

For Your Quiet Time

Confession Time

I don't know about you—but I sure know about me. Do you happen to have the same problem I have? You read your Bible—and thirty minutes later you can't remember what you've read?

What keeps us from remembering? Jesus' says three things in Mark 4:19; "The worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth, and the desires for other things.

Worries: Life's uncertainties center your attention on problems instead of God, and you forget that He said, "Take no thought for tomorrow." When I'm in the middle of a mess, I seem to have tunnel vision—it's all I can think about.

The Deceit of Wealth: I guess when you have money there could be a reason for false security. I wouldn't know—no money! Having a dollar in my wallet gives me an artificial security—"I don't need God," say some. Financial security must make me hold tighter to the Lord's hand. I must focus on him.

Desire for Other Things: Always wanting more stuff makes God's Word seem less significant by comparison. When we are focused on what we want from God, we don't pay close enough attention on what He wants from us.

Heavenly Father

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight—Oh Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer. Amen.



What kind of VBS attendance did you have? Besides the 20 or so Indianapolis Nazarenes, the kid-attendance grew every evening to a high of 250.

How was evangelism handled? I really was surprised to see how receptive the kids were to the Bible stories and the simple plan of salvation. When we did door-to-door visitation promoting VBS, we asked the person to whom we spoke if there was anything we could pray about with them. Often we were invited in, sat down, and with many, had the opportunity to pray about family matters and the need for Jesus Christ in their lives.

So, Brad , what do you remember most about VBS in Guatemala? Was the Pryce right? Well, what really stands out is the way we who could not speak Spanish were able to communicate with folks of all ages, but especially with the kids. All you had to do was to pay some attention, and they could read your friendliness and how the Lord Is at work between us and through us.

As this issue of BREEZES is being written, preparations are in process for an OHNaz Work & Witness trip to the Indian School in Arizona; April 16-23.

Next month's newsletter will feature an interview with Jim and Sandi Murdy on their trek to Japan.
Pmm

March Birthdays

- 2nd Nicole Laxton
- 2nd Lindsey Laxton
- 5th Jacque Fye
- 6th Alex Murdy
- 6th Brandon Randall
- 7th Brenda Hattaway
- 8th Emily Hills
- 9th Josh Jr. Ford
- 10th Rickie Higbee
- 10th Heidi Kuzina
- 12th Jim Murdy
- 14th Chris Chastain
- 19th Sarah Eisner
- 21st Savannah Martin
- 21st Chelsee Walden
- 23rd Chris Lacy
- 28th Sarah Randall
- 29th Morgan Hamilton
- 30th Gavin Harasti

March Anniversaries

- 15th Tony & Kay Winterrowd
- 29th Brian & Joyce Wafford

**Blow in for dinner on Wednesday nights
from 5:30 to 6:30.**

It's a family affair, be part of it.