

# PARKWOOD ECHOES

## **Community Services / Dorcas**

By Peggy Herman

Community Services is gearing up for the holiday season.

We are accepting donations of nonperishable items for Thanksgiving baskets. If you could bring your items to church, we will have a basket in the Foyer or you can bring them to the Dorcas room on Wednesday mornings between 9:00am and 12:00noon.

As we get closer to the season we will also need perishable items, we will give you a list of those next month. In the meantime if you know of anyone who is in need of a food basket for the holidays, please get that information to us as soon as possible so that we can be sure to supply their needs.

We are continuing our usual services and we can always use more help, so if you have free time on Wednesday mornings, **come** and join us.





## From the Pastor

"Christ's method alone will bring true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me."

(The Ministry of Healing, 143)

Without question, Jesus perfectly modeled the mission of making disciples. His methods often included broad outreach to the masses, but the impact of those *public* efforts hinged upon His *personal* efforts to connect with and win the confidence of individuals.

We are excited to announce that our Parkwood church board has adopted a nine-month evangelism plan that reflects this combination of public & personal effort. While we are planning for large-scale programs, we want to prioritize building meaningful connections with individual people that God has called us to disciple.

Please read & re-read the overview of these plans below, and ask God to reveal how He wants to use your unique gifts to fit in the big picture of revealing Christ to the world:

**Community Bridge-Building** (Sept. through Feb.) — establishing connections with the broader community through personal Bible studies, home-based small groups, GLOW distribution, holiday outreach events, and a health seminar in January.

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It seems we do have some interest in an evening session and are thinking of doing a couple of Monday evenings a month. We have several quilt tops that need to be tied and these can be given to the needy, homeless, or to those in shelters. We also have squares and material that can be put together to make more quilts. Our first evening is planned for the third Monday of this month. Starting at 6:00 or whenever you can arrive.

We do make special quilts for sale if you have particular colors or a wedding gift, etc, to give. The funds received for these are used to purchase supplies to make the quilts.

So please remember we need perishable items, names for food baskets, more help and your continued prayers as we try to meet the needs of our community.



### **Audio Recordings**

Did you know you can pick up CD audio recordings of each Sabbath service in the lobby every week? You can also listen to past messages preached at Parkwood online. Go to <a href="https://www.parkwood.adventistfaith.org">www.parkwood.adventistfaith.org</a> and click on the "Multimedia" tab.

#### **Parkwood Preschool**

We currently have 29-30 children and are enjoying our Fall programming. Stay tuned for more updates next month.

**Member Preparation** (Sept. through Feb.) — empowering our members to be inspired by the gospel and equipped to share the gospel through multiple training courses: small group leadership, how to be a spiritual mentor, Fishers of Men 101, etc.

**Souls West Bible Workers & Prophecy Seminar** (Jan. through Mar.) — welcoming two Souls West students to work with us for 10 weeks in preparing for and providing a venue for friends, family, and the broader community to make decisions for Christ and His church through a 3-week prophecy seminar in February.

**New Member Care** (Mar. through June) — supporting and grounding new members in their walk with Jesus through spiritual mentorships, mid-week training classes and Bible studies, and home-based small groups.



Let us seek earnestly to make disciples through these coordinated efforts, and may the success of our efforts not depend upon a single event or seminar or speaker, but upon the Holy Spirit's ability to use each one to reach one!

## **Inside/Out Church Retreat**

by Jean Hill

Wow! This was a weekend to remember. Many families had an opportunity to spend quality time out in God's nature September 19-21. Leoni Meadows is nestled in the quiet, slumbering pines near Grizzly Flats. Most of our church family arrived Friday evening. We registered and went right to dinner. After dinner upstairs in the chapel, we were each greeted by Reena Verde and given a small journal entitled to take notes and to write our thoughts along with our prayers.

Dinner was great! We then went to our rooms and had a fabulous night's sleep. No phones were ringing and no television to watch. YEAH! A scheduled walk was prepared Sabbath morning by Lorna Peterson for those who wanted to take a short walk and by David Aguillon for those who wanted to take a longer, rigorous walk before breakfast. We had breakfast from 8:00 to 9:00. Yum, yum and yum! Breakfast was delicious and spectacular. We had enough food to satisfy a king. The Sabbath was well planned, so that the young, middle-aged, and young at heart would enjoy the full day. Lunch was served, and once again, the food was awesome. During each meal at the table, we were given "Conversation Cards" in order to get acquainted with other people surrounding you. This concept was great. Some church members had been to Leoni Meadows many times, but they still enjoyed the great outdoors. We met "new" people and enjoyed the interaction...

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Bookmarks with instructions for a 5-part prayer walk were also provided, which could be done either by yourself or with a group. This was truly inspirational. (You can pick up your own prayer walk bookmark at the Welcome Desk.)

Many people were found praying together or praying by themselves in a serene, quiet place, especially during the day. Some comments made by church members: Samantha Dalton said, "The retreat was family friendly." Julien said, "Great breakfast, lunch & dinner." Blaine said, "I like going on the hike with Nina & Frank Herman." Francisco & Elda Gomez said, "We enjoyed the family time. The topic 'Reaching Others' was also excellent."

A famous writer, Louise May Alcott, said, "Far away there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them, but I can look up and see their beauty, believe in them, and try to follow where they lead." Our highest aspirations are with Jesus, our Savior. One day will look up, see His real beauty, and follow Him. We are looking forward to the next retreat.

#### **Pathfinder News**

By Peggy Herman

We have just completed two honors, Pin Trading and Prayer and are working on Cacti and Mammals. We are also getting ready for Camporee and studying for the Pathfinder Bible Experience. Our book for study this year is Matthew. Our Pathfinder Day Program will be on Oct 18, and following fellowship dinner we will join with the Adventurers for our Induction service. Please join us for these activities and support your future church leaders.



## OshKosh Bound (continued)!

by Kaitlyn Herman

**Wednesday** - **August 6, 2014**. The three driving Musketeers, Mr. Gomez, John and Mike along with their faithful co-pilots Mr. Herman, Miss Peggy and Karen woke up before the rooster's call and pulled out of Mountain Shadows RV Park with nothing but our headlight to pierce through the dark 4:30am sky.

After breakfast at a rest area and after viewing a helicopter land in its parking lot, the group rallied together, loaded into the RV's and rolled out – final destination for the day, YELLOWSTONE NATION PARK!

The drivers again had to fight through the wet rainy weather as we forged ahead. Miss Peggy, fearing the rain would not let up, bought the group ponchos to stay dry for our outdoor adventure later that day. The rain storm proved stronger than the back cupboards of one motorhome, where water ran down the back wall soaking clothing and a bed. Nothing a dryer could not fix. Thankfully the Lord dried away the rain clouds and we found a bit of sunshine for the remainder of the day.

While traveling down the road, in search of a rest area in order to whip up a hearty egg salad sandwiches for lunch, John's vehicle decided to drop off one of his hub caps along the freeway. No damage was done. It just provided the traveling group of Oshkosh adventurers a good laugh.

After hours of driving the Oshkosh adventurers excitedly rolled into the West gate entrance of Yellowstone excited! We headed for the famous Old Faithful Geyser, but along the way we stopped at Firehole Lake, walked around the paint pots and found several other attractions. Practice of patience was used as we found that Old Faithful is not quite as faithful as it used to be. In the meantime, a group of pathfinders, led by Jonah, boldly showed their light for God as they serenaded surrounding Yellowstone visitors with melodies of God's love.

We all took a quick trip into the gift shop for souvenirs to commemorate this spectacular Yellowstone adventure, then loaded up and headed to Fishing Bridge RV Park for dinner and some sleep.

We arrived at our camp sight just before 9:00 while registering we asked

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Pathfinders need a motorhome that we could borrow for our Camporee to house our Guest speaker (Pastor Godfrey) and his family. We also need one for headquarters. A Waterford church family has agreed to loan us one, but we are in need of one more. The Camporee is on October 24-26 near La Grange.



#### RECIPE

Vegetarian Plus Tuna Roll Canapés



#### **INGREDIENTS**

I Vegetarian Plus VeganTuna
Rolls(Itube,defrosted)
2 tablespoons dill pickle, fine dice
2 tablespoons Vegenaise (Grapeseed)
I/2 cup organic celery, fine dice
I baguette bread, thin sliced rounds
Preparation Defrost the Tuna Roll
Defrost one tube of the Vegetarian
Plus Vegan Tuna Rolls in the
refrigerator overnight.

#### Mix

Slit open the plastic bag and crumble into a small bowl.

Add 1/2 cup finely chopped organic celery, 2 tablespoons dill pickle, and 2 tablespoons Vegenaise and combine.

#### Apply to Bread

Cut a baguette into thin slices and top each one with a spoonful of the VegUSA Tuna Salad.

Optional: Apply a dash of sweet paprika and crushed red pepper flakes to the top of each canapé. if we could use the laundry which they said closed at 9:00, after telling them that we had wet bedding due to a leak they agreed to let us bring it in and gave us several dryers to use, while chasing others out.

The hand of the magnificent Creator was seen by the eyes of the Parkwood Pacers today as we gazed upon His glorious nature and the evidence of creation he provided for us here on earth. Again, the Lord blessed us with safe travels and a beautiful masterpiece to fix our eyes on and ponder the mighty works of the amazing God we serve.

**Thursday – August 7, 2014**. Another day filled with Yellowstone's immaculate nature and driving! After a short ride we arrived at the lower falls viewing spot, only to find another visitor who described the view down at the bottom of the trail to be amazing. After looking at a few of his pictures, the pathfinders decided to head down ourselves for a look with our own eyes. We found we were not quite as in shape as the muscular man who displayed his pictures for us to see. However, as we approached the lower fall, our jaws dropped at the breathtaking wonder. The 600 foot drop had crystal clear water rushing over rocks which were smooth from the gallons of rushing water rolling over the edge.

Next stop, The Grand Canyon of Yellowstone! The canyon walls were many shades of browns, grays and reds. The valley contained a river flowing peacefully through the center and the birds chirped with excitement as the warm sun shone on the canyon. As we prepared to exit the National Park, we made one last stop at Mud Volcano and Mud pots.

While heading out, we were able to experience a few extra special wildlife surprises. We were able to view a Mama Buffalo and her calf cross the road and trot into the forest and a few miles later see a different buffalo grazing. As we drove along taking in the scenery the Park had to offer, we suddenly found vehicles stopping in the middle of the road. Wildlife was spotted by visitors passing by! Casually strolling along, an enormous buffalo traveled along the center of the two lane road sweeping beside our motorhome as he went. The Oshkosh group waived goodbye to the buffalo and Yellowstone as we drove on.

The fun was over, as we got on the road for another long trek to Custer City, South Dakota. Spectacular scenery was seen with tall rock walls though some pathfinders found the curvy road to be a bit much. Windows were opened and fresh-air helped with the nauseous feelings.

With eyes tired and burning, muscles sore and stiff and physical exhaustion overcoming their bodies we finally reached the Flintstone RV Park. While traveling down the road, John's vehicle decided to drop off one of his hub caps along the freeway. No damage was done. It just provided the traveling group of Oshkosh adventurers a good laugh. The Laundry room and showers are really cute, we could be in bedrock, but we didn't see Fred or Wilma so after showers and clean-up everyone hit the hay.

Our guardian angels surrounded our three motorhomes and flew right by our sides on the road today. No mechanical complications, no collisions, and no injuries. Praise God for safe travels and the gift of sleep and rest. To be continued...