



Owosso Church of the Nazarene

*Our mission is to attract and lead people to Christ,
develop them toward maturity in Christ,
equip them for ministry, and empower them through
the Holy Spirit for a life mission in the world.*

April 14, 2008

Dear Family & Friends,

There's a touching story of a little boy who struggled with his fractions. Using an illustration to get the lesson across, the teacher said, "Jimmy, how many are in your family?" The boy answered, "Seven, ma'am—father, mother, and five of us kids."

"And if your mother made a pie for your family, what part of the pie would you get?" "One sixth," the boy replied. Frustrated, the teacher said, "One sixth? You mean one seventh!" "No, Ma'am," the boy answered, "Mom knows how much I like pie. She'd probably say she didn't want any so I could have a bigger piece."

The little boy knew more about fractions than he let on. He also knew about being part of a family. He understood family life includes putting the interests of others above our own.

It's the same in the Church—the family of God. People who love and serve Christ willingly sacrifice to meet the needs of others. In fact, that's not just an example of the Church in general; it is an example of a growing church.

The First Century Church modeled it, "All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need" (Acts 2:44-45).

True friendship focuses on others. It goes beyond monetary gifts. It works, it sympathizes, it encourages; it goes the second mile. And in the family of God, true friendship also bears the burdens of others in prayer.

Our emphasis during the coming weeks is *Forward in Faith*. We're going to discover some exciting and rewarding principles for growing the church and growing our own spiritual lives.

This Sunday, we'll learn how to enrich our own lives by focusing on the needs of others. I want to help you become an even better friend than you are now. I'll suggest several life-changing tools you can use to be a better friend in the church, home, or on the job.

Your Fellow Servant,

Pastor Rodger D. De Vore

Rodger D. De Vore, Lead Pastor
Marlene Webster, Community & Family Formation Pastor
Murphy Gill, Worship Arts Pastor
Craig Moore, Student Life Pastor
Deidre Marks, Office Manager
Julie Semans, Office Secretary

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“His Grace, Our Reality”

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“Tell Your Story”

I often wonder why it is that we as Christians question and resist the Holy Spirit when we are prompted to do something.

One day at work, while I was going through my daily routine as a service advisor, I was felt prompted by the Holy Spirit to ask the customer I was assisting if he needed prayer. I tried to ward off this feeling but it was becoming persistently stronger. Reluctantly, I asked Jose this question that was pressing in my mind. He began to weep. He told me that he had just learned that his adult son was heavily involved in drugs. There had been no indication of this problem to Jose or his wife. As new Christians, they were searching for answers. We talked for a while and then I had the opportunity to pray with Jose for his son at my work desk.

This story brought a fine point to light for me. As Christians, we must follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit even if the idea seems crazy, inconvenient or not in keeping with our business or political correctness.

His servant,
Justin Parker



Justin Parker has recently served as one of our Adult Sunday School leaders with discussion on “Evolution vs. Creation” and filtering current media events based on Answer in Genesis material. Justin is married to Melissa (Heavlin) and they have two handsome boys, Preston & Ethan.

Campaign Calendar Dates

Vision Sunday~ April 20th

*One Combined Service at 10:45 a.m.
Prayer for Campaign from 6-7 p.m.*

24-Hour Prayer Vigil ~May 23rd & 24th

*Begins Friday at 5 PM and
ends Saturday at 5 PM*

All-Church Vision Banquet ~ May 30th

*7 PM in Community Center
(catered meal)*

Celebration Sunday ~June 8th

Firstfruits Sundays

1st Sunday of the Month for 3 years

Watch for Sunday School & Small Group Opportunities related to the Campaign

If you would like to be REMOVED from our “Hearing from God” Stewardship Campaign mailing list, please contact us in the church office at 989.723.2229 or email us at ocnoffice@michonline.net

“His Grace, Our Reality”

*BGW | Forward in Faith
Stewardship Campaign*

COMMITMENT TO JOURNEY CARD

I *commit to participate* in the
“Hearing From God” Stewardship Campaign Journey

NAME: _____

I *commit to pray for others*, and I welcome another to pray for me,
while we are on this journey together.

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Please return completed card in the offering plate or to the church office
by VISION SUNDAY, APRIL 20th!