

Oakhurst Seventh-day Adventist Church

NEWSLETTER

Volume 28, Number 11
December 2007



IF YOU LOOK FOR ME AT CHRISTMAS—

You won't need a special star—
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem,
I'm right there where you are.
You may not be aware of Me
Amid the celebrations—
You'll have to look beyond the stores
And all the decorations.
But if you take a moment
From your list of things to do
And listen to your heart, you'll find
I'm waiting there for you.
You're the one I want to be with,
You're the reason that I came,
And you'll find Me in the stillness
As I'm whispering your name.

Love, Jesus

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JESUS

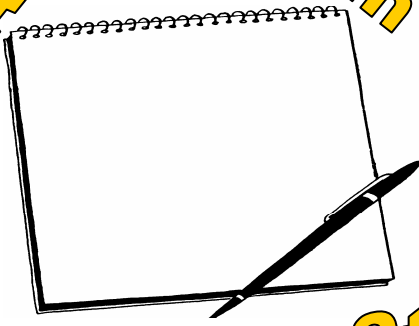
There He lies in unseen glory
Just beginning His love story
Snuggled in a manger bed
Mary's little sleepyhead

King of kings without a throne
Born to rule our hearts alone
Clad in swaddle, yet divine
Come to claim your heart and mine.
—Margaret Peterson

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Dates to put on your calendar—
Dec. 3 College Career Seminar
Dec.6 Manna House bell ringing
Dec.8 Church Holiday Fellowship Dinner
Dec. 9 Rummage/boutique/bake sale
Dec. 12 Cookie baking social
Dec.13 Manna House bell ringing
Dec. 17 Church Board Meeting
Dec. 19 School Christmas Program
Dec. 25 Merry Christmas!

A note from



Pastor Steve

Hello church...

Here we are smack dab in the middle of the holiday season. A time to reflect on what God has given us, celebrate the birth of our Savior, and don't forget the list of New Year's resolutions.

It's an important time of year because it forces me to consider what are the most important things in life. You see, my priorities become people oriented. Family members, friends, and people in my community become central to my thoughts, I begin to think of friends I have not talked to in a long time and try to make contact with them—just to say “hello” and let them know I was thinking of them. Delinda and I block out time in our calendar to travel and spend time with loved ones. It's a priority for us.

It's also a time when I look forward to the second coming of Jesus because its painfully obvious at family reunions that some are missing because of death and I long to see them again.

You see it's the holiday season that really brings life into perspective for me. It makes the things that are most important in my life clear to me.

I wonder what life would be like if we lived it with these priorities all year long, rather than just during the holiday season. Come to think of it, that's sounds like a good New Year's resolution.

Happy Holidays.

—Pastor Steve

Your Attention, Please!

College Careers and Learning Styles Seminar, Monday, Dec. 3, Holbrook Hall, 10:30-7:30 p.m. This will be helpful for all persons desiring to attend college next year. For more details, see flyer on Bulletin Board.

Manna House Bell Ringing. Our church is committed to ringing bells on Thursdays, Dec 6 & 13, from 10 a.m. to noon; noon to 2 p.m., 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Vons & Raley's. If you can help, please contact Charlie Chavez 209-742-4839.

Church Holiday Fellowship Dinner, Sabbath, Dec. 8. In Holbrook Hall. Please bring your family's favorite holiday dish to share.

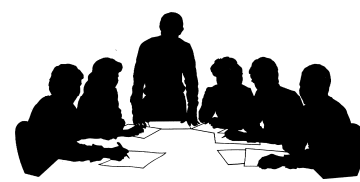
Rummage, Boutique & Bake Sale, Sunday, Dec. 9, 8:00-3:00 pm. Invite your family and friends. Beautiful arts and crafts and yummy baked goods. Please help by donating your special creations or **Women!** Come share in a holiday cookie baking social! Bring your favorite recipe, ingredients, tools (cookie sheets, etc), and a bag lunch on Wednesday, Dec. 12 at Holbrook Hall, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. At the end, we'll be sharing all the treats we've made so your holiday cookie packages will be all ready to go. For more information, please contact Janet Hardy 760-9730.

Thank you to everyone who donated goods for the Thanksgiving baskets. A special thanks to the Pathfinders for all their time and hard work. Many families will be blessed because of your generosity.

Ruby Christiansen's Birthday Celebration/Reception. Dec. 30, 2-4 pm, at Gramercy Court, 2200 Gramercy Dr., Sacramento, CA 95825. If unable to share your birthday wishes in person, she'd love being showered with birthday cards.

Men's Ministry: Sunday Night Football at the Franger's. Some snacks provided. Bring some to share. Contact Will Franger 658-8705 if interested.

Get in the Game, a Bible Study Training Program, continuing each Sabbath afternoon at 2:30 through December. This is an exciting and intense training program where you will learn how to be a more effective soul winner for Jesus.



Day of Prayer. North American Division's Day of Prayer is January 5. This is a 24-hour prayer vigil with a variety of opportunities for participation, so mark your calendars from sundown Friday to sundown Sabbath. Watch for details in the bulletin.

FAMILY COUNCIL

November 19, 2007

- **TREASURER REPORT:** Irv presented a Financial Summary, January-October 2007. **VOTED:** Accept report.
- **CHURCH DOOR LOCKS:** Charles Chavez obtained bids and proceeded with Phase 1. **VOTED:** approve \$1722.00 for phase 1. Bid obtained for \$1730.00 for outside Sabbath School rooms, Side Sanctuary door, Prophecy Room Door. **VOTED:** Check prices on Internet, Irv and Jim Gilbert will buy 1 set of hardware and come back with more estimates. School bid: \$1649.00. No action taken.
- **Upcoming Events: Dependences Recovery Class:**
- Jacob Gibbs reported orientation will be Thursday, January 3, 2008, and run through Sunday January 6, 2008. All addictions are welcome. Health facts and spirituality will be stressed. The 5 nights will end with an invitation to our Evangelistic Meetings. Posters and flyers are being sent out.
- **Evangelistic Meetings:** January 11-February 2008. "Experience Prophecy" We can take advantage of free Public Service Announcements on radio station.

Celebrate!

Birthdays

December

2 Kevin Glazener	16 Linda Jeffries
2 Lauren Lapham	17 John Lutz
3 Beth Broomfield	17 Paul Lutz
3 Esther Mindoro	19 Michael Olson
3 Jeremy Shipp	21 Shane Lyster
4 Raquel Garza	23 Marge Bacchus
5 Barbara Hayen	25 Hope Graeff
9 Linda Garlick	26 Aaron Matlock
9 Harley Glines	27 Julie Givens
10 Kathleen Lutz	28 Ken Graeff
10 Virginia Sevey	29 Ruby Christensen
15 John Scharffenberg	29 Christie Shipp
15 Julie Wrona	30 Olivia Pombo

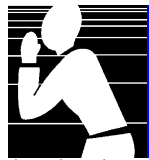
January

(1st week)

3 Bonnie Wilson	7 Linda Matlock
5 Mia Valentine	



PRAYER CORNER



If God “wondered” at the lack of intercessors in Isaiah's time, what must be his “wonder” at the little prevailing prayer that is among us today when so few stir themselves up to take hold of God. See Isaiah 64:7. Writing of the apostles, one has said, “They did not ask for a blessing for themselves merely. They were weighted with the burden of the salvations of souls...they claimed the power that Christ had promised.” Acts of the Apostles, p. 37. Then it was that the Holy Spirit was poured out and thousands were converted in a day. So it may be now. Let Christians put away all dissension and give themselves to God for the saving of the lost. Let them ask in faith for the promised blessing and it will come. Souls are to be sought for, labored for. Earnest appeals are to be made. Fervent prayers are to be offered. Tame, spiritless petitions are to be changed into petitions of intense earnestness.

Prayer Power, J. L. Tucker

Hour of Prayer

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

Karen Bergh

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.

“God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you.” 1 Sam 12:23

Praise For—

Evelyn Young and Thomas Sisco continued improvement
Safe arrival Cole Eddy-Lee Krause
Andrew Wieg recovering without surgery

Pray For—

Those with health problems—

Lisa Menke	Mary Plumlee
Glen Bowen	Evelyn Maynard
Irene Frederico	Helen Aved
Pauline Hunter	Mim Schooley
Don Ericksen	Betty Axt
Kay Mickel	Eduardo Que
Linda Garlick	Rosalie Brown
Miriam Bergh	Evelyn Davis
Kathy Brix	Darlene O’Neil
Thelma Pemberton	Andrew Wieg

Specific requests—

Burger family in the loss of Dick
Prayer life of our church
Bowen/Finneman families in their loss
Safety in travel for our families during holiday travel
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

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“When with earnestness and intensity we breathe a prayer in the name of Christ, there is in that very intensity a pledge from God that He is about to answer our prayer, "exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think.” *Christ Object Lessons*, p 146

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

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Congratulations to Colin and Stacey Krause on the safe arrival of baby Cole Eddy-Lee Krause. He was born on November 7 at 2:07 p.m. He weighed in at 7 pounds 12 ounces, and was 21 inches long. His father says he is a "Mamma's boy". He is doing well and will have a visit from his Krause grandparents, who live in Nebraska, for an early Christmas next month.

A birthday party for Mim Schooley was held on November 11 at Vin and Sherry Root's home in North Fork. A number of church members and other friends came to help Mim celebrate.

Ericksens have moved into their new home. Their address and phone number:

11075 Benton Street, #128

Loma Linda, CA 92354

909-796-6596

Thank you to the men who finished roofing Holbrook Hall and to the ladies who provided lunch.

Thanks to the Home and School for the spaghetti dinner provided before the Church Family Council Meeting.

The church family was shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden death of Dick Burger on November 14. Dick had been walking and talking with Eddie Mindoro and became short of breath. Eddie called 911 and the paramedics were there in a very short time, but there was nothing they could do. The next thing Dick will know, he will see Jesus. A memorial service was held at the Oakhurst Church on November 17. To Skye and the rest of the family we extend our sympathy.

Thelma Pemberton, former member, has been diagnosed with multiple myeloma. Remember her in your prayers.

Andrew Wieg had an accident on his motorcycle two weeks before Thanksgiving. He broke his collarbone and severely ruptured his spleen. After 8 days of careful monitoring in the hospital, he was allowed to go home, without having surgery, where he is continuing to improve. Calle, who is in Loma Linda with him, will be bringing him home the end of the first week of December if all goes well.

George Johnson, Special Projects Director for CCC and Gospel Outreach representative for their Adventures in mission program, had a special Sabbath School program on November 24. He shared how the work is moving forward quickly in Pakistan, the impact Central California youth have made in serving in Pakistan and how these young people continue to impact the CCC in home and foreign missions. He also officiated at the baby dedication of Ashley Hamilton during the 11 o'clock service.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

THANKSGIVING BASKETS. Thanks to everyone who gave, prepared, and delivered our Thanksgiving baskets. All were blessed. All food and clothing donations for future needs can be brought to the Community Services room.

RUMMAGE SALE. Sunday, December 9 is our rummage, boutique, bake sale in Holbrook Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Everything from A to Z. Bring your donations and boutique items to the Community Services room from now through Friday, December 7. Bring baked goods to Holbrook Hall Sabbath, December 8 or Sunday, December 9 before 9:00 a.m. Come and enjoy shopping, eating, and fellowship.

Ruby's Ramblings

FROM NOT SO FAR

FROM NOT SO FAR

So many things have happened in this past year, and we have so much to be grateful for: Hearing from and seeing family and friends and knowing our best Friend, Jesus; having daughter Beth (and Jerry) come quickly, giving loving support when I had to make a surprise visit to the hospital early November for a stroke; having daughter Brenda (and Dick) come home early from Maranatha trip to Africa to be a support; hearing from granddaughter Malora, working on an organic garden farm in Hawaii, who got to swim with dolphins right out in the ocean!; having daughter Becky come from Colorado to spend Thanksgiving together; having new friends in nursing staff and therapy dept. at Gramercy Court Nursing Home/Sacramento.

“May the Infant Savior bring Love and Peace to your heart and home at Christmas and bless you the year through.”

R.C.

“Lest we forget, another important day in December is the 7th, Pearl Harbor Day, when many lives were given to defend our freedom.”

CHRISTMAS BY THE CUPFUL

A heaping cup of happiness,
2 of love and caring,
1 of understanding,
1 of joyful sharing.
A level cup of wisdom,
1 of artful living,
1 of thoughtful insight,
1 of selfless giving.
Mix ingredients together,
Toss in a little flair,

Serve to everyone you know
Topped with a tiny prayer.
May every measure of happiness
Be yours this Christmastime!
—Pat and Mike Houston

THE MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS

The wonderment—in a small child’s eyes,
The ageless awe—in the Christmas skies,
The nameless joy—that fills the air,
The throngs that kneel—in praise and prayer...

These are the things—that make us know
That men may come—and men may go,
But none will—ever find a way
To banish Christ—from Christmas Day...
For with each child—there’s born again

A Mystery that baffles men.

—Helen Steiner Rice

CAN YOU NAME THAT YULETIDE SONG?

1. Listen to the celestial messengers produce harmonious sounds.
2. Embellish the interior passageways.
3. Twelve o’clock on a clement night witnessed its arrival.
4. The Christmas preceding all others.
5. Small municipality in Judea south of Jerusalem.
6. Omnipotent supreme being who elicits respite in distinguished males.
7. Nocturnal time span of unbroken quietness.
8. Obese personification fabricated of compressed mounds of minute crystals.
9. Tintinnabulation of vacillating pendulums in inverted, metallic, resonant cups.
10. In awe of the eventide characterized by religiosity.



Secret Sisters, it's time to *reveal* your identity. Come and join us on Thursday, Dec. 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Comm. Services Room. Please bring a plate of cookies to exchange and an ornament for your Secret Sister. For more information, contact Kathleen Franger 658-8705.

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What a nice way to say "Thank you" to one of our soldiers this holiday season! Your Women's Ministry is asking you to send a few extra Christmas Cards to the following:

**A Recovering American Soldier**  
C/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center  
6900 Georgia Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20307-5001

Make someone's holiday extra special

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We'd like to say a very warm *Thank You* to all of you who supported our *Quilts for Tots* project. During the past 8 months, we were able to create almost 90 handmade blankets—quilted, knit and crocheted—for our children in Honduras. Know you have helped keep them warm this winter.

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Want to give a special gift to a friend or loved one? Consider the 2007 Women's Ministry Cookbook. Still available for only \$10. Sign-up sheets are on the Missions Desk in the church foyer.

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Valentine's Day is just around the corner and your Women's Ministry committee has chosen a new project—"From Our Heart to Yours!" This program will be preparing boxes to send to our soldiers in the Middle East war. Please watch for more

information on how you can help us bring Valentines smiles to our troops!

—Kathleen Franger

Texas Manor Fruitcakes. Red cherries, hearty chunks of pineapple, tasty pecans, golden raisins—and you thought fruitcakes were dry? Not these! You have to try the Texas Manor fruitcakes being offered through your Home and School committee Rich with Texas pecans and filled with a wonderfully moist cake—they come in two sizes, a 1 lb 14 oz ring in a decorative tin for \$19 or a 14 oz loaf for only \$9. You'll be proud to give these as holiday gifts! Please see the sign-up sheets on the Mission Desk in the church foyer.

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**Calendars.** The school is also selling beautiful 2008 wall calendars with gorgeous pictures highlighting scripture and boxes big enough to hold all your appointments. For only \$6 they make a wonderful holiday or hostess gift. Please see the sign-up sheets and a sample on the Mission Desk in the church foyer.

## OAKHURST MOUNTAINEERS

It has been a couple months since our last update. The club continues to be busy. Just before Thanksgiving the club distributed over a hundred empty shopping bags around Oakhurst with instructions asking people to fill them with non-perishable food items. We then went back and collected them. The collected food went to our Community Services cupboard.

In October the club traveled to the Famosa Speedway in Kern County to participate in the annual Bike a thon. Our sincere thanks to those of you who sponsored riders. We traveled down to Famosa Sabbath afternoon October 20 after potluck. The kids arose at 6:00

a.m. Sunday morning and were on the track at 7:00 a.m.

The goal was at least 50 miles per rider. Most did better, a few fell short, but everyone had a great time. There was a great personal triumph for Jared Shipp who conquered the skill of riding a two-wheeler without assistance! The kids enjoyed the ride and they enjoyed the fellowship of more than 1,000 Pathfinders from throughout the conference gathered together for fun and fellowship.

At our club meeting we recently completed the coursework for the Wildlife honor and are now working on model rocketry. Later this year we will be working on First Aid and Art. Right now, in addition to the work on our honors, we are preparing to defend our championship at the last two Bible Bowl Bible knowledge events. We are working to bring home the trophy for the third consecutive year. This year the emphasis is on the books of Exodus and Mark.

Now that the Christmas season is upon us, we plan to go caroling later in December. Watch the bulletin for the date and time as we welcome all willing voices to join us. On behalf of the Oakhurst Mountaineers, we thank you for your continued support of our club and we wish you a blessed Christmas!

—Ed Guzman



**Merry  
Christmas**



*“For unto us a Child is born ...And His name shall be called Wonderful.”*

From Isaiah 9

It's that time of year—the time of year when the light in a child's eyes reminds us of the Child who was the Light of the World!

With a short vacation for Thanks-giving behind us, we are gearing up for the rush to Christmas vacation. Besides getting our schoolwork completed for the last three weeks of second quarter, we will be practicing for our Christmas program. After the great job the students did with Pastor Jacob on the illustration for the Scripture reading, I'm looking forward to work on our program. We have some “naturals” in our class when it comes to acting!

Our Christmas Program will be on December 19, at 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend. The students will be working hard to make this a wonderful part of the Christmas season. We hope to see you there!

Christmas break will begin at noon on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December.

Home and School has announced a fundraiser. If you haven't had a chance to order a Texas Manor Fruitcake for your holiday celebration, call one of the students and they will be happy to help you. The fruitcakes also make wonderful gifts. We are also selling calendars with beautiful nature pictures printed on heavy cardstock.

-Page 8 These are also a great gift idea.

Happy Holidays!

—Gayla Rumb