



“God is love’ is written upon every opening bud, upon every spire of springing grass. The lovely birds making the air vocal with their happy songs, the delicately tinted flowers in their perfection perfuming the air, the lofty trees of the forest with their rich foliage of living green—all testify to the tender, fatherly care of our God and to His desire to make His children happy.” *Steps to Christ*, p. 9.



Winter Gala a Success! —by Jeanine Goodwin

It is not often that we as a church family have the opportunity to meet together with our sister churches dressed in our “After 5” garb for a night on the town. However, that opportunity arose with the 1st Biennial Winter Gala, sponsored by the Your Bible Speaks Community Choir (YBSCC). This year’s hosts were our very own Pastor Louis and Mrs. Deborah Turner. We were blessed and amazed by the musical talents of Jaime Jorge (below), who



tore the place down with his rendition of the Lutheran hymn “A

Mighty Fortress,” and The Old Thyme Religion Singers (upper right), who took us back to the days when gospel music con-



sisted of more heart-felt, biblical lyrics and well-blended acapella harmonies. YBSCC also sang their version of the negro spiritual “Done Made My Vow to the Lord.” Guests attended from as far north as

Seattle, Washington to as far south as Sacramento, California. The event was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Downtown Portland, whose staff provided excellent service to each guest. YBSCC extends a special ‘thank you’ to Operation ReachBack, Inc., Portland Chap-



ter (right), and the North Pacific Union Conference Office of Regional Affairs (left) for their support and sponsorship of this grand event. The verdict is in: All who attended are already asking about the next winter gala! The planning for the Biennial Winter Gala 2013 has already begun, so please keep your eyes open for updates!

A Pastoral Thought

It was the cross, that instrument of shame and torture, which brought hope and salvation to the world. The disciples were but humble men, without wealth, and with no weapon but the word of God; yet in Christ's strength they went forth to tell the wonderful story of the manger and the cross, and to triumph over all opposition. Without earthly honor or recognition, they were heroes of faith. From their lips came words of divine eloquence that shook the world. {AA 77.1}

In Jerusalem, where the deepest prejudice existed, and where the most confused ideas prevailed in regard to Him who had been crucified as a malefactor, the disciples continued to speak with boldness the words of life, setting before the Jews the work and mission of Christ, His crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension. Priests and rulers heard with amazement the clear, bold testimony of the apostles. The power of the risen Savior had indeed fallen on the disciples, and their work was accompanied by signs and miracles that daily increased the number of believers. *Pastor Louis Turner*



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Children's Ministries on the Rise —by Paula Rogers

The month of May marks the first year of an exciting adventure that is taking place in our church: A Children's Ministry. For many months and maybe even years - until last May, our church was met with the challenge of having families with young children, but no consistent programs catered to their spiritual growth and enrichment. Now, we have a thriving Sabbath School program.

The children come and begin upstairs with their families singing songs and joining everyone in praying for the teachers. Then, at 10 am they come downstairs



and begin to engage in activities that are developmentally Bible based. There are things for every age group to

do. The lesson study begins just after 10:30 when we sing songs and go over the lesson for the appropriate age groups. At 11am we have closing prayer and sing our closing song, and the children are escorted upstairs and encouraged to walk "softly in the sanctuary" as they go to their families. Thank you families for waking up earlier to support this program and ultimately your children. We believe the blessings will be immeasurable as our little ones blossom.

We are pleased to report that our Sabbath School attendance has been steadily on the rise, and children are coming with expectations of fellowship, lessons, activities, music, and more. This past quarter we were



able to serve over 30 children between the ages of 1 and 12! With growth comes need...that being said, we are looking for volunteers who are willing to help us enhance this special ministry. Please contact us for volunteer opportunities. They range from purchasing occasional items, to making copies, to leading out in a special lesson or activity, to teaching Sabbath school, maybe even a VBS.

We are counseled: "The Bible is a guide in the management of children, and if parents desire, they may find a course marked out for the education and training of their children, that they may make no blunders...." Reflecting Christ, p. 181. This is great news! As we come to God for wisdom as to the needs of His precious lambs may we ever know that He will help us every step of the way!

Men's Ministry Plowing Ahead —by Tom Hall

Men's ministry is alive and well and has many activities planned for the year. The men have planned a monthly prayer meeting beginning April 9 where the men will come together and raise in prayer our church and church family concerns, joys and challenges. They will meet at the church at 8:30am on the second Sabbath of each month. The men will also be pre-

paring and serving dinner to the Mothers on Mothers' Day on Sabbath, May 7, as well as presenting the program for Fathers' day in June. A campout is planned for July 22-24 in the Sandy area, and finally to round out the year another retreat is planned for the first weekend in November. To enhance their individual relationship with their spouse or anticipated spouse, the men will study "Letters to

Young Lovers" by Ellen G. White. This promises to be an enlightening and rewarding study. The Men's Ministry is open to all and all are invited to our monthly prayer meeting and our monthly meeting which now meets on the fourth Sabbath after Church.



Notes from the Editor —by Sandraneta Hall



Your Bible in Action Newsletter reflects the essence of Your Bible Speaks Community Seventh-day Adventist Church in that our church is on the

move and steadily rising to higher heights. As is reflected in the first issue of 2011, our church is active with a number of ongoing ministries and community events. Just to name a few, the Every Good Gift... event in January, the Biennial Gala and the beautiful painting of



Women's Ministry Program



Economic Resource Center

the sanctuary in February, the Women's Ministry program and the conclusion of the first Full Plate Diet series in March, the release of the long awaited pictorial church directory, the launch of the

Economic Resource Center at the end of March, and the celebration of the one year anniversary of ORB's Portland Chapter, celebrated on Operation ReachBack Day, (4/9/11). The 2011 church programming is off to an admirable start, and we pray that the Lord is glorified in all that is accomplished. The Lord our God is all together lovely in every single way and it is an absolute honor and a privilege to serve HIM daily. Yes, "Together We Can ..." win souls for the kingdom of God by the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Operation ReachBack Presents “Every Good Gift...”



On January 15, 2011, Operation ReachBack, Inc. presented its first program of the year entitled “Every Good Gift...” James 1:17 states,

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of Lights with whom is no variation or shadow of turning. Each program presented the Portland Chapter of ORB is find creative ways to express to its audience the message of hope to a lost and dying



Gift of the Spoken Word

world. Gifts were demonstrated through music, the spoken word, interpretation, memorization, and instrumentation.



The Gift of Interpretation

God given talents used to glorify our wonderful Lord prove to enhance our



The Gift of Memorization
Stephanie Goodwin saying her ABC's

love for God even more, and win souls for God's kingdom. Please remember that every good gift is direct from heaven, from our loving God.

Operation ReachBack-Portland Chapter Celebrates 1st Anniversary



Exactly one year ago on April 23, 2010, Operation ReachBack, Inc. re-chartered a local chapter in the Portland area. The organization spearheaded the Family Literacy Center that launched on August 10, 2009 but formally organized as a local chapter last year April. During this time, Operation ReachBack has presented a number of outreach programs designed to communicate to the community that we are here to improve the infrastructure of our community by providing programs designed to serve the community and the church. During its first year, the Portland Chapter of Operation ReachBack has presented number of programs, such as the Visitor's day that featured Dr. Calvin Rock in April, The Community Fare in July, The Harvest Festival in October, and the Every Good Gift concert in January 2011. Most recently, Operation ReachBack launched an Economic Resource Program with a mission To educate, facilitate and empower individuals to financial freedom. On April 9, 2011, in



celebration of its first anniversary, the local chapter presented Operation ReachBack Day themed “Giving Back” with keynote speaker Jacquelyn Gates Shipe, Past President of the national organization of Operation ReachBack, Inc. Jacqui's message entitled “Giving Back beyond the Good Samaritan challenged us to reach stratospheric heights in service to our God because therein lies our true happiness. She later spoke about “Becoming a Citizen Diplomat” which encouraged us to reach out to others beyond our community. An awards ceremony followed the Divine Worship hour in recognition of the students, (many of whom are non-members of the church) who participate in training and tutoring at the Family Literacy Center. Jeanine Goodwin and Jacquelyn Gates Shipe received the coveted 2011 ORBY award for their consistent support and outstanding service to their community. Congratulations to the first year participants. *Sandraaneta Hall, President, ORB Portland Chapter*



Awards of Participation and Orby Awards



Operation ReachBack Board Members, J. Shipe and students recognized for program participation: Tina McGee, Gloria Olive, Jesse & Aloma Jarmon, Arthur Bennett Cherelle Brown, Chelsea Bishop, Flora Lewis, Aaron and Malachi



Japheth Burton



Deborah Turner

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COMING EVENTS...

Church Brunch—Coming soon!

Easter Sabbath—April 23, The Passion of the Christ. Special potluck and afternoon concert. Come join us and bring a friend or two!

Thank GOD for our mothers! Every year, the Women's Ministry team coordinates a special church service for Mother's Day, and this year is no different. We welcome back our guest speaker for the day, Dr. Carolyn Richardson. Come worship the LORD with us and let's celebrate our mothers. Sabbath, May 7th, at 11:30am.

Carwash Fundraiser—YBSCC is planning its second annual summer carwash. More details to come!

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS...

Prayer Meeting—We all need a mid-week recharge. Why not fuel up with prayer and a cup of faith? Join us every Wednesday evening from 7pm to 8pm for prayer, praise, and a dose of encouragement. There is also special prayer meetings every Sunday from 10:30 to 12:30. There is power in prayer!

Women's Ministry Bible Study- Beginning Wednesday, April 20, through the next eleven weeks.

Friday Night Vespers—Come and bring a friend to our study series held every Friday night from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Fitness and Fellowship Co-Op—Bi-weekly on Sunday at Peninsula Park Community Center from 2pm to 5pm. Enjoy games, basketball, tennis, and fitness walking! And yes, a glimpse into the spiritual with prayer and a worship thought. See Saffa Rogers or Shannon Goodwin for more information!

Sunday Morning Prayer—Every Sunday at 10:30. "Prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse." *Steps to Christ*, p. 94

1st Quarter Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to You!



Rhobert Shaw II - 1/10
Aloma Jarmon - 1/14
Jennifer Norgaard - 1/15
Jeremiah Billups - 1/20
Zelma Johnson - 1/23
Deborah Turner - 2/5
Tom Hall - 2/8
Herfa Zimmerman - 2/16
Kent Ewell - 2/18
Paula Rogers - 2/19
Doris Edwards - 2/20

Jean Ewell - 2/20
Vera Barnett - 2/27
Shannon Goodwin - 3/1
Blanch Haggar - 3/1
Kierra Branch - 3/10
Marjorie Jones - 3/18
Regina Hunt - 3/27
Margaret Milton - 3/29

Happy Anniversary!

Clyde & Doris Edwards - 1/1
Reginald & Flora Lewis - 2/14
Rhobert & JoYvonne Shaw - 3/21
Bernard & Faye Eason - 3/27

