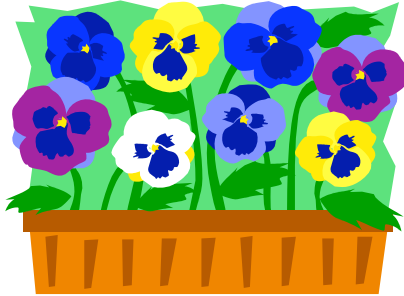


Oakhurst Seventh-day Adventist Church

NEWSLETTER

Volume 29, Number 4
April 2008



Anticipating Spring

When Wintertime seems very long,
Remember comes the robin's song;
As well as flowers in glorious bloom,
As wiped away is Winter's gloom.

Our lives are as the seasons go,
A time to rest and time to grow;
And Spring personifies the Christ
Who broke the bonds of death's dark
strife!

So let us neither weep nor wane,
Because the skies will smile again;
And when we feel the weight of care,
Remember God is always there!

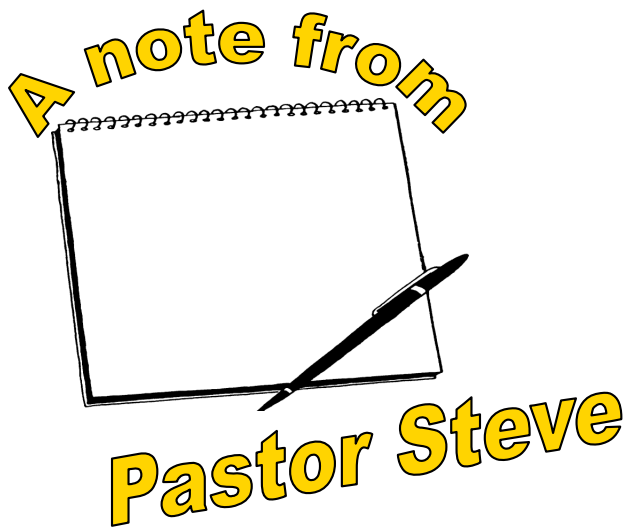
—Sancie Earman King

THE MIRACLE OF SPRING

This is the glorious Springtime,
The season of rebirth,
God's promise of eternal life,
Everywhere on earth.
The time of resurrection,
The miracle of Spring,
Beauty all around us,
To make our hearts just sing.
--Ruth Moyer Gilmour

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Hello church...

I can't believe how time flies. I remember when I was a kid; I would hear my parents talking about things in the past. Inevitably one of them would say something like, "I can't believe that was ten years ago. Time flies!"

As a kid I couldn't understand it, but the older I get, the more I find myself repeating the words I heard them say. "Time flies!"

This month Katie turns four and Ashley will be one year old. It's hard to believe!

The more I think about it the more urgent the words of Rom. 13:11-14 seem.

Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.

The night is almost gone, and the day is near Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunken-ness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.—NASB

May these words be the reality that we live by so that one day in eternity we can say to each other "I can't believe that's been 10,000 years ago. Time flies!"

May God bless you as you enjoy every moment.

—Pastor Steve

YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE!

Pastor Steve has a new, local cell phone number. It is 760-3285.

SOLO BC will meet the second Sunday of every month from 2:00-4:00. Single ladies of all ages are welcome. Come laugh and fellowship with us! In April, on the 13th we will meet at Victoria Glines' home, 40902 Hodges Hill Rd. Call Victoria if you need directions 683-8848 or cell 760-1281.

Community Band Spring Concert will be April 6 at 3 p.m. at the High School Performing Arts Theater.

Nature Walk. Weather permitting; there will be a nature walk at Willow Creek in Bass Lake on April 19. We will leave Holbrook Hall parking lot at 1:30

Men's Bible Study is starting again. We will be meeting on Tuesday, April 8 at 7 p.m. in the church community services room to discuss the Men's Bible Study. Questions like: "How often should we meet?" "Where should we meet?" "What should we study?" will be discussed. Come and lend your ideas.

"The flowers appear on the earth, the time of pruning the vines has come, and the song of the dove is heard in our land."

Song of Songs 2:12

Your Attention Please, Con't.

Celebrate! Grace Dean's birthday—79 ½ on June 22, 2008—at the Carmichael SDA church from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Please contact daughter Sandra Dean-Stanley at 1-888-316-8919. They would love to see all her friends there.

Children's Ministry Certification and VBS training seminar weekend **April 25-27** at the CCC Conference office in Clovis. If you're involved in any aspect of Children's Ministries and want to consider attending, please contact Kathleen Franger, 658-8705, for registration details.

Children's Bible Storybooks. There is a need for the children's storybooks that have simple Bible stories with illustrations such as Uncle Arthur's. The Bible workers are using them as a Bible study aide for illustrations. If you have a set and would like to donate it to the church, please contact Lindsey Pratt, 209-743-6155. Thank you.

Collegiate Bible Study. Collegiates, you won't want to miss out on this. Friday Nights between 7:00-8:30 pm in the Youth Room will be a Bible Study on different topics from money management to trust in God. So...bring your Bible and friends and we'll see you there. If you have any questions feel free to call Raquel Rodriguez at (559) 760-2238.

Loma Linda University Friends and Family 7-day cruise to the Mexican Rivera, August 10-17, 2008, with optional 6 CEU credits for all Radiation Technologists (Radiography, Ultrasound, Radiation Therapy, Nuclear Medicine, CT, MRI), Respiratory Therapists, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners,

Pharmacists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Speech Therapists, Dieticians, Social Workers and Chaplains. Call Cheryl at University Travel (909) 796-8344 to reserve your cabin. Inside cabins start at \$769. Call Shani at (909) 558-4931 to Register for CEUs.

Celebrate!

Birthdays

April

3 Will Franger	19 Katie Hamilton
4 Marland Hansen	24 Jennifer Burns
6 Rosalind Hansen	24 Justin Vecchiarelli
8 M. Hollingsead	26 Helga Folkes
8 Bob Kiser	26 Peggy Kail
8 Thomas Sisco	28 Mabel Folkes
11 Carissa Shipp	28 Evelyn Muir
13 Jackson Glines	28 Mike O'Neil
14 Sonia Brown	29 Caitlyn Bowman
17 Gladys Peterson	29 Shalyna Burns
18 Alison Guzman	30 Norman Chenowith
30 Kathleen Franger	

May

(1st week)

1 Marguerite Francis	7 Sydney Lapham
1 Sonny Garcia	7 Elizabeth Pombo
7 Jeff Burns	7 Morgan Wrona

Anniversaries

April

7 Don and Jo Ann Ericksen
17 Eric and Debbie Vecchiarelli
18 Ron and Kathy Brix
28 Vin and Sherry Root

May

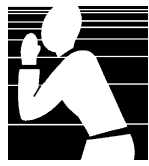
(1st week)

4 John and Darlene Herr

"As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord God make justice and praise spring up before all nations."

Isaiah 61:11

PRAYER CORNER



There is nothing, absolutely nothing that the devil dreads so much as prayer, real prayer. "Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees," the hymnist William Couper wrote. The devil's chief concern is to keep the people of God's church from praying. It has been said truly, "Satan trembles when we pray."

Prayer is power. Real prayer can do anything God can do. The prayer of faith moves the arm of Omnipotence. "Why should the sons and daughters of God be reluctant to pray, when prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse, where are treasured the boundless resources of Omnipotence?" *Steps to Christ*, p. 94. Prayer keeps us in the current of God's love, and the power is the current. Real prayer is power. "Prayer changes things," and it changes men

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.

Praise For—

Fearn Hiten's healing
Pastor's safe trip to Moab, Utah
Beautiful spring weather
Fellowship with our Family in Christ

Pray For—

Those with health problems—

Lisa Menke	Mary Plumlee
Glen Bowen	Evelyn Maynard
Irene Frederico	Helen Aved
Pauline Hunter	Mim Schooley
Fearn Hiten	Betty Axt
Kay Mickel	Eduardo Que
Linda Garlick	Rosalie Brown
Miriam Bergh	Evelyn Davis
Kathy Brix	Darlene O'Neil
Thelma Pemberton	Marge Bacchus
Barbara Hayen	Gerry Shipp
Jeri Kolstad	Evelyn Young
Joy Kiser	Violet Cree

Specific requests—

Irv and Pat Curtis traveling in Europe.
The Holy Spirit will draw us individually and collectively into Grace, Growth, & Gifts.
Those studying following the Evangelistic Meetings.
Evangelistic Meetings in North Fork.
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

.....

I pray that we may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:18

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

Ruby's Ramblings

FROM NOT SO FAR

HAPPY SPRING to each of you! This is my favorite time of year, and I'm enjoying so very much the flowering trees and flowers, and eagerly await the roses to bloom again here at Gramercy Court.

Friday, March 28, was proof that dreams do come true. Tyrell McKenzie, who amazed me, time and again, with his quick ability to learn, as I was privileged to be his first piano teacher, came to Gramercy Court on this day, here in Sacramento, to give a concert. The residents and staff were blessed by his beautiful and varied program, sharing songs on piano, organ and trumpet. At my request, Janice Britton, and daughter Brenda shared some vocal music too. What a high day for me!

I'm proud to announce that my newest great-grandchild, Gwendolyn, was born March 2, in New Zealand. Mom Julene and family are doing fine.

While Brenda and Dick were in New Zealand, I enjoyed having daughter Beth, Jerry and daughter-in-law Sandy come spend a weekend with me. It was wonderful.

Last Sabbath I was able to attend an inspiring Easter church service, full of beautiful choir and orchestra music, at Carmichael SDA Church. What a thrill!

"Father, let me hold Thy hand, and like a child, walk with Thee down all my days, secure in Thy Love and strength."—St. Thomas a Kempis

R.C.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Thank You to Ed and Shirley Moore for their many hours of work to make the church grounds attractive. The pansies by the door give a lift to the spirit as you enter the church. The daffodils have been so bright and spring-like as you drive into the church. The whole entrance is so much more appealing now. Your efforts are much appreciated, Ed and Shirley.

A leadership summit meeting was held at the home of Irv and Pat Curtis. It included a time of spiritual sharing, study, and prayer; discussion of the progression of a church member—"Grace, Growth, Gifts; plans for future church programs fitting each of these areas of growth,

Irv and Pat Curtis are on their "Trip of a Lifetime" to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. As this is written they have returned to Athens from cruising around some of the Greek Islands. Next stop is Rome, Italy. If you have Internet access, you can read their blog at 50sblast.blogspot.com

A NEW BEGINNING

Spring unfolds and touches our soul
Somewhere deep within.
We may recall memories of other Springs
Or on paths we may have been.
As hardy as the small crocuses
Which survive the Winter snows,
The heart holds onto hope
For a sun-warmed glow.
New growth upon the trees
That have stood so old and bare,
Prophetic of life itself,
A reminder of God's care!
Let Springtime echo melodies
In new songs of the heart,
Our world knows reawakening
For the Spring is at its start!



Oakhurst SDA Christian School

“Blessed is the [student] who finds wisdom...for [wisdom] is more precious than rubies.” Proverbs 3:13 & 14.

Nine more weeks to go! How the year has flown by. With everything we have to pack into this last quarter, I’m sure our last couple of months will seem like a blink of the eye.

Since the last time we met in these pages, we have had:

1. Grandparent’s Luncheon: We had a wonderful time with several of our grandparents. We hope more of our seniors will join us next year.
2. CCC Bible Challenge—Our 8th graders, Alison Guzman and Brent Pieffer, participated in the Bible Challenge that focused on the book of Matthew. Our school won the 2nd place trophy. Congratulations to Brent & Alison!
3. CCC Spelling Bee—We had four participants in the Bee this year. 4th grade: Jessica Castanon; 5th grade: Sage Hernandez; 7th grade: ZZ Nixon; and 8th grade: Alison Guzman. Jessica & Sage placed 3rd in the team competition and Alison placed 2nd over all in 8th grade. Congratulations to each of the participants!

We are planning for: Spring Week of Prayer with Pastor Steve, participation in a church service, a trip to the water park, a visitor’s day for those who are interested in attending our school next

year (watch for more information), the 8th grade class trip and of course, graduation.

We want to give a **BIG** thank you to Jim Gilbert. During our spring break, he came and laid the tile floor in the lobby and hallway at school. It looks wonderful! We are continuing with our remodel, and hope to have an open house before school resumes next fall.

We thank each of you for your interest in and support for our Church School. What a privileged it is to work with you for our kids.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

The past couple of months volunteers have been out visiting, delivering flowers, and sometimes lunch. Blessings have been bountiful for givers and receivers.

Thanks to our highway clean-up crew for doing such a great job—Herb Betat, Dennis & Ilana Gregory, and Glenn & Mary Bowman. Let’s keep our community trash free.

The woodcutting crew has helped man keep warm by cutting, splitting, and delivering wood. Thanks Paul Lutz, Mike Vogel, and Glenn Bowman for all your hard work this month. Donated food goods are still needed. Please continue to help during April.

Plans are being made for our annual yard sale Memorial Day weekend. Upon approval, it will be held Sunday and Monday June 1 & 2. As you Spring Clean, save those special donations for collection in May. All proceeds will be used to purchase 3ABN satellite dishes.

We have many ideas for projects. If you would like to participate, watch the church bulletin for date and time of our next get-together or call Mary at 683-3067.

—Mary Bowman



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Save A Sole for Honduras!

What do a sandal and a tennis shoe have in common? Answer—They can both be sent to help the kids in the area of our Pan American Health Services Orphanage.

The children at the Pan American Health Services Orphanage and the surrounding villages need shoes! Won't you please place new or gently-used shoes in the box in the church foyer? All sizes and colors will be appreciated—for the young and old alike. (Black shoes for school and tennis shoes will be especially appreciated—please no high heels) Questions? Please contact Gladys Petersen 877-2966 or Kathleen Franger 658-8705.

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From Our Hearts to Yours

We were able to send **thirteen** boxes of goodies off to two units in the military. They were filled with your generous donations of edible goodies, toiletries and hygiene supplies. Thank you so much for your support of this project.

.....
"Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes and kindness in your smile"—Mother Teresa
.....

Tea anyone? If you have any teacups and saucers or teapots that you're thinking of getting rid of, won't you please consider donating them to the

church? Women's Ministries is trying to collect enough to hold a tea at the church later this year. Please call Kathleen 658-8705.



TYRELL IN SACRAMENTO

As mentioned in Ruby's column, Janice Britton and Tyrell McKenzie made the 6-hour roundtrip to Sacramento where Tyrell shared his musical talents with the residents and staff of Gramercy Court.

When the staff members first saw Tyrell, they considered him "a little boy" The Director of Activities asked for a preview of his music. After Tyrell played "Shall We Gather At the River" for him, he was utterly amazed.

In meeting with the elderly residents, Tyrell had opportunity to put into practice the skills learned with the Pathfinders when they sing at the Living Center the first Sabbath of each month. Janice and Tyrell explained that they are Christians and that Tyrell loves classical music. There were tears flowing and voices joining in praises to God along with the spiritual music played and sung.

They have been invited to return during Christmas time. The Activities Director said that they were privileged to have met Tyrell before he becomes well known in the music world!

God be praised that Tyrell is willing to humble himself before God and spread joy and happiness to others while here on earth.



THE CHURCH LIBRARY NICHE

While processing several books into the Church library I found an item of interest tucked away between the leaves of one book. The book had been donated by a former church schoolteacher and a member who had moved away from our area. I believe it will be of interest to our parents of pre-school children as well as with children in grade school and beyond.

The slip of paper, which I found, asks the question in the form of a title “WHAT SHALL OUR CHILDREN READ?” Below the question is the subtitle “TEN POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS.” They are given as follows:

1. Read books which “fit them for practical life”—“valuable knowledge.” CT 132
2. Character building materials—“love and fear of God, the knowledge of Christ. CT 133
3. Books that will throw light upon the Sacred Scriptures—are “beneficial” CT 137
4. Health—teach importance of caring for their bodies CT 138
5. Biographies of Paul, Martin Luther, Moffat, Livingstone, Carey. Ed. 269
6. “Children need proper reading which will afford amusement and recreation [but] not

demoralize the mind or weary the body” AH 411

7. Mission lands, mission stories —“...let them study all lands in the light of missionary effort, and become acquainted with the peoples and their needs.” “...let the pupils study...the present daily, unfolding history of missionary effort.” Ed. 269
8. Nature stories—“the book of nature is next in importance [to the Bible]” CT 185-190
9. History—sacred; also that which helps to see the “fulfillment of prophecy...” CT 379-380
10. “Above all read the Bible.” “...has a sanctifying uplifting influence upon the mind.” CT 138

Our Church library has many fine books in the above categories written for children, juniors, and youth. Come and see what the library has for your young people!

Parents would benefit from reading the referenced pages listed above, as well as the chapters in which the key thoughts are provided. Much counsel has also been given on what not to let our children read. These books* by Ellen G. White are in the Church library and are available for loan to our members.

*CT: *Counsels To Parents, Teachers and Students*

*AH: *The Adventist Home*

*Ed: *Education*

—Helen Dalglish, Church librarian

“To give without any reward, or any notice, has a special quality of its own.”