

# CHURCHLETS

*(Names for People, Places & Things Found in the Church)*

By Billy Murphy,  
Illustrations by Darius Lecesne

*Sample Pages*

# FOREWORD

When the author (herein referred to as “Billy”) first approached me and said, “George, I’d like to ask you to write the foreword to my new book,” I was humbled, shocked, and then confused. After all, was not my name, “Mike?” Besides, I was not aware Billy had ever read , much less wrote a book.

After wrestling with these important issues for perhaps too long, I took the next logical step, and put it off for as long as possible. What if I was so interesting, articulate and amusing that I exhausted my ability to ever write or speak again? What if the more astute readers discovered I really had nothing to say and threw the book away without reading further? What if the IRS recognized my name and decided to collect on a few past debts? What if some share publishing agent recognized my incredible talent, and offered me a lucrative writing contract? I decided to accept the risks.

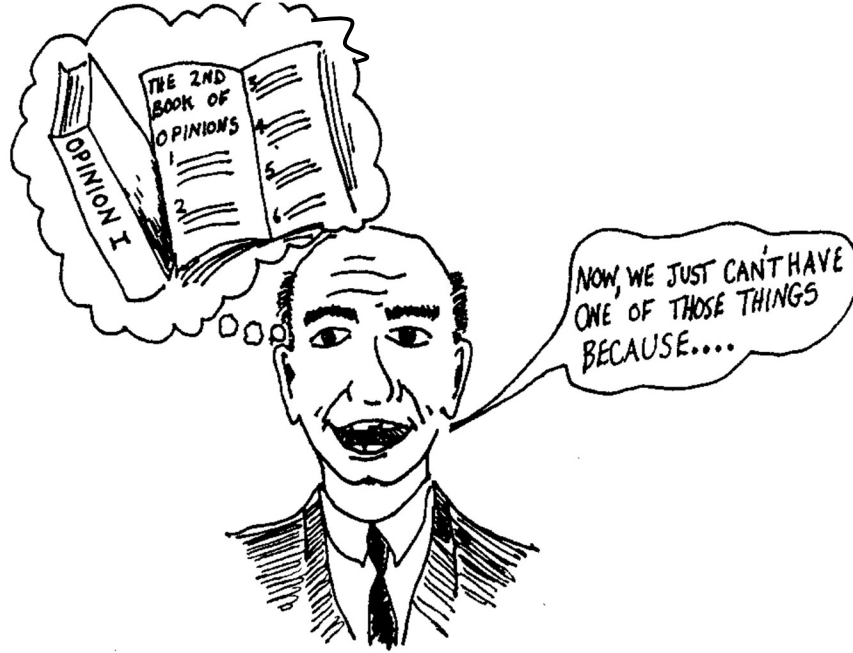
As for the book, I’m sure that like Homer’s *Iliad*, Shakespeare’s *Sonnets*, Tolstoy’s *War & Peace* and *The Hillbilly Guide to Southern Cooking*, it will end up on a lot of people’s bookshelves, though perhaps not quite as many. It may endure, however, as the perfect book for propping up an uneven table or swatting flies. Those not mentally gifted may also find it a great resource for speeches and conversational humor (preacher’s especially).

As for the author, Billy and I spent many lunches and phone calls over the last 25 years discussing life, the church, and especially, the menu. Billy has a great ability to see the humor and truisms in the Christian life without being cynical or negative; an ability indispensable to survival in the church.

I hope that you enjoy the material contained in this book, and am sure that, in the time-honored tradition, you will plagiarize much of it as your own.

Mike Openshaw, Retired Minister,  
Lighthouse Christian Church, Oceanside, California

I & II Opinion      noun. Lost books of the Bible that board members believe exist.



ABANDHYMNANT

noun. When two people are sharing a hymnal and one fails to hold up his or her side properly (20<sup>th</sup> century). When the hymnal has been put out of use and replaced by Powerpoint projection screens (21<sup>st</sup> century).

ACWORDIAN

noun. Thick Bible expanded over the years by the saving and storing of old bulletins, notes, newsletters and memorabilia.

AEONISM

noun. Principle that all young people will sit on one side of the church and adults will sit on the opposite side (20<sup>th</sup> century). Principle that church will be divided into a “traditional” service and a “contemporary” one. (21<sup>st</sup> century).

AHH-WHA-OHH-LEXIA

noun. Fear of singing the wrong note that causes congregation members to slur the first word of a hymn or song.

AISLEGLUTT

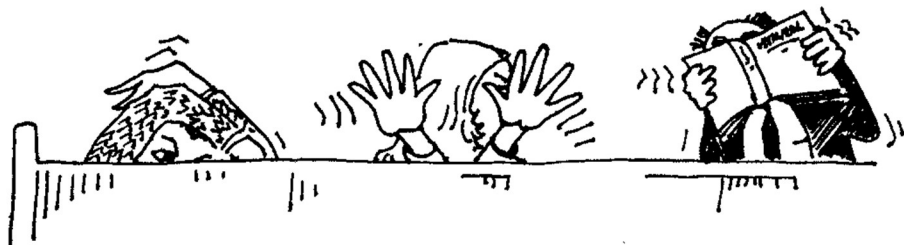
noun. A person who blocks traffic in the back of church while trying to decide where to sit.

ANNA-NARCISITIC

noun. Law or axiom that the “Men’s Room” will always have a smaller mirror than the “Ladies Room.”

ANXVISITORY

noun. Feeling that overwhelms visitors upon minister introducing them in church.



## APP NAUSEUM

noun. That queasy or irritated feeling from watching someone read Holy Scripture from their iPhone; just because they have an “app” for that.



# MURPHY'S CHURCH LAWS

*Sample Pages*





ADAM & EVE'S LAW

To sin is normal, to blame it on the  
other person is really, really normal.

Corollary – Sure, the devil made you do it.!

NOAH'S RULE

Never mix the bunnies with the  
carnivores

ISAAC'S RHYME

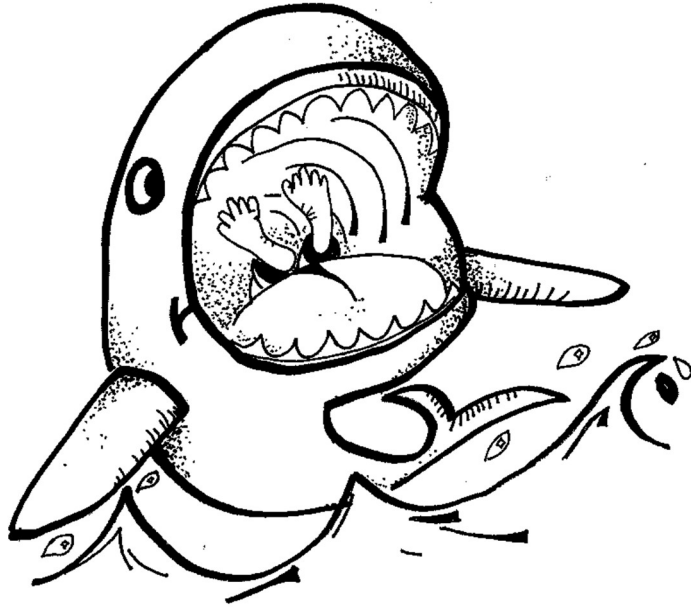
A ram in time, saves mine.

JACOB'S REVELATION of  
ANGEL WRESTLING

It was fixed.

ELISHA'S LAMENT

It's Eli-SHHA, do you hear me?  
Not Eli-JAH, ELISHHHHA!



JONAH'S LAW

Talk about your “down in the mouth!!”