

Local author tackles idea of God in his new book

By **KATY J. VOPAL**
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NEW BERLIN – If you belong to a church, are a free spirit and are searching for meaning, Paul Cinquemani encourages you to give God a try. After all, Cinquemani decided to start from scratch when explaining God in his new book, "Oh My God!"

The New Berlin author believes that the idea of God has gotten lost somewhere in interpretation. It's gotten too complicated. He maintains that underneath it all, there are beautiful messages of love and something a little more than that – something amazing.

"The idea for the book hit me when I found myself not being able to answer questions about God that my kids or other people asked me," Cinquemani said. "So I decided to stick my face in a Bible and get some answers."

Cinquemani said there are a lot of hard questions about God, and what he discovered in the Bible was very refreshing – that the unchanging love of God is astounding. He said he started teaching what he found at his church, developed lessons and thought, "Why not put it into a book?" He started writing it in 1999 and the book was published recently.

"I was trying to put concepts about God and stories about the Bible in a way that the everyday guy could understand," Cinquemani said. "I'm just a (certified public accountant), and I wondered what kind of God was out there that people had to get degrees to

understand – that's what challenged me. I've been having fun with it."

In the preface of "Oh My God!," Cinquemani notes that his only qualifications are that he's a seeker of truth, that he realizes everyone is responsible for his or her own relationship with God and that he has the ability to spread ideas and it's been a blessing to him.



Cinquemani

"There are a lot of things that I learned and put down in the book, and some heavy lessons," Cinquemani said. "One of those lessons is that God is fanatical about freedom – that's one of the reasons that when things happen, people don't understand. Things happen not as a result of God's actions, but because of our own and reaping the consequences."

Cinquemani said another thing he found while writing his book is that God is consistent, people have just changed what they do and how they regard God. There is an awful lot, Cinquemani said, on the standpoint of choice.

Cinquemani's book, "Oh My God!," is available at various local bookstores such as Martha Merrill's, Heaven's Way and The Giving Tree.

"When I went back and had a look, and took responsibility for what I discovered, it blew me away," Cinquemani said. "It's there for everybody, which is why I wrote my book. When you discover something like this, it's contagious. I'm not here to force my view on anyone, but I would love for them to find God this way."

(Katy J. Vopal can be reached at kvopal@conley.net.)

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by Paul Cinquemani

Submitted photo

"Oh My God!" was recently released by New Berlin author Paul Cinquemani. He said his goal for writing the book was to put God into terms that everyone can understand.