



Joe's Rocking
Chair Greetings

THE URGE TO STOP!

Some years ago while I was attending an agency meeting in Sheboygan, I had a strong urge to drive out to Grandma's. I usually checked on her most days by phone, but this day a personal visit was in mind. I'm glad I followed that urge. A salesman had stopped to talk to her about one of those half moon chairs that Art Linkletter used to advertise on television. She ordered one, which was fine, but her right knee was permanently frozen and she couldn't bend it. My concern was that as comfortable as the chair looked, she wouldn't be able to get into it and if she did, her right knee would stand straight up in the air. After many phone calls to the salesman of no result, I called the company to express our concern, it just happen that I was connected to the president. He agreed to have the people bring one out to see if she could get into it. The delivery people took one look at her handicap and didn't even bring it in. That saved Grandma \$3,500.

Another time, I and my mother-in-law were returning from a visit with Grandma. It was nearly dark, windy, and cold and a few flakes were flying around. As we entered on to I43 in an instant I could see there was a car parked along the side of the road. Immediately the thought raced into my mind to stop. I wasn't there long when a State Patrol stopped and took over the situation.

The next morning the phone rang. It was the fellow from I43. He wanted to know why we stopped. I told him that an urge just came over me. He explained that they were on the way to a funeral. The car they were driving was on its maiden run and it just stopped running. He said that his elderly mother was in the back seat and was very cold because they had been there for some time. He continued to say that they had just finished praying asking God for an angel of mercy when I knocked on his window. He then proceeded to thank me. I told him that I didn't believe I was an angel of mercy, but was glad that their prayers were answered and they did get the help they needed.

I imagine when you read the title you were thinking that we were going to share some ideas regarding a "potty" break. So what is the point anyway?

The point is that Jesus is waiting for you to get the urge to stop. So are your church family and friends. We are waiting and thinking about you. We are also praying that you will get that urge to stop by participating with us in the Word and sacraments. When you get the urge to stop, you will be welcomed with open arms and hearts, because we love you. Jesus loves you more.

Matthew 25:37-40 & 45 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."