

June 2010

Bethany Hilltop News

Pastor
Rev. Allynn Walker



My View from the Hill

Most of us remember Robert Fulghum for his little book *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*. But he wrote other books, one of which had the simple title, *Uh-Oh*. In that book Fulghum tells about being asked by a journalist if he believed in God.

"No," replied Fulghum, "but I do believe in Howard."

"Howard? You believe in Howard?" asked the reporter.

"It all has to do with my mother's maiden name," said Fulghum.

"Your mother's maiden name . . . ," the reporter said befuddled.

Fulghum explained to the reporter that his mother's maiden name was Howard and that the Howard name often came up in family conversations. So, when as a child, he learned to pray the Lord's Prayer, he thought they were saying, "Our Father, which art in heaven, HOWARD be Thy name." He knew his mother was a Howard, and indirectly he was a Howard. If God was a Howard too, he must belong to God's family.

Since he was told that his grandfather had died and gone to heaven, God and his grandfather got all mixed up in his mind as one and the same. This gave him what he

calls, "a pretty comfy notion about God." He writes, "When I knelt beside my bed each night and prayed, 'Our Father, which art in heaven, Howard be Thy name,' I thought about my grandfather and what a big shot he was. Because, of course, the prayer ends with 'For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.' I went to bed feeling well connected to the universe for a long, long time. It was a Howard Family Enterprise . . ."

That's a pretty healthy view of the universe for a child to have; he is part of the universal family enterprise. Indeed, for followers of Jesus, it is a Biblical view. When we trust in Christ for our salvation and make Him our Lord, the Holy Spirit comes into our lives. Paul explains it beautifully. *"Those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.... The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory"* (Romans 8:14, 16-17). Brothers and sisters, let us give praise to our Heavenly Father!

In Service for His glory,

Pastor Allynn

Missions at Bethany in May 2010

Life Network Brunch

Our 3rd Annual Brunch for the clients of Life Network pregnancy resource center was a great success. We were blessed to host nine clients and the three staff members of Life Network at Bethany, Saturday, May 15. We served a delicious brunch, played some fun games, and had a gift exchange. All the clients went home with gifts as well as our hugs and prayers for God's continued blessings on their families.



Good Samaritan Ministries at Washington Park

Good Samaritan Ministries is an outreach of Good Samaritan Church of the Nazarene in Collinsville. It is an ecumenical ministry with partners such as First Baptist and Hope Church in Columbia. We have recently been given the opportunity to participate four times per year, on the months with a 5th Saturday. Every Saturday a church leads a worship service and provides a meal for all who come.



LIVING PROOF LIVE

Featuring
Beth Moore



A Message Just for You

The ladies are attending the Beth Moore Conference on June 25 & 26 at the Chaifetz Arena @ SLU. Go to www.lifeway.com/event/39/ for more information. If anyone is interested in attending, please see Lynette Stueber.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

AUGUST 8 - 12

“HIGH SEAS”

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