

Church News and Events

By Mark Brown

Why is there so much suffering in the world? (Part 2)

Insight from Pastor Greg Allen

Pastor Greg Allen, senior pastor at the Bethany Bible Church a small, non-denominational church located just west of beautiful Portland, Oregon. I believe you will enjoy both the insight and Biblical teaching. I have included a link to visit. <http://bethanybible.org/new/>

Dear friend,

First of all, thanks for writing. And I appreciate that you're a believer with questions. It's probably not surprising to you that you're not the first sincere Christian with questions like these. I deeply respect you for asking them. What's more, I respect the sincerity with which they're asked. Its easy to detect the frustration you feel

in the way you ask them; and I suspect that--to some degree--they involve some personal pain. But perhaps it may help if I share the things I have learned to do to keep my bearings in this world of suffering.

(3) ACKNOWLEDGE THAT GOD'S TIME-TABLE IN THINGS IS NOT THE SAME AS OURS. During times of suffering, Christians sometimes ask, "Why is God taking so long to answer my prayer for relief?" You'll even find such statements in the psalms. "How long, O LORD?" (Psalm 13:1-2; 79:5; 90:13). I have come to learn that, often, the reason it seems that God seems to "delay" in relieving us of our times of suffering is because there are 'time-sensitive' things He's accomplishing in them that we do not yet see--and that are not yet brought to perfection. Joseph, for example, had to wait in prison for two years after his dream, until the time was right for him to be presented to

Pharaoh--and to then be made the Prime-minister of Egypt (Genesis 40-41).

(4) ACCEPT THE FACT THAT OUR KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S PURPOSES IS LIMITED. You hear suffering people often painfully ask, "How can anything good come from this?" I've gone through some times of suffering myself; and I often said the same thing. I sincerely rest in the promise of God that "All things work together for good" (Romans 8:28); but it's not always apparent to me just "how" it happens. But I've learned that what seems at times to be so bad to my limited understanding may actually be what God uses to bring a greater "good" than I could have ever imagined.

Think again of Joseph. Years of slavery prepared him for a role he never could have anticipated--that of prime-minister of Egypt. And while in that

leadership role, he told the brothers who had sold him into slavery that "you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive" (Genesis 50:20). Who but God could have known?

The conclusion will be in the next article I sincerely hope this is helpful. Blessings,
Pastor Greg

Contact us: www.christiannews.com or saltn_light@hotmail.com

Philippians 4:8, 9 (Read it, live it!)

VHS Fall Sports

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improvement in each of the previous years. "This is a program that is on the move," said Jarmin.

A number of Loggers were nominated for All League status including : Ethan Johnston, OL; Dawson Shay, OL; T John Wolf, TE and LB; Austin Cutright, LB and Return Specialist; Jake Titus, DB; Damian Young, P; and Alex Budde, K.

Jarmin also mentioned the play this season of senior running backs Jonathon Anderson and Mikol Pihl; the excellent play of junior quarterback Tim Jennings; junior Jared Whitton on both sides of the line; Bo Clark as a starting linebacker and back up running back; Ronnie Maldonado at wide receiver and defensive back and Bridger Stewart.

"I think the kids had fun this year and enjoyed it," said Jarmin. "We're looking forward to next year."

Senior Center Activities

5-Area Luncheon: There are no luncheons scheduled for November and December.

Connie's Fabulous Breakfasts: Fabulous breakfasts are available to the public on Fridays for a cost of only \$3.50. The event happens at the Vernonia Senior Center (446 Bridge Street) from 7:30 to 9:00 AM each Friday. Meal price includes a beverage, too. Enter through the side, parking lot door. What a deal!

Week Day Lunches: The Vernonia Senior Center offers nutritious and tasty lunches each week-day for a \$4 donation for seniors over 60; cost is \$5 for anyone under 60. To-go meals are available for \$5. These are available to the public, not just Senior Citizens. (Mealtime is noon; late arrivals may not be served.) You can reserve your lunch by calling by 11:15 AM, or further in advance if possible, to assist the cooks as they prepare the day's meals. Meals on Wheels are available for a \$4 donations for seniors over 60. Please contact the Senior Center for an application.

Maple Bars available locally! Connie King, the cook at the Senior Center, is making maple bars each day. The maple bars are available to the public, too, and only cost \$1 each. Availability is subject to quantity on hand. You can assure yourself of a good supply by pre-ordering them directly from Connie by calling the Senior Center (503-429-3912) any week day, from 7:00

AM-3:00 PM. Please allow one day lead time for larger orders. The Center's front door opens at 9:00, but the side parking lot door opens at 7:00. Ah, sweet treats!

Thrift Store: Bargain prices can be found in Vernonia's Senior Center in their Thrift Store. The retail store is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. The Thrift Store provides funds for the Senior Center's facility and its many activities. Donations can also be dropped off during those same hours, and donated clothes need to be clean and in good condition so they are "sales ready". We are offering half off during the first week of each month. Buy locally and support your local Senior Center.

For after hours drop-offs please contact Pauline 503-429-5810.

Special Days: On the last Wednesday of the month Wauna Credit Union will be serving ice cream. On the last Friday of the month we will serve birthday cake and ice cream to celebrate that month's birthdays.

Membership Dues: Another way to support Vernonia's Senior Center is to pay the \$15 annual membership dues. Checks may be mailed or dropped off at the Senior Center. Anyone 50 and older may join.

Questions? Call: (503) 429-3912

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Church Directory (in alphabetical order)

Assembly of God
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Morning Worship: 11:00 AM
Wayne Marr, Pastor
662 Jefferson Avenue
503-429-0373
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Sunday Schedule:
Sacrament Meeting: 10:00 AM
Sunday School & Primary: 11:20 AM
Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women: 12:10 PM
Marc Farmer, Branch President
1350 E. Knott Street
503-429-7151
Covenant Church Vernonia
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service: 11:00 AM

Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 7:00 PM
John D, Murray, Pastor
359 "A" Street
503-860-3860
Nehalem Valley Bible Church
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service: 10:45 AM
Wed. Ladies Bible Study: 10:00 AM
Wednesday Service: 7:00 PM
Sat. Men's Prayer Meeting: 6:30 AM
Gary Taylor, Pastor
Grant & North Streets
503-429-5378
Pioneer Baptist Fellowship
Worship Service: 6:00 PM
www.pbflive.com
John Cahill, Pastor
850 Madison Ave.
503-429-1161

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Wednesday Religious Education:
3:15-4:30 PM
Sunday Mass: 12:00 PM
Rev. Luan Tran, Administrator
960 Missouri Avenue
503-429-8841
Vernonia Christian Church
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service in Youth & Family Center: 11:00 AM
www.VernoniaChristianChurch.org
Sam Hough, Pastor
410 North Street
503-429-6522
Vernonia Community Church
Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Wednesday Prayer: 6:30 PM

Ralph Young, Interim Pastor
957 State Avenue
503-429-6790
Vernonia Foursquare Church
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Children's Sunday School
Carl Pense, Pastor
850 Madison Avenue
503-429-1103
Vernonia Seventh-day Adventist Church
Sabbath (Saturday) Services
Sabbath School: 9:30 AM
Worship Service: 11:00 AM
www.VernoniaSDAC.org
Larry Gibson, Pastor
2nd Ave. and Nehalem St.
503-429-8301