

GOD'S HOUSE

A Tootle to the Big City

A few weeks ago, I announced to Sir William, Lady Jan, and Debbie that we were going to go on a tootle on Sunday, either Sept. 16 or 23, to Orange County. And why would I EVER choose to go to Orange County???? I HATE going down below, fighting freeway traffic, and experiencing the neurotic hustle and bustle of the asphalt jungle.

I wanted to go for the rare opportunity to hear a particular speaker, an Israeli Jewish Believer, who lives in the hills of Galilee. His name is Amir Tsarfati of Behold Israel, and he conducts tours of Israel and travels all over the world giving teachings and messages about current events, especially in the Middle East and around Israel, and relates them to what God has told us about the future and end times through the Bible. I listen to his messages on the internet frequently, but when he made the rare trip to California, I decided I must go down to hear him.

We decided to go down on the 23rd when Amir would be at the morning services (9 and 11AM) at the Calvary Chapel in East Anaheim. Yes, it would mean we would be "going to church" which gave us a little heartburn, since none of us have been to one in decades. We were bugged about going at all and wavered back and forth. Finally I took five quarters and flipped them, to get an answer, hopefully from the Spirit. Four of the five quarters came up heads, which meant "Go".

We left early to allow for nasty traffic that might make us late, and anticipating overflow crowds, we wanted to be sure to get seats, both for ourselves and for two friends who were supposed to meet us there. Traffic was very light, making our drive a breeze. We arrived early enough to get squeezed into the back and hear Amir's message at the early service. Then we were able to get better seats and save two for our friends for the second service.

This church was maybe too small to be called a mega-church, seating several hundred and not several thousand. But it did have

bells and whistles that churches of my youth never dreamed of: a band in front singing things I'd never heard before; big screens showing the words they were singing; and small screens on the backsides of the columns that blocked the view of those stuck behind them. No hymnbooks, no traditional hymn singing, no choir, and the appeal to us visitors to "feel like family" among the hundreds present.

The church had arranged to have members stationed around the entry areas, at tables with literature or with information about their various ministries. All smiled a warm welcome at us "foreigners", which included about half of those present. No one dressed up or wore a tie, so we desert rats didn't feel too out of place. I haven't owned a dress since, well, since George Washington crossed the Delaware! (OK, so I exaggerate a little. But only a little.)

When I decided I wanted to venture out into the urban jungle, I had two purposes: hearing Amir in person, and having lunch at IN-N-OUT Burger as my finger in the eye of the California Democrats who are urging a boycott of IN-N-OUT because it (gasp!) donates to Republicans. And its owners are (double gasp!!) Christian!!!! Besides, I'd never had one of their legendary hamburgers.

We saw from Google's map that there was an IN-N-OUT across the street from this church. The name appeared on my phone's

map in red letters about 20 miles out of East Anaheim and would not budge. All that way it stared at me: IN-N-OUT Burger! Was this a special message?

Getting to IN-N-OUT was quite the challenge. Yes, it was just across the street, but a BIG, BUSY street, and the driveway was poorly marked, so we missed it. Oh, well, just make a right around the corner to another driveway, except, oops, that one is blocked off. Now what? Stay in the stream of traffic taking us away from IN-N-OUT, across

the freeway, and "Be careful, move left, get out of the Freeway Entrance lane!". Ah, here's a left turn pocket, but then the sign^(A).

Aargh! Next left turn, at a major intersection,^(B) carrying us farther and farther away from IN-N-OUT. Turn left anyway and maybe we can make a U-turn. Sure enough, after a couple of blocks, we finally came to an intersection that allowed us to make the U-turn.

Back at IN-N-OUT, another traffic jam inside! That place was packed! So much for the Democrats' boycott! Hee, hee, hee. In spite of the crowds, the staff lived up to their reputation: quick, efficient, mo-

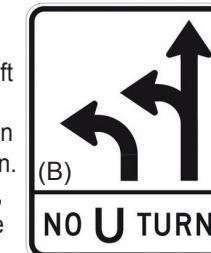
tivated, and friendly. As we waited for the food, we watched a guy take a whole pile of peeled potatoes and ram each one through a french-fry cutter, trying to keep ahead of the demand. It was a good experience, and the food was good, but don't tell anyone I told you that I know a place with better hamburgers and better fries. (I'll whisper it into your ear: The Deli Café.)

One final thought I had after this whole experience (yes, I have one now and then): At the end of each service, Amir stood at a table to greet people and sign his new book "The Last Hour." I wanted to greet him personally, but I didn't want to cheapen it by getting him to sign my book or take a selfie with him. Sheesh! I did shake his hand and say a few words, and even handed to him our picture brochure of the store. As I did, I told him that this was our House of God, our God-given mission in our little town.

Each morning, as we walk the dogs at 5:45, and it gets darker, I look to the east and see the store's lights on the black silhouette against the lightening sky. I think about that. It IS a House of God, committed to Him, owned by Him (really!), operated in obedience to His direction, best we know. It certainly is no church, but a House in which His Holy Spirit dwells, spreading warmth and light into a cold dark world.

Thank you, Father!

Linda Gammel



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

LVEDA Meeting

(Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association)

TUES. OCTOBER 2, 5 PM.

at the Senior Center

• Our Assemblyman,

Jay Obernolte, will speak about state-related issues and legislation that affects us.

• The County Department of Aging and Adult Services will talk about services that are available.

L.V. School Board Meeting

Thursday, Oct. 11, starts at 5:30PM. At the Alternative Education Center, 8560 Aliento Rd up Highway 18.

FLU SHOTS

The St. Mary Health Van will have free flu shots available when they are here in the parking lot in front of the Wash n Shop on Thursdays, 8:30am to 3:30pm.

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

October 27, Saturday, 9am to Noon – behind fire station. Antifreeze, batteries, oil and filters, paint (latex only), medical needles, fluorescents, all electronic wastes.

• Lucerne Valley Market

• "Do it Best" Hardware

• Wash n Shop • Crossroads Center
e-mail address: Market.Hardware@lucernevallymarket.com
website: lucernevalleymarket.com

LIMITS & MULTIPLE PRICING

Please, unless otherwise indicated, ON AD ITEMS NO MORE THAN 6 TOTAL (including all flavors or varieties) OF ANY ITEM, PER FAMILY, DURING THE AD PERIOD, AT THE SALE PRICE, except in produce and meat, which are limited to normal retail quantities, or which carry limits specifically stated. Sorry, we must reserve the right to further limit or refuse sales.

ON MULTIPLE PRICING, when purchasing items in quantities more or less than the multiple stated, the register is built automatically to charge the "each" price times the quantity. (Example: Price of item is \$3/\$1. The price of: one = 34¢, two = 68¢, three = \$1, four = \$1.34, five = \$1.68, six = \$2.00).

ECHO RECYCLING
760-617-5404

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Open Mon. - Sat. 9AM - 4PM

Closed for Lunch Noon to 1PM.

Closed Sunday

Aluminum CRV \$1.70lb

#1 Plastic CRV \$1.24lb

Pricing good thru October 10, 2018

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