

The Connection

Volume 5, Issue 6, June 2007



Celebrate Recovery

by Gary Stewart

Step 12: Having had a spiritual experience as a result of these steps, we try to carry this message to others and to practice these principles in all of our affairs.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY CREED:

On the road to recovery, we are changed when we accept God's grace and forgiveness to solve our life problems. We are changed when we become willing to share our experience, strength, and hope with one another. Each of us needs repentance and recovery to live life the way God intended. We need fellowship and accountability to help us grow spiritually. We utilize the Biblical truth that we need each other to grow spiritually and emotionally. By working the 8 recovery principles we maintain freedom from our life's hurts, habits, and hang-ups. This freedom creates peace, serenity, joy, and most importantly, a stronger personal relationship with our loving and forgiving Higher Power, Jesus Christ.

Written by the brothers of the Celebrate Recovery ministry from the Sierra Conservation Center in Jamestown, California.

One of the attendees of Celebrate Recovery at the Pen is being released and may stay in Walla Walla. If so, he will have the support of Celebrate Recovery at our church to help him stay on the **road to recovery!**

Please keep this man in prayer and ask God to prepare us to help restore him GENTLY back to a lifestyle rich in God's grace.

Good News Clues Vacation Bible School

Your kids will become detectives for a week investigating and searching for clues to help them understand the basics of salvation. As they visit five different rooms in a home they'll learn about Jesus' plan of salvation and how it affects them personally.

Good News Clues™, Searching for New Life in Jesus provides a mystery, adventure theme which emphasizes

every lesson. lessons also the importance Jesus in our and looking future home in the theme verse for Revelation 3:20, anyone hears my the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me."



salvation in everyday lives, emphasize of living for everyday lives, forward to our heaven. The the program is "Here I am! I and knock. If voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." Each of the five Discovery Sites is set in a different room of a home with Bible stories and activities that help children learn how to be disciples for Jesus. In each room, the children are presented with different aspects of salvation in a way that they can understand.

Good News Clues begins June 24th at 6:30 PM and is open to kids K-6th grade. Registration is required and available at Ministry Central.



From Your Administrative Pastor

Let me see if I can bring all of you up to speed on where we are with the current church budget and our income and expenses year-to-date. I am writing this on May 15th so the figures I am about to share are as of the end of April.

Forecasted Income: \$646,690.42

Actual Income: \$523,419.72

Forecasted Expenses: \$646,690.36

Actual Expenses: \$482,290.00

You can clearly see that through the end of April, our income is \$123,270.70 less than what we had forecasted. You can also see that our expenses are \$164,400.36 under what we were forecasting.

When you look at real income against real expenses for the year we are actually in the black...\$41,129.72. Certainly the most significant contributing factor to this positive cash flow is that the budget reflects compensation for a full-time Youth Pastor and a full-time Music Pastor. We have been paying both Adam and Richard as they serve as interims in those spots but we have not adjusted the overall budget figures.

That is why the weekly need I would print in the Sunday bulletin seemed so high compared to what actually comes in each week.

With two months to go in this fiscal year, we are financially healthy, in spite of tithes and offerings continuing to come in at levels far below what we had hoped for.

If you have any questions on this, don't hesitate to stop by and see me at the church, call or email.

UNTIL NEXT TIME...

PASTOR DAN II

Faith Promise at Flying H

by Steve Mize

Chris Carlile and family are working at the Flying H Youth Ranch and you help support them through Faith Promise. Here's a Report of God's blessings from them.

In 2006, 26 young men and their families were served. Eight boys graduated from the program. God has been gracious to give us more boys and their families.

One of the keys to reaching a boy's heart is to mentor him and his family, allowing for meaningful relationships with both the resident and his parent(s). The goal is to love each family as God loves them, and to teach them God's patterns and wisdom for life. Please pray for our mentors to be able to hear and obey the Holy Spirit as we develop these relationships.

Chris has recently applied to the Southwest Bible Seminary to obtain his Christian counseling degree. He will start taking classes for his A.A. in Biblical Studies. We are excited about the training this will give him specifically for this ministry. Thank you for your constant encouragement and prayers. Just when we come to a place of discouragement, God sends one of you alongside us to encourage and keep prodding us along. Thank you! I don't think you will ever truly know how much we treasure you and thank the Lord for our supporters. You are our family and we love you.

Newsletter Deadline

If you have an upcoming event you'd like to promote, faith story or poem you'd like to share, or anything else that pertains to the life of the people of Blue Mountain Community Church, please consider writing a small article (300 words or less) and submitting it to the newsletter. The deadline for articles is the second Wednesday of each month. The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

When God Created Fathers

by Erma Bombeck

When the good Lord was creating fathers He started with a tall frame. And a female angel nearby said, "What kind of father is that? If You're going to make children so close to the ground, why have You put fathers up so high? He won't be able to shoot marbles without kneeling, tuck a child in bed without bending, or even kiss a child without a lot of stooping." And God smiled and said, "Yes, but if I make him child-size, whom would children have to look up to?"

And when God made a father's hands, they were large and sinewy. And the angel shook her head sadly and said, "Do You know what You're doing?" Large hands are clumsy. They can't manage diaper pins, small buttons, rubber bands on ponytails or even remove splinters caused by baseball bats." And God smiled and said, "I know, but they're large enough to hold everything a small boy empties from his pockets at the end of a day . . . yet small enough to cup a child's face in his hands."

And then God molded long slim legs and broad shoulders. And the angel nearly had a heart attack. "Boy, this is the end of the week, all right," she clucked, "Do You realize You just made a father without a lap? How is he going to pull a child close to him without the kid falling between his legs?" And God smiled and said, "A mother needs a lap. A father needs strong shoulders to pull a sled, balance a boy on a bicycle, or hold a sleepy head on the way home from the circus."

God was in the middle of creating two of the largest feet anyone had ever seen when the angel could contain herself no longer. "That's not fair. Do You honestly think those large boats are going to dig out

of bed early in the morning when the baby cries? Or walk through a small birthday party without crushing at least three of the guests?" And God smiled and said. "They'll work. You'll see. They'll support a small child who wants to 'ride a horse to Banbury Cross,' or scare off mice at the summer cabin, or display shoes that will be a challenge to fill."

God worked throughout the night, giving the father few words, but a firm, authoritative voice; eyes that saw everything, but remained calm and tolerant. Finally, almost as an afterthought, He added tears. Then He turned to the Angel and said, "Now are you satisfied that he can love as much as a mother?" The angel shuteth up.



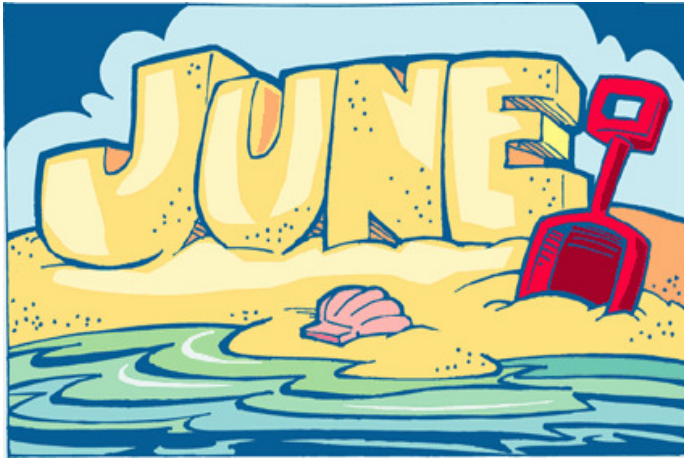
- 3 Don & Donna Raugust
- 4 Robert & Laura Rice
- 5 Mitch & Terri Adams
- 7 Ed & Donna Hendricksen
- 8 John & Melanie Berger
Michael & Sharron Watkins
- 9 Bryce & Yvonne Henline
- 15 Vic & Eloise Phillips
- 16 Michael & LaVonda Hinrichsen
- 17 Don & Paula Hoppen
Sonny & Linda Reyburn
- 19 Roland & Carol Schirman
- 20 Harold & Bonnie Raugust
- 22 Richard & Judi Easton
- 23 Bob & Nancy Stewart
- 25 Don & Etta Blair
Donny & Kandee Hoppen
Scott & Renee Krivoshein
- 26 Jerry & Sue Willsey
- 28 Bob & Arlene Zier
- 29 Christopher & Heather Figgins
Nick & Julie Caton
- 30 Barry & Leslie Culbertson
Dustin & Nicole West



- 1 Miles Plucker
Max Williamson
- 2 Rachel Clark
Britney Cutlip
Stacey Larreau
- 3 Cheryl Cowles
- 4 Sydney Harris
Cary Rahn
- 5 Virginia Brixey
Don Hoppen
- 6 Mark Anderson
Jessica Bowe
Ric Wiles
- 9 Karen McDaniels
Stephanie Simmons
- 10 Joshua Lyons
Diane McEuen
- 11 Conner Heimbigner
- 13 Adrienne Harris
Mindy Neissl
- 14 Nancy Abraham
John Blom
Clifford Frazier
Shayla Mountain
Rick Walters
- 15 Steve Nelson
George Thomaston
- 16 Julia Pattee
Jackie Wolske
- 17 Kay Benzel
Esther Reed
- 18 Jeff Goodson



- 19 Becky Brashear
Ayana Hughes
- 20 Tom Angotti
Lauren Clark
Heather Huntley
- 21 Tim Bruner
Kristi Montgomery
Don Raugust
- 22 Glen Shivley
Bob Stewart Jr.
- 23 Brianna Branscum
Helen Young
- 24 Jeanne Fox
Brianna Mountain
- 25 Chalene Waltner
- 26 Andrew Hoppen
- 27 Jean Conklin
Nancy Cornelius
Debi Evans
Larry Laughlin
Robert Miller
Sean Shea
- 28 Stephen Miller
- 29 Larry Wachtel
- 30 Amanda Nielsen
Jack Shea
Wayne Welch



Monthly Events

- 6 Annual Reports Due
- 7 Ark End of Year Program 4:30 PM
- Celebrate Recovery Leaders Meeting 7:00 PM
- 9 Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM
- 11 Worship Commission 6:30 PM
- 12 Quilter's Guild 6:00 PM
- 14 Board of Elders Meeting 6:30 PM
- 18 The Ark Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 20 Missions Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 21 SAMS 10 :00 AM
- HERITAGE SINGERS 7:00 PM
- Building & Grounds Commission 7:00 PM
- 24 Annual Business Meeting**
- 28 CE Commission Meeting 6:30 PM

Weekly Events

- Sunday**
- Middle School Group 6:00 PM
- Tuesday**
- Taking Off Pounds Sensibly 5:30 PM
- Boy Scouts 7:00 PM
- Wednesday**
- Adult Bible Study 6:30 PM
- High School Group 7:00 PM
- Thursday**
- Worship Team Rehearsal 7:00 PM
- Friday**
- Celebrate Recovery Dinner 6:00 PM
- Celebrate Recovery 7:00 PM

Special Days

- 14 Flag Day**
- 17 Father's Day**



Heritage

SINGERS

Thursday, June 21, 2007
7:00 PM

Blue Mountain Community Church

Free Admission



Brilliant vocal harmonies, an inspired lyrical creativity and powerful, uncompromising testimonies pervade an evening with the Heritage Singers. This talented group of young, professional musicians features seven carefully selected vocalists with vocal styles ranging from traditional to contemporary Christian. Celebrating more than 35 years of ministry, Heritage has continued to bring the love of Jesus to millions through the international language of music.

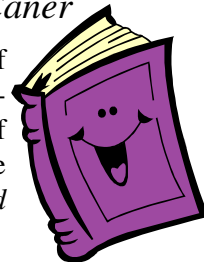
The passionate conviction of these musicians shines through their music. Their honesty, integrity, and unquestionable commitment to excellence has touched a common chord with listeners from every walk of life. As pastors and evangelists from thousands of churches around the world can testify, an evening with the Heritage Singers will encourage, edify, and inspire you to a deeper love relationship with our Lord. The Heritage Singers . . . implementing a musical message of hope, inspiration, and peace. . . reaching people, one life at a time.

Now at the Church Library

Unveiling Islam: An insider's look at
Muslim life and beliefs

By Ergun and Emir Caner

Islam is often obscured by a veil of unfamiliar beliefs, customs, and practices. We watch intriguing images of Islamic nations on our televisions. We hear words like *Muslim* and *jihad* defined in conflicting terms.



What is Islam, truly, when you peek behind the veil? Who can explain this culture with clarity and precision?

Raised as Sunni Muslims by a leader in the mosque, brothers Ergun and Emir Caner have lived the Muslim life. Now Christians and highly respected theology professors, the Caner brothers are in a unique position to present an unprecedented insider's look at Islam.

Unveiling Islam is a sympathetic yet uncompromising presentation of the entire scope of Islam — its practices, ethics, and beliefs, including the primary differences between Christianity and Islam. With a basic knowledge of Islam in place, the authors then present a practical strategy Christians can use to open a productive dialogue with Muslims.

taken from book jacket

This book, a recommended resource of the current class on Islam being taught by Vic Phillips, is being placed in our church library.

Rosalie Vogt

*From Your
Children's
Pastor*



A Time for Everything

A little girl had been shopping with her Mom in Target. She must have been 6 years old, this beautiful red haired, freckle faced image of innocence. It was pouring outside. The kind of rain that gushes over the top of rain gutters, so much in a hurry to hit the earth it has no time to flow down the spout. We all stood there under the awning and just inside the door of Target.

We waited, some patiently, others irritated because nature messed up their hurried day. I am always mesmerized by rainfall. I get lost in the sound and sight of the heavens washing away the dirt and dust of the world. Memories of running, splashing carefree as a child came pouring in as a welcome reprieve from the worries of my day.

The little voice was so sweet as it broke the hypnotic trance we were all caught in. "Mom let's run through the rain," she said. "What?" Mom asked. "Lets run through the rain!" She repeated. "No, honey. We'll wait until it slows down a bit," Mom replied.

This young child waited about another minute and repeated: "Mom, let's run through the rain," "We'll get soaked if we do," Mom said. "No, we won't, Mom. That's not what you said this morning," the young girl said as she tugged at her Mom's arm. "This morning? When did I say we could run through the rain and not get wet?" "Don't you remember? When you were talking to Daddy about his cancer, you said, 'If God can get us through this, he can get us through anything!'"

The entire crowd stopped dead silent. I swear you couldn't hear anything but the rain. We all stood silently. No one came or left in the next few minutes.

Mom paused and thought for a moment about what she would say. Now some would laugh it off and scold her for being silly. Some might even ignore what was said. But this was a moment of affirmation in a young child's life. A time when innocent trust can be nurtured so that it will bloom into faith. "Honey, you are absolutely right. Let's run through the rain. If GOD lets us get wet, well maybe we just needed washing," Mom said.

Then off they ran. We all stood watching, smiling and laughing as they darted past the cars and through the puddles. They held their shopping bags over their heads just in case. They got soaked. But they were followed by a few who screamed and laughed like children all the way to their cars. And yes, I ran. I got wet. I needed washing.

Circumstances or people can take away your material possessions; they can take away your money, toys, and health. But no one can ever take away precious memories that you make with your loved ones...So, don't forget to make time and take the opportunities to make memories everyday

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace."

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

**I HOPE YOU STILL TAKE THE TIME TO
RUN THROUGH THE RAIN.**



Our Ministry Team

Senior Pastor — Mike Hinrichsen
Administrative Pastor — Dan Huntley
Children's Pastor — Sharon Wiles
Student Ministries Interim — Adam Hinrichsen
Worship Interim Pastor — Richard Easton

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