



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 28, 2008

Dear Family & Friends,

A young man began a small cheese business in Chicago. He tried in vain to make financial ends meet, but soon he approached bankruptcy. One day, burdened by the darkening clouds of financial uncertainty, he went to a trusted mentor and friend. "I've tried everything," he said. "Nothing is working, and I am going deeper into debt every day."

The wise friend queried, "You've tried everything?" "Yes," the businessman replied. The friend asked, "Have you tried making God a partner in your business?" "Well, I guess I haven't thought about that," the young man answered. "But I'm willing to give it a try." They bowed their heads, and the mentor prayed. The young man was next, "God, if You want to be a part of this business, I'll make You the Senior Partner. And I'll work for You."

The young man was J. L. Kraft. His business grew to become the largest producer of cheese in the world. Kraft learned a significant lesson early in life about putting God first.

Partnership with God is always a wise decision. His resources are unlimited. "The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it" (Psalm 24:1). And the returns He gives on our investment in His Kingdom can't even be counted. "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it'" (Malachi 3:10).

Our sermon series is *Forward in Faith*. In my message this week, I'll explain how your investment in the lives of people in our community and around the world will reap a tremendous blessing.

You are loved,

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

1865 South M-52 ❖ P.O. Box 1020
Owosso, MI 48867
Phone: 989.723.2229
Fax: 989.936.5908
Email: OCNoffice@michonline.net
Website: www.owosso Nazarene.com

“His Grace, Our Reality”

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“Tell Your Story”

Thoughts about “The Heart of a Servant”

Jesus said, “You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘Lord’ and you are right, because that is what I am. And since I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each others feet.” *John 13:13-14 NLT*. When Jesus washed the disciples’ feet, he was teaching the lesson of humility. The lesson was a hard one for them because they were still arguing about who would be first in the kingdom. Peter especially didn’t understand the greatest of all being willing to become the servant of all. After many years, we see Peter has learned the lesson of humility. In his first letter, his attitude has changed completely - he’s ready to wash feet! He says, “So humble yourselves under the mighty power of God, and at the right time He will lift you up in honor.”

1 Peter 5:6

I can relate to Peter very well. I tend to want everything to fall into place right now. But God’s way isn’t always the easy way. There are lessons to learn, a price to be paid and, yes, there are feet to wash (in my case it’s more like spines to correct). But we are called to humbly, faithfully, patiently and quietly serve one another; to feed the sheep as it were. It’s not our job to know all the answers - we must leave that to God. “Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares for you.” *1 Peter 5:7* Perhaps Jesus said it best. “So don’t worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today’s trouble is enough for today.” *Matthew 7:34 NLT*

Dr. Paul DeMeritt



Paul DeMeritt is a faithful Adult Sunday School teacher within our congregation. He owns the “Healing Hands” Chiropractic business in the community. Paul & his wife, Patty, have two children, Andrew & Vanessa.

Campaign Calendar Dates

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

Join us for Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

*Kids First Ministries (Newborn-6th Grade)
IGNITE Student Ministries (7th-12th Grade)
OASIS post high (18-20 somethings)
Faith Connections (Moss Hall)
How Great is our God (Smith Room)
A Woman’s Heart (Room 5)
12 Steps to Christians (Conference Room)
Creation in Current Media (Room C-1)
Wonderworks (Room 8)*

Small Group Opportunities

*various times & different places
related to the Campaign*

Please contact

**Mark & Julie Semans at 989.725.5521
or sign up at front desk**