

Oakhurst Seventh-day Adventist Church

NEWSLETTER

Volume 29, Number 5
May 2008

A Mother's Prayer

I wash the dirt from little feet, and as I wash I pray,
 "Lord, keep them ever pure and true to walk the narrow way."
 I wash the dirt from little hands, and earnestly I ask,
 "Lord, may they ever yielded be to do the humblest task."
 I wash the dirt from little knees, and pray, "Lord, may they be
 The place where victories are won, and orders sought from Thee."
 Throughout eternal ages be Thy robe of righteousness."
 E'er many hours shall pass, I know, I'll wash these hands again;
 And there'll be dirt upon her dress before the day shall end.
 But as she journeys on through life and learns of want and pain,
 Lord, keep her precious little heart cleansed from all sin and stain;
 For soap and water cannot reach where thou alone can'st see.
 Her hands and feet, these I can wash—
 I trust her heart to Thee.

—B. Ryberg

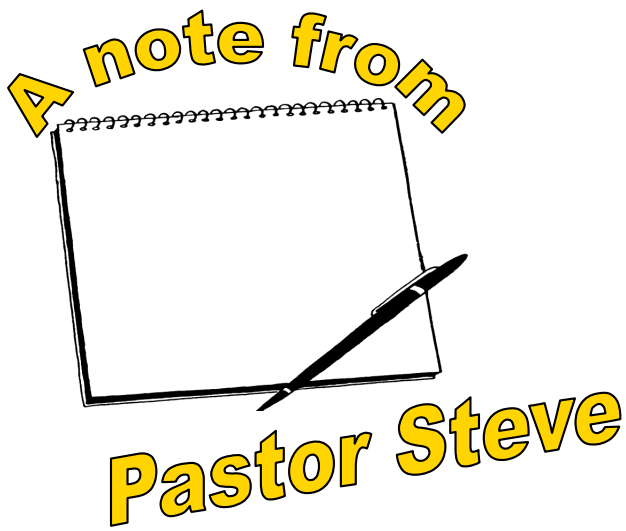


Dates to put on your calendar—

- | | |
|--------|----------------------------------|
| May 10 | ADRA Offering |
| May 11 | Mother's Day |
| May 12 | Food Bank Giveaway |
| May 15 | School Visitor's Day |
| May 24 | Henry Bergh's 90 th |
| May 26 | Comm. Services. Yard Sale |
| June 4 | 8 th Grade Graduation |

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Pastor Steve	Ruby Christensen
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A note from Pastor Steve

Hello church...

I want to share a story with you that I read recently. It communicates a poignant message that keeps occupying my thoughts. I remember learning a song when I was a kid that posed the question, “Do You Know, Oh Christian, You’re a Sermon in Shoes?” Here’s the story:

His name is Bill. He has wild hair wears a t-shirt with holes in it, jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college. He is brilliant, kind of esoteric, and very, very bright. He became a Christian while attending college. Across the street from the campus is a well-dressed, very conservative church. They want to develop a ministry to the students, but are not sure how to go about it.

One day Bill decides to go there. He walks in with no shoes, jeans, his t-shirt, and wild hair. The service is already started, and so Bill starts down the aisle looking for a seat. The church is completely packed, and he can’t find a seat. By now people are really looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one says anything.

Bill gets closer and closer and closer

are no seats he just sits down, right on the carpet. (Although perfectly acceptable behavior in a college fellowship, trust me, this had never happened in this church before.) By now the people are really uptight and the tension in the air is thick.

About this time the minister realizes that from way at the back of the church a deacon is slowly making his way toward Bill.

Now the deacon is in his 80s and has silver-gray hair and wears a three-piece suit. He is a godly man, very elegant, very dignified, very courtly. He walks with a cane, and as he starts walking towards this boy everyone is saying to themselves that you can’t blame him for what he is going to do. How can you expect a man of his age and of his background to understand some college kid on the floor?

It takes a long time for the man to reach the boy. It is utterly silent except for the clicking of the man’s cane. All eyes are focused on him. You can’t even hear anyone breathing. The minister can’t even preach the sermon until the deacon does what he has to do.

And now they see this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty he lowers himself and sits down next to Bill and worships with him so he won’t be alone.

Everyone chokes up with emotion. When the minister gains control. He says “What I’m about to preach, you’ll never remember. What you have just seen, you will never forget. Be careful how you live. You may be the only Bible some people will ever read.”

May God bless you.

—Pastor Steve

YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE!

Nominating Committee Members for this year are Ron Brix, Herman Brown, Jim Gilbert, Vickie Glazener, Raquel Rodriguez, Tim Rumble, Betty Sheldon, Dawn Vogel, and Calle Wieg,

Food Bank Giveaway Highlighted. Our church has been selected by Fresno Food Bank for a once-a-month, healthy food giveaway. **All** are welcome to receive, and it's **free!** Please pass the word to friends and family for Monday May 12 at Holbrook Hall parking lot from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.. This giveaway is for everyone—all income levels, anyone in the community. Signup sheet available on desk in foyer or call Mary at 683 3067. Don't be bashful—be blessed!

Henry Bergh's 90th. There will be a special church service on May 24. Friends and relatives of Henry will be here to help him celebrate turning 90.

Community Service Update: Our yard sale will be held Sunday May 25 and Monday May 26 in Holbrook Hall and the parking lot area between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day. Please bring donated items to Community Services room or call Mary Bowman at 683-3067 for more information between May 1 and May 20.

ADRA Offering May 10, 2008. The church board voted that the Lamb's Offering for that day will be sent to ADRA with a letter stating that it is

Grace Dean's birthday will be celebrated on June 22, 2008 at Carmichael SDA church from 1 p.m.—5 p.m. Contact her daughter Sandra Dean-Stanley at 1-888-316-8919.

Newsletter: With the June issue of the Oakhurst Church Newsletter we will make a change in editorship. The board and nominating committee will decide whether there will be a break until next fall, a discontinuation of a church newsletter altogether, or some other option.

Celebrate!

Birthdays

May

1 Marguerite Francis	17 Glen Bowman
1 Sonny Garcia	17 Jeremy Herr
7 Jeff Burns	18 Gaile Chenowith
7 Sydney Lapham	21 Janet Page
7 Elizabeth Pombo	21 Gerry Shipp
7 Morgan Wrona	22 Jenny Lapham
8 G. Hollingsead	24 Henry Bergh
10 Irene Miller	24 Eric Vecchiarelli
11 Barry Olson	25 Mona Guzman
11 Jaimie Vogel	25 Tim Wisener
12 Peggy Chavez	29 Delinda Hamilton
12 Robin Holliday	30 Don Crisp
14 Jonathan Hiten	30 Cookie McDonald

June

(1st week)

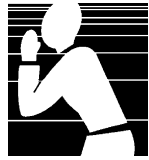
4 Pat Curtis

Anniversaries

May

4 John and Darlene Herr

PRAYER CORNER



Too Busy to Pray?

Forgive me, Lord, that I allow
My days and hours to be
So filled with trifling tasks, that oft
I find no time for thee.

My thoughts too oft are occupied
With countless earthly things,
When thou wouldst have them mount on
high
By faith with eagle wings.

Too busy; O forgive, dear Lord,
That I should ever be
Too much engrossed in worldly tasks
To spend an hour with thee.
—A. B. Christiansen

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.

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 —

- Lloyce Tobin and the Norman family in the
loss of Scott Norman
- Violet Cree diagnosed with Bell's Palsy
- 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

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

***“As long as there are mothers
there will be love in the world***

— Anonymous

Ruby's Ramblings

FROM NOT SO FAR

There are so many happy positive things to share. Some are the blessing of attending church with Dick and Brenda and enjoying hundreds of beautiful orchids with Brenda and friend Deanna Paxton at the Sacramento 61st Annual Orchid Show.

Through my life, over and over, I have been overwhelmed with the love of family, and what family means. Once again, as we celebrate mothers on Mother's Day, let us consider the privileges, challenges and blessings of motherhood and family, and God's yearning for us to experience a little bit of heaven on earth, thro' our families.

*"Her children arise and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he
praises her:
...Charm is deceptive, and beauty
is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the Lord
is to be praised."*

—Proverbs 31:28, 30
R.C.

*"The best and most beautiful things in the
world cannot be seen or even touched.
They must be felt with the heart."*
—Helen Keller

"Into the woman's keeping is committed
the destiny of the generations to come after
us."
—Theodore Roosevelt



MY MOTHER'S HANDS

My mother's hands are lovelier
than any hands I know.
Altho' they bear some scars and cuts,
I am still thinking so.
There may be whiter skin than theirs,
and fingers shaped more fine.
But of all the hands on earth,
give me the hands of Mother mine!

They do for me what none would do
of all the hands on earth;
They soothe me in my sufferings
and guide me in my mirth.
They've worked for me full many a day
and many a lonely night;
They show me things that I should see
—yea, all that's true and right.

They tuck me in my bed at night
in such a tender way!
They've taught me how to fold my
hands
when we together pray.

What Mother's hands do mean to me
can never half be told.
But this I know, they're lovelier
than diamonds and gold!

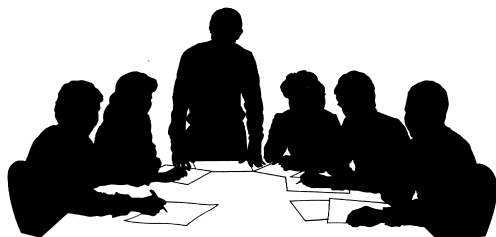
—F. Steinmann

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Alexi Hughes had a safe trip to Australia and is busy with her outreach activities there. She has a blog posted at koalexibear.blogspot.com

Irv and Pat Curtis were in Germany this past week. They had trouble finding Internet access, but now are back on line. If you have Internet access, you can read their blog at 50sblast.blogspot.com and catch up on their adventures. They will return home the middle of May.

The church family extends our sympathy to Lloyce Tobin and Tom and Joyce Norman in the death of Scott Norman who lost the battle with cancer in April.



CHURCH BOARD REPORT

April 21, 2008

- **Membership transfers.** Voted to recommend to church body for vote:
Incoming
Edwin & Gladis Gramajo from Fresno Hispanic, Fresno
Evelyn Arrabito from Oroville, CA
M. Sue Cornwell from Central Calif. Conf., Clovis
Anna Friesen from North Fork
Outgoing:
Lorie Tharp to Sunnyvale SDA, Sunnyvale, CA
- **VBS Sports Camp:** Kathleen Franger reported instead of Sports Camp, VBS is scheduled for August 4-8 2008. **VOTED:** VBS August 4-

- **Kids in Discipleship (K.I.D.):** Frangers and Hamiltons spent weekend at Seminar, in San Diego. Subject: Mentoring parents and kids 7-12 years old. Schedule: September 2008, 3 weekly sermons; October 2008, 12-week program for Parents and Mentors; Early 2009: Families together.
- **CHURCH MAINTENANCE:** Holbrook Hall Kitchen, Leak in ceiling has been fixed.
- **SCHOOL REPORT:** 1/2 way through last quarter. Inside remodel project is ongoing. Home & School: Visitor Day planned May 15. Invite community and serve lunch. Fund Raiser coming up to install Library Carrels, (study station spacers).
- **CHURCH SIGN @ Rd. 426 and School Rd.:** Pastor Steve will take care of. May have to be moved by December 2008, to comply with County sign ordinance.
- **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Rosalind Hansen wrote a letter of resignation of this position effective July 1, 2008. **VOTED:** Refer to Nominating Committee.
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE YARD SALE: VOTED:** May 25, 26, 2008, Holbrook Hall. Proceeds to go toward purchasing 3ABN satellites for shut-ins.
- **PRODUCE GIVE AWAY: VOTED:** 1 month trial. Produce to be brought up from valley to Holbrook Hall, May 12, 9-11 a.m.
- **ADRA OFFERING:** May 10, 2008. **VOTED:** Children's Offering will be given to ADRA this week only. Check and letter explaining this offering is from the Children of the Oakhurst SDA church will be sent on to ADRA.
- **Next Meeting:** May 19, 2008 at 7:00



Oakhurst SDA Christian School

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*“Teach a child how he should live,
and he will remember it all of his
life.”*

Proverbs 22:6, Good News Bible

What a wonderful promise we are given! And what an awesome responsibility. We as parents, teachers and church members are role models for our children. Do we model the joy of our relationship with Jesus? Do we tell of the forgiveness He has given us? Do we model patience, kindness, acceptance, responsibility, and reverence? Feeling overwhelmed? Here's your homework: Read Mark 10:27.

—Gayla Rumble

Here are some dates you may want to note:

May 15—**Visitor's Day** Students interested in attending church school next year are invited to spend some time with us. Come for activities at 10:00 am, and stay for a yummy lunch that will be provided for students and parents by Home and School. See you there!

June 4—**8th Grade Graduation**
6:30 pm.

“God looks most where man looks least

MOTHERS

A mother is someone
Dear to the heart,
Who's known you and loved you
Right from the start.

She multiplies faith
When problems are tough,
And divides up her love
So each child has enough.

A mother reads stories
Of princes and kings.
She can build a great castle
With boxes and things.

She teaches her children
The alphabet
From a round oatmeal box
Or a word-scramble set.

A mother is special
To girls and to fellows.
She knows the right time
To carry umbrellas.

She teaches good manners,
Sews a fine seam.
Understands life,
Believes in our dreams.

A mother is memories
Through rose-colored glass.
She's warm apple pie,
A lady with class.

Her children go forth
Insured with her prayers
And a truth universal;
It's Mother who cares.

—Alice Leedy Mason



LESSONS ON LIFE

There was a man who had four sons. He wanted his sons to learn not to judge things too quickly. So he sent them each on a quest, in turn, to go and look at a pear tree that was a great distance away.

The first son went in the winter, the second in the spring, the third in summer, and the youngest son in the fall.

When they had all gone and come back, he called them together to describe what they had seen.

The first son said that the tree was ugly, bent, and twisted.

The second son said no it was covered with green buds and full of promise.

The third son disagreed; he said it was laden with blossoms that smelled so sweet and looked so beautiful, it was the most graceful thing he had ever seen.

The last son disagreed with all of them; he said it was ripe and drooping with fruit, full of life and fulfillment.

The man then explained to his sons that they were all right, because they had each seen but only one season in the tree's life.

He told them that you cannot judge a tree, or a person, by only one season, and that the essence of who they are and the pleasure, joy, and love that come from that life can only be measured at the end, when all the seasons are up.

If you give up when it's winter, you will miss the promise of your spring, the beauty of your summer, fulfillment of your fall.

Moral lessons:

- ❖ Don't let the pain of one season destroy the joy of all the rest.
- ❖ Don't judge life by one difficult season.
- ❖ Persevere through the difficult patches and better times are sure to come some time or later

“JUST A HOUSEWIFE”

Hello, Mrs. Jones, I've just called to say,
I'm sorry I cried when you phoned today.
No, I didn't get angry when your call came
at four-

Just as eight Cub Scouts burst through the
door:

It's just that I'd had such a really full day.

I'd baked pies for the PTA,

The washing, the ironing and scrubbing the
floor,

Were chores I had finished not too long
before.

And prepared for a meeting with 4-H'ers
on Monday.

Was not cause you'd phoned just to ask for
my help.

The comment that threw me, nearly drove
me berserk

Was "I'm sure you'll have time, because
you don't work."

—Author Unknown