Oakhurst Seventh-day Adventist Church

SENSLETTER

Volume 28, Number 9 October 2007

I know no other season So filled with warmth and cheer As on these bright October days When autumntime is here. The hills have turned from Summer's green To dazzling red and gold; The flower beds are brighter, too, So festive to behold!

The harvest yield is gathered in; God sends His gifts anew. Each roadside stand, a harvest fair That warms the heart of you.

The harvest yield is gathered in; God sends His gifts anew. Each roadside stand, a harvest fair That warms the heart of you.

A bluish haze on distant hills, The maple's scarlet flame; And oak trees dressed in Joseph-coats Stand guard along the lane.

Of all the seasons of the year, Each one with beauty blessed, I hold to Autumn's warmth and cheer – I like October best!

—Kay Hoffman

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Editor
Assembly/Mailing
Web Version
Columnists:

Pastor Steve Gayla Rumble Karen Bergh Rosalind Hansen Ken & Hope Graeff Irv Curtis/Leo Lutz

Ruby Christensen Ed Guzman Kathleen Franger Sept. 29 Randy Brehms

Sept. 21-Oct. 14 Creation Seminar, NF

Sept. 30 ABC Open House

Oct. 7 Krause Baby Shower

Oct. 12-14Adult Prayer Conference

Oct. 14-19 MBA Volunteer Project

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Oct. 21 Pathfinder Bike-a-thon



Let me ask you a question, when we get to heaven what will we spend the most time doing? If you ask my daughter Katie, she will tell you "petting animals". I plan to spend at least the first 100 years jumping off of tall things, smack the ground, and then laugh hysterically because it didn't hurt. Remember Rev. 21:4 says there won't be any more pain. Delinda is anxious to swim in the River of Life. I think if our baby Ashley was cognitive enough, she would tell you her idea of heaven is to be held and walked all the time.

Let me ask the question again. What will we spend the most time doing? I suggest we will spend most of our time with people—each other, In fact, when Jesus was on this earth to show us what the kingdom of heaven is all about, that's what He spent most of His time doing—hanging out with people. He went to where the people were. These weren't just "church people". Many of them didn't fit the typical religious context, but Jesus chose to spend his time with them. Not to be influenced by them, but so that He could influence them.

That's God's calling for his church. That's the model we find in the book of Acts of the early church. Acts 2:42 says, "They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer."

So if spending time together is what we will be doing in heaven, if that's what Jesus did while on this earth, and it's the example of the early church, I think it's the best thing to do now. Let's do life together.

May God bless you.

—Pastor Steve

Your Attention, Please!

North Fork Church Creation Seminar, 7:00 p.m., Sept 21- Oct. 14, Friday through Sundays only. Let's help support the North Fork meetings.

Musical Vespers Saturday evening, September 29, 6:00 p.m. Randy Brehms and his singing group "Reflections" will be presenting a program. CDs will be on sale after Sabbath.

Baby Shower for Colin & Stacey (Moore) Krause, Sunday, October 7, 1:00 p.m. in Holbrook Hall. They are registered (it's a boy!) at Target and Babies R Us. All are welcome. Please call Kathy Fagan 683-5210 or Marge Bacchus 683-7720 with RSVP.

Capital Campaign. If you would like regular information on the conference Capital Campaign including Wawona, Soquel, and the Education Endowment, send your name and address to the conference office or e-mail hgardner@cccsda.org.

Fall Open house and Truckload Food Sale will be on Sunday, Sept. 30 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the ABC

Adult Prayer Conference, "Global Rain Continues", Oct. 12-14. This will be held at the Ceres SDA Church in Ceres/Modesto area.

Youth Prayer Conference will be held at Bakersfield Adventist Academy, Oct. 25-28. This is for public high school and academy age youth. For more information, contact Jacob Gibbs.

October is Spirit of Prophecy Month at your ABC. Go on the web to www.adventistbookcenter.com or call 1-800-843-8585.

Monterey Bay Academy Volunteer Project, October 14-19. Come for one, two, or more days. Lodging and meals provided. RVs welcome. Skills needed include carpentry, concrete, electrical, painting, plumbing pruning, and willingness to help wherever needed. For more information and to register contact Caron Oswald, 559-347-3181 or e-mail to coswald@ccsda.org

CCC Job Opening. The Education Department is seeking a full-time administrative assistant. Must have strong computer skills, organizational skills, customer service skills, and understanding of budgeting and financial statements. Must have thorough understand of the Adventist education system. College degree preferred or equivalent in work experience. For more information, contact Human Resources 559-347-3042 by October 1.

Church Campus Alarm System: We have made a change in how our Church, Holbrook Hall and School alarm system functions. When arming or disarming the alarm system and the alarm goes off, it will no longer be required to call the Alarm Company and notify that them that it was accidentally triggered. All you have to do is to reset the alarm system. This will require that you first disarm the system and them rearm the system when you are ready to leave.

This change will become effective October 1, 2007. Also before you leave the facility and set the alarm, **PLEASE** walk around the outside of the building and check each door to make sure they are all tightly latched before you alarm the building.



Birthdays

October

1	Jackie Garcia	17	George Allen
1	Vicki Glazener	17	Fearn Hiten
1	Pat Runyan	18	Mary Hager
2	Danielle Linhares	19	Miriam Bergh
3	Darlene O'Neil	19	Jim Brown
5	Rachelle Isaac	21	Heinz Betat
5	Tim Rumble	25	Dick Burger
6	Raegan Broomfield	25	McKay Glines
9	Amberley Howe	27	Skye Burger
9	Kathy Villella	29	Hannah Harper
12	2 Bill Lapham	29	Bryan Isaac

November

(1st week)

- 4 Virgil Shipp 7 Ashley Howe
- 6 Chandra Shipp

Anniversaries

October

3 Rick and Jamie Sisco 4 Ed and Janet Hardy 8 Ed and Shirley Moore 9 Henry and Thelma Pombo 25 Shane and Jennifer Lyster 28 Glenn and Carrie Bowman

November

- 1 Gary and Bonnie Wilson 3 Wilbur and Sonia Brown
- 6 Gene and Irma Carpenter

PRAYER CORNER



"Intercession can be an important part of our prayer lives. The Holy Spirit can makes us aware of those we come in contact with who have hurting hearts. We need to ask God to make us sensitive to the needs of those He wants us to pray for. Of course, our families will have an important place in our prayer lives. Then perhaps we will want to pray for the neighbor whose husband has just left her, friends whose son is breaking their hear, the needs of a missionary friend in Africa. Federal, state and local officials should be included on our prayer list.

Intercession is still an important of the ministry of Jesus Today He is in the

Intercession is still an important of the ministry of Jesus. Today He is in the presence of God the father interceding on our behalf. Although Jesus' redemptive work on Calvary is finished His intercessory work for us continues. The Bible says "...He ever liveth to make intercession of (us)." Heb. 7:25

Millie E. Stamm .Prayer..talking with God p. 28

Hour of Prayer

Wed. 9:15-10-15 a.m. Church Office Karen Bergh

Praise and Prayer Time

Suspended during North Fork Creation Seminar. We will resume October19 at 6 p.m. (One hour earlier due to sunset.)

Prayer Ministries

Contact Persons:

Kathy Fagan: 683-5210 if you have a

request for the prayer chain

Karen Bergh: 683-4580 or **Don Bray:** 683-5440 if you have a personal request or interest in a prayer group.

Praise For—

Pastor's safety in travel
Safe return/health of Muirs, Janice & Tyrell
New babies in our congregation
New families joining our church
Successful beginning of a new school year
Scott Norman in remission

Pray For—

Those with health problems—

Lisa Menke	Mary Plumlee
June/Glen Bowen	Evelyn Maynard
Irene Frederico	Helen Aved
Pauline Hunter	Mim Schooley
Don Ericksen	Betty Axt
Kay Mickel	Eduardo Que
Linda Garlick	Bob Bowman
Miriam Bergh	Violet Cree
Kathy Brix	Darlene O'Neil
Evelyn Davis	Evelyn Young
Thomas Sisco	Rosalie Brown

Specific requests—

Don & Jo Ann Ericksen/new home available Creation Seminar in North Fork and follow up Lindsay, Alexi, & Jasmine at Mission College Sabrina at MBA

Bowman family in their loss
Mark, Trudy, & Jonah Squires in Nepal
"Missing" members to return
Those who God would have you reach
Ongoing Bible studies
Children/grandchildren

Tristan Smith, Scott Guthrie, Rick, Grant Bray, Greg Bray Merrilee Bray, Karen Wood, Billie Rankin, Tarik Rogers, Toby Peterson, Jon Grabast, Bob Dibble, Charlie Wiseman

Through prayer you can have an important in changing the world for God.

8:15-8:30 a.m. **Daily Pray with our school**

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auby's Ramblings FROM NOT SO FAR

Had a wonderful surprise visit just before moving from Orlando, from Lenora Follett, who was attending the same convention that Dick and Brenda were participating in. She is enjoying living in New England, chairing the Nursing Department at Atlantic Union College.

I'm adjusting as well as possible in Gramercy Court, here in Sacramento. Would love to see friends! If you're ever in this area, please stop by to say Hi! I had a wonderful weekend over Labor Day when Bruce, Sandy, Beth, and Jerry came to visit. They were able to get me to the shopping mall near by, and even to Central Sacramento Church on Sabbath to enjoy Pastor Doug Batchelor's preaching and a wonderful church service. Granddaughter Melissa stopped by Friday evening with her boyfriend which was so special! The roses are still blooming in the courtyard, which I enjoy immensely.

I love the thoughts printed on my physical therapy assistant's uniform: COMPASSION, LOVE, HOPE, AND FAITH.

"No matter what we may face, The Lord provides a place of peace, A place of hope, and best of all, His presence to see us through." —Avista (Colorado) Adventist Hospital Chaplain Becky Carlisle R.C.

Winston Churchill planned his own funeral, which took place in St. Paul's Cathedral in London. At one point in the service a bugler, positioned high in the dome, played "Taps." Then another bugler, stationed on the opposite side, played "Reveille."

—Felix A. Lorenz



If the autumn of life is half as lovely As the autumn of earth, I shall not grieve For the vanished days of a rapturous spring Nor beg for one moment of reprieve.

I have loved the snows of hawthorn and plum That rivaled the frost-flakes' mystic designs, But what of a world in crimson and gold With wild grapes spilling their purple wines!

And if winter shall come? I am content To leave my life in the hands of a God Whose mind could conceive the autumn of earth And star it with asters and goldenrod.

-Marion Doyle



The charm of crimson autumn leaves The hazy blue of skies, The voice of crickets in the grass, A bird that southward flies; And every year the miracle Of fruit on orchard trees. No painting ever was as fair, No sculpture equaled these. For man-made things grow quickly trite The best that he can do; But nature is the work of God And so forever new.

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—Lalia Mitchell Thornton

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Congratulations to Dustin and Angela Ginter. Makenzy Rose made her appearance on September 11 to join her proud parents. She weighed 6 pounds 12 ounces and was 201/2 inches long.

Many church members turned out to help Ericksens with preparations for and loading the truck for their move. They still do not have a house to move into, but will be visiting friends while they wait for a place to open. They say" A very special thank you to the many people who helped us during this moving process. We appreciated it so much.

Ed and Janet Hardy also say, "Thank you, Thank you! The hard work, love and care that pour out of this church are enormous. Than you for helping us on our journey to downsize."

The Brown Brothers had the church service on September 15. This is a group of Filipino men who have been singing together for 30 years. Eddie Mindoro is a member. Their music brought us a special blessing.

Bob Bowman passed away on Monday, August 27. A memorial service was held on September 8 in the Oakhurst SDA Church. A note from Glenn and Mary said "A most heartfelt thank you to all our church family for being so patient and understanding during the memorial service for Bob. We all know Bob is resting now until Jesus comes. Your cards and calls were a comfort to us. A special thanks to all who prepared food and helped with the fellowship luncheon."



Honduras Christmas Boxes

Honduras Christmas Boxes were distributed during the church worship on Sabbath September 22. There are still a few boxes remaining if you would like to take one home to fill with gifts for a child in Honduras. Call Tom or Calle or pick up your box on September 29.

Please return your filled box to the church on or before October 22 so it can be shipped to Honduras in time for Christmas.

A Teacher's Prayer

My Lord, I do not ask to stand As King or prince of high degree, I only pray that hand in hand A child and I may come to thee,

To teach a tender voice to pray, Two childish eyes Thy face to see, Two feet to guide in thy straight way— This fervently I ask of thee.

Oh, grant thy patience to impart Thy holy law, thy words of truth. Give, Lord, Thy grace, that my whole heart

May overflow with love for youth.

As step by step we tread the way, Trusting, and confident, and free— A child and I, day by day Find sweet companionship with thee.

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—The Sunday School World



"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." Proverbs 22:6, NIV

As a teacher, I have the awesome opportunity to partner with parents as we continue to lead children into a richer relationship with Jesus. All learning is important, but a relationship with our Forever Friend is essential! There are three exciting opportunities coming up in October for our students to participate in activities that, I believe, will challenge and enrich their spiritual lives.

First, we are "adopting" Alejandro Lozano, a 12-year-old orphan from Honduras, through the Mend-a-Child program. We will be working to raise \$50 a month to pay for Alejandro's education and we will be praying for him each day. We also hope to become e-pals with him.

Second, we have the wonderful opportunity to have the Youth Evangelism Team lead our fall Week of Prayer! We are looking forward to October 1-5 when we can enjoy the energy and dedication of the Team as they share their love of Jesus with us.

Third, we will be starting our Bible Lab program with Pastor Jacob. This will be a great opportunity for our students to experience God's love as they become His hands in our community. We are still looking for drivers to assist us twice a month for 2

hours. If interested, please contact Jacob Gibbs (760-8117).

The Board voted this month to make our Chapel, Week of Prayer, Art, Bible Lab, and P.E. programs as well as our Field Trips open to **Home Schoolers**. If you are interested in joining us, please give me a call at (559) 363-0487.

-Gayla Rumble

A NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Under another cover I am sending you today A merry little fellow with a most appealing way. He's never been away from me in all his years till now. And it is hard to tear this leaf from the parental bough. We know that you will smile at him, and by your kindness strive To show him life is pleasant for a little lad of five. The hours will drag until I hear his footsteps on the stair, And when he runs home every day, I will be waiting there. I know you cannot love him half so fervently as we, But he has special qualities as very soon you'll see. Who knows in the long years to come what wonders he may do, Because when he was a small boy he went to school to you!

—Annie Campbell

"Education is essentially a thing of the spirit. It is the responsive heart and the skilled hand. It is the quickened mind and the healthy body. It is the creative unfolding of the human life. It is the stuff from which come competent parents and responsible citizens. In its essential expression education has a fundamental spiritual quality."

—Don A. Orton

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The quilting project is moving ahead at lightening speed! You don't have to sew. We need helpers to pin and assemble the quilts. We're trying to get them ready to send to Honduras this fall. Please contact Gladys Petersen. Donations are especially needed to buy the quilt stuffing.

—Kathleen Franger

Department Reports

From Home & School

It's time to begin saving those Campbell's Soup labels, and Betty Crocker Box tops for Education coupons to help our school! Your help will assist us in buying new playground equipment. Please drop them in the Campbell's Soup container in the foyer of the church or at the school. Thank you!

Are you signed up for Raley's scrip program? Raley's will donate a portion of your dollars spent back to Oakhurst SDA School! If you haven't signed up, please contact Pat Curtis.

Von's also has an escrip program to help our school. Please visit www.backtoschool.escrip.com for details. You will need to enter your Von's Club card to participate.

Target has a school donation program too! If you have, and use your Target credit card, a portion of your purchase will be donated back to our school, if you designate it to be. Please check online at Target.com or at your local Target store.

Children's Ministries

Good help is always hard to find. Our children's divisions Sabbath School classes are in need of helpers. Please contact Kathy Brix or Jenny Lapham if you can help, even occasionally!

A SUCCESSFUL TEACHER NEEDS...

- —The education of a college president,
- —The executive ability of a financier,
- —The humility of a deacon,
- —The adaptability of a chameleon,
- —The hope of an optimist,
- —The courage of a hero,
- —The wisdom of a serpent,
- —The gentleness of a dove,
- —The patience of Job,
- —The grace of God, and
- —The persistence of the devil!

—Anonymous



Soyagen. Do you have any cans of Loma Linda Foods Soyagen (all-purpose soy beverage powder) that you would like to sell? If so, please call Violet Cree at 209-742-7940

Bear Country is located in the old 41 Trading Post building at 40571 Highway 41 across from Mio Amor Restaurant & Best Western. I carry Gifts, Home Decor and Toys. I am open 10:30 to 5:00 daily except for Sabbath and Tuesday. I am working with the landlord to get an Antique Mall going in the rest of the building. —Judi Guthrie

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September 17, 2007

- Recommended to church body transfers of membership.
 Incoming: Gary & Dee Dreyer from Mariposa, Tim, Gayla, & Lyssa Rumble from Chowchilla.
- Board recommendation: The restructure of the Church Financial records be completed by the end of year 2007 and that the 2007 records be submitted to the conference for audit.
- VOTED: Continue the \$50.00/month support of Manna House, and retroactively catch up on months missed.
- VOTED: Preliminary Budget of \$12,000 for the Jan/Feb Evangelistic meetings.
- Discussion on the Platform Set design: The platform set design will be changed from time to time and will reflect the changing of the seasons and other special themes such as the meetings in Jan/Feb. The loaned Plexiglas lectern has been returned to the North Fork church. VOTED: To purchase a new oak lectern.
- Mend-A-Child: Tom Wieg introduced this new project that will help the Pan American Health Service in Honduras finance the education of the children in their care.
- "Kids in Discipleship" training program: Introduced by Irv Curtis, Kids in Discipleship (KIDS) is a ministry in local churches, specially designed for

families and focused on children, to disciple kids to Jesus and to empower each child to use his or her gifts in worship, ministry, and mission. A survey of the Board Member's level of interest in the program was taken. (You will be hearing a lot more about this exciting program in the next few weeks and months.)

- CALENDAR ISSUES: Baby Shower for Stacey Krause, October 7, Holbrook Hall.
- Board Members Survey: The results of Natural Church Development will be brought to the board for discussion and follow-up.
- The Student Assistance Committee reported, 4 students are being helped this school year by the Student Assistance Fund.
- It was requested that the church office be informed if items are to be delivered to church so someone can be there and know they should be accepted.

TOO BUSY TO GET OLD

My body may age, but my mind will stay young; I've much left to do,

many songs to be sung.

Many roads to be traveled, much love to express;

Many souls that need aid, who are now in distress.

I will do what I can,

to help brighten your day;

I will spread cheer and love as I pass by your way.

The world is my oyster, to have, to hold;

Why, I'm really too busy to ever grow old!

-Author unknown

Oakhurst Mountaineers

The Pathfinder year is off and running, or riding may be more accurate. It is Bike-a-thon time again. Our Pathfinder year starts off with the one main fundraiser and teambuilding event of the year. The club will again travel to the Famosa Raceway north of Bakersfield to join the other clubs throughout the conference to ride their hearts out for the cause. It is a 2.5 mile closed course, with the final leg running straight down the drag strip at the raceway. It is always fun... well mostly fun anyway.

As is our tradition, we will continue singing at the Oakhurst Convalescent hospital after potluck on the first Sabbath of each month. Everyone is welcome to join us. We receive our own blessing when we give in song this way.

Our first honor of the year is the Livestock honor, being taught jointly by Roland Ott and Alison Guzman. Roland was raised on the farm and brings a wealth of great experiences and stories to share. Alison is a budding farm girl with her own collection of animals including chickens, a pigmy goat, a donkey and two dogs and a cat. The honor culminates with a field trip to Alison's farm for a hands-on experience with her animals.

Later this year we will again participate in the Camporee and the Pathfinder Fair. If you know anyone between the ages of 9 and 16 who would like a Christian fellowship experience while learning new and fun

things, have them contact Ed Guzman, 658-8582 (director), Thelma Pombo, 641-6050 (girls director), or Gary Shipp 683-7913, (boys director). The club meets every Wednesday evening from 5:30 to 7:00.

—Ed Guzman

WHY I DO NOT ATTEND THE MOVIES

"Mulling over the time-worn excuses people give for not going to church, two Protestant preachers compiled a list of reasons which could also apply to the theater:

- 1. The manager of the theater never called on me.
- 2. I did go a few times, but no one spoke to me. Those who go there aren't very friendly.
- 3. Every time I go they ask me for money.
- 4. Not all folks live up to the high moral standards of the films.
- 5. I went so much as a child. I've decided I've had all the entertainment I need.
- 6. The performance lasts too long; I can't sit still for an hour and three quarters.
- 7. I don't always agree with what I hear and see.
- 8. I don't think they have very good music.
- 9. The shows are held in the evenings, and that's the only time I am able to be at home with the family."

—Newsweek

Child training—

When we get to the place where we pay more attention to the high chair,

—we will pay less attention to the electric chair.

-Warden Lawes of Sing Sing

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Food for Thought

From the Letters to the Editor of the Adventist Review, September 13, 2007: "Mark Kellner got it right in his August 9 editorial 'Not Easily Offended.' I have been part of congregations ranging from 50-800 members, and in each of them there has been no shortage of temper tantrums. They go something like this: 'I don't like that music, so I'm leaving this church!' or "I don't like the pastor, so he has to be removed!' or 'I don't like how the church budget is appropriated, so I'm just not going to give!' It seems like the new stamp of a 'good SDA' is to piously voice disgust and offense, which in turn contaminates the entire church, and is often followed by a quick yet eventful disappearance from the offending church.

"The truth is that we have to exist in a world where we don't agree with all that surrounds us. Likewise, we have to coexist in church families with fellow Christians whom we don't entirely agree with without behaving in a reactive and offensive/offended manner. We can disagree on, discuss, and even 'hash-out' matters that burden us. But in the end, the quicker we transition out of our perpetual state of offense the clearer the message to our heavenly Father that we are indeed ready for His coming."

Back to the August 19 editorial, Mark Kellner states; "I've long said, and still -Page 10-

maintain, that Galatians 6:10 is one of the least-worn-out verses for many Christians: 'Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.'

"Instead of jumping to take offense, how about leaping to love?



An Interesting Twist

In a small mid-western (conservative) town, a new bar/tavern started to build a place of business. Hearing about the plans, the local Baptist church started a campaign to block the bar from opening with petitions and prayers.

Work progressed, however, right up until the week before opening, when a lightning strike hit the bar and it burned to the ground.

The church folks became rather smug in their outlook after that, until the bar owner filed suit against the church on the grounds that it was ultimately responsible for the demise of his building, either through direct or indirect actions or means.

The church vehemently denied all responsibility or any connection to the buildings demise in its reply to the court.

As the case made its way into court, the judge looked over the paperwork at the hearing and commented, "I don't know how I'm going to decide this, but it appears from the paperwork that we have a bar owner that believes in the power of prayer, and an entire church congregation that doesn't!"



On Sabbath September 22, the "Menda-Child" program was presented to the church family during the worship service. "Mend-a-Child" was conceived after several short term mission visits to the Pan American Health Service in Pena Blanca, Honduras. This incredible institution has been supplying needy children and their families in the Lake Yojoa region with food and educational opportunities for over 40 years. Having witnessed these unselfish acts personally, we felt compelled to partner with the PAHS in meeting the needs that continue to press upon them. So the idea came to give people here in the U.S. the opportunity to help "mend a child" by giving monthly towards the care and education of one particular child.

Your monthly donations will help lift a child out of the pit of poverty and provide for a hopeful future. Your tax-deductible donation to "Mend-a-Child" will fund your special child. You will receive regular correspondence and learn first hand of their progress in school. Thank you for taking a child under your wing and giving them an opportunity to break free from the continuing cycle of poverty and ignorance.

"If every man would mend a man the whole world would be mended"

—Dr. Stephen Youngberg

If you were absent from church on the 22^{nd} , there is still opportunity to be a part of this endeavor. To sponsor a child or for further information, just call Tom or Calle Wieg at 209-966-4918.

"Pain makes man think. Thinking makes man wise. Wisdom makes life endurable." —John Patrick

"Education is essentially a thing of the spirit. It is the responsive heart and the skilled hand. It is the quickened mind and the healthy body. It is the creative unfolding of the human life. It is the stuff from which come competent parents and responsible citizens. In its essential expression education has a fundamental spiritual quality."

—Don A. Orton

"God's Truth: Even our tormentors are worthy of our love. Satan's Lie: Victims have a right to seek revenge."

—Anonymous

A special thanks to Ruby Christensen for the poems and quotes used in this issue.