

PARKWOOD ECHOES

HEALTH PRESENTATION

by Lorna Peterson

Many of us have chronic health conditions like obesity, heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, arthritis, indigestion, constipation, colities, and multiple sclerosis.

Most of us depend upon medications to help us live with the condition. Research is showing us there (may be) links between our diet and chronic health conditions.

Suggestions for greater understanding of our diet choices will be discussed in our next health presentation.

Sunday, January 17 at 11:00a
Speaker: Denise Fluence
(lunch will follow)

An interview between Denise and Josie will set the stage of going from processed foods to (typical western diet) and to (whole plant food) this will make a measurable difference in your life.

Denise's theme is "whole plant foods can help to make you whole!"



by Pastor Miranda

Though it may be hard to believe, a new year is upon us once again. For many, the turn of the calendar marks a season of reflection and resolution. With the new year often comes new plans, new habits (hopefully), and new experiences.

According to the verse quoted above, we're not the only ones who want new things in our lives. God Himself wants to do something new in us and for us. While the Everlasting Father's love and character are steady and unchanging, His activity in our lives is not always so predictable. He has a knack for the unexpected and surprising. He's always up to something...not in a mischievous way but in a miraculous, life-giving way.

The anticipation of God's "new thing" in Isaiah 43:19 is coupled with a note of introspection: "Shall you not know it?" Isaiah assures us of God's new activity, but will we recognize it, perceive it, and be aware of that activity ourselves? Sad as it sounds, it is possible for us to be completely clueless while God is moving and working all around us. None of us want to miss out on seeing what God is up to. None of us want to be oblivious to God's present-tense miracles and providences.

So how can we cultivate an awareness of God's hand in our lives?

2) Let the past pass.

At times, our fixation on the past blinds us to the possibilities God has right in front of us.

That's why God's declaration of a new thing in Isaiah 43:19 is preceded by the admonition to forget what lies behind (v. 18, a prescription that Paul reiterates in Phil. 3:13-14).



PARKWOOD LIBRARY

by Gwen Barnett

Library hours are between Sabbath School and 15-20 minutes after Church Service is dismissed.

We're happy to inform that we have a volunteer for our Parkwood Library.

Thank you **Richard Dalton** your greatly appreciated!

Some Book Samples

- Song of Eve (*Project Sunlight*)
- Zion Champion for God (*Show Dog*) - Zion's owner decides to not place her dog Zion in the show on Sabbath she chooses instead on another day and Zion still wins! (*Stay true to your faith and you'll always be a winner!*)
- Leah (*A love story*) about Jacob and his household. (*Found in the book of Genesis*)

ECHOES ARTICLES

by Lorraine Sandoval

Thanks to those who have supported our Echoes in sending articles, pictures and suggestions throughout this 2015'.

Parkwood's Echoes Newsletter is a great source of sharing our Churches Ministry.

Remember everyone is welcome to submit articles, photos, etc for publication in the Echoes.

Please feel free to share by email at: myparkwoodchurch@gmail.com or drop your articles off at the Church Office's mailbox.

DEADLINE is the 21st of every month. Submissions recieved after the 21st will be printed for the following month.

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If 2015 was filled with grief or difficulty, we don't have to dwell on the fears and failures that have marked our journey. Instead, we can take hope that God has a "new thing" on the horizon. God is in the business of giving beauty for ashes and can clothe you with "a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair" (Isa. 61:3). On the other hand, if 2015 was bright with joy and accomplishment, we don't have to cling to the past as though life will only grow dimmer. Instead, we can trust that God has even more up His sleeve, that He can do exceedingly abundantly beyond all we ask or think (Eph. 3:20) to make our path brighter and brighter to the full light of day (Prov. 4:18).

2) Look ahead by praying always.

Have you ever noticed that the more intentional and specific you are in prayer, the more sensitive you become to God's activity in your life? It could be a matter of *causality*, i.e. God is able to work more in our lives *because* we're asking Him to. Or it could be more a matter of *correlation*, i.e. our time spent in specific prayer makes us more attentive when those answers actually come. For example, because Simeon and Anna devoted their lives to praying for Israel's redemption, they were perceptive to the presence of the Messiah though He was just a babe (Lk. 2:25-38). The more we pray, the more we're able to *correlate* what we experience everyday to what God is doing everyday.

God is going to do a new thing. That is certain. The only uncertain part of this is whether we'll recognize it when it comes. Let's covenant together in looking beyond the brokenness and even the brightness of the past. And let's join together in prayer — specific, earnest, united — to give God permission to work and give ourselves more keen perception of His work.

PARKING LOT RENOVATION

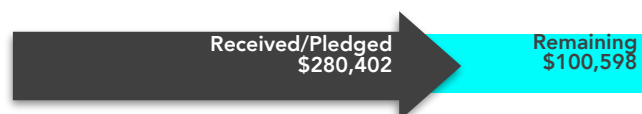
by Nina Herman

"Pave" our Parking Lot

The new plans for the parking lot are in the church foyer. You'll notice that the driveway and many parking spaces are "paved".

They are shaded in with the color grey to resemble asphalt. Other parking spaces on the plans are not yet "paved". That's how much money we need to raise.

A pledge will "pave" a parking space; a donation will add a car to the parking space. At \$1,300 each, there are only 77 parking spots left!



Parkwood Christian Preschool

by Margie Beasley

I am so thankful for all the blessings that God has given the preschool.

We have great teachers, a new cook who does a good job, a business manager who is very encouraging, a custodian who keeps our bathrooms and kitchen clean, and does our repairs and a school board who is very supportive.

God has bless us with parents and families who are supportive of their children, and want the best for them.

The last few months have been very busy for us. In November we had our Thanksgiving lunch in which 15 parents were able to join us. The children love it when the parents come to participate with them in activities at the school.

In December we had our Christmas program, and the children did a great job. We had quite a large attendance for the program. And afterwards we had refreshments/dinner for the parents.

Also in December we had our Christmas party, which the children were able to exchange gifts.

May God continue to bless you and our Preschool in this new year.

Happy New Year
from
Parkwood Preschool



A story about Keagan Dalton

by Rush-Dalton family

The first of October Keagan started getting sick, and was throwing up every morning. After a number of tests and doctor visits, we ended up doing a CT of his head on November 30th at 3 pm, by 5:15 the same night I had a call from his pediatrician telling us that we needed to go get a DVD of the CT we had just had two hours earlier.



He informed us they were seeing a mass on his brain about 3x3 cm size. He told us that the Children's Hospital in Madera was waiting on us. I had to work the next morning so, Ken and my mother Joann Marie drove right down to the hospital.

December 1st, the next day they had a surgery scheduled for Keagan to help remove some pressure off his brain. That Friday the 4th, he had a 2nd surgery to remove the mass from his brain. It was scheduled for 11am but it was about 12:30 when they removed him from our care.

They called us at 2:15 saying that they were starting the surgery, we were told to expect it to take up to 6 - 8 pm before they would be done. We received a call at 4:25 that he was done with surgery and headed up to recovery.

Keagan was able to return home on the 9th. We had a two week check-up on the 23rd and the doctor was very pleased with his results. She also told us that the test on his tumor was benign. Now it's just one day at a time to help Keagan recover and improve his abilities.

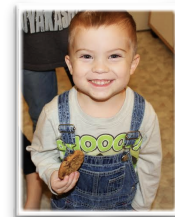
We are very thankful to everyone for all your concerns and prayers. We wish to thank everyone for the support we received and continue to receive from everyone, whether emotional, spiritual, or financial.

With everyone continuing to pray for Keagan he is making a very good and fast recovery.

We have been told that he is able to return to preschool if he is up to it in January.

We will be returning to the hospital on March 30th for a check-up MRI.

Thank you for all of your loving prayers, please continue to pray for Keagan.





SWAT BIBLE WORKERS

by Heidi Maekawa

A Warm Welcome to Kayla Marcoux and Jenni Beltz!

The two SWAT (SOULS West Advanced Training) Bible Workers will be joining our Parkwood Church Family from January 4 through March 19.

They will help us prepare for the upcoming evangelistic series by finding interests in the community, giving Bible studies, and leading out in various outreach activities.

While Jenni (R) calls Missouri home, Kayla (L) grew up in Ontario, Canada. In their free time, Jenni and Kayla both enjoy cooking and reading.

Kayla also enjoys baking, studying, exercising, and making music.

Jenni prefers to journal, camp, hike, and spend time with friends and family.

Jenni and Kayla are looking forward to making new friends, growing closer to God, and learning to be more effective in serving Him.

You too can join Jenni and Kayla in serving God! Keep them in your prayers and get to know them as friends.

Better yet, ask them how you can join them as prayer warriors and "body guards" while they go door-to-door and give Bible studies.



Last of what is Church Investment and Investment Project

by Ei Lavea

<http://archives.adventistreview.org>

When I started attending the Seventh-day Adventist church in Elyria, Ohio, I discovered many of the members had forgotten about Investments.

I reintroduced the program one Sabbath morning to folk who had no idea how the program got started or why they should support it. Knowing the current lack of interest in the program, I had to do my homework before I could "sell" the program to them. What I discovered surprised even me.

Some "skeptics" decided to commit a nonproducing fruit tree or an infertile field just to see what would happen. Even they got amazing results.

Apple trees that had never borne well produced bushels during the first season the Lord was in charge. Fields that had fallen into disuse were planted and yielded bumper crops. Eventually people became convinced that the Lord would bless anything and everything that was put into His care on behalf of His work.

By 1900 the plan was used for various projects worldwide, and by 1908 the plan was being implemented by divisions around the globe. In 1925 the General Conference officially designated the program as the Sabbath School Investment Fund.

"Care for Caregivers Catches On"

by Debbie Miranda

It is a beautiful thing to see the body of Christ in action! One person's weakness just happens to be another person's strength, and vice versa.

The Women's Ministries team experienced this remarkable synergy at Care for Caregivers on December 21.

January Bautista was the mastermind behind this evening of fun for our members and the community, with the intent to give caregivers a break, and to give kids something fun to do to during Christmas break.

Nearly twenty kids were dropped off for a few hours by their parents at Bellaman Hall, where they experienced the Christmas storytelling genius of *Ms. Eva*, the creative craftiness led by *January* and *Ana*, the delicious cuisine of *Lupe* and *Reena*, and the wild and wacky games of yours truly.

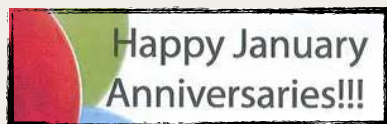


"Happy Birthday"

1st	Leslie O'Neill
1st	January Bautista
1st	Josh Sheffield
1st	Shellie Vasquez
2nd	Brandie Watts - Solis
3rd	Ken Zuidervaart
4th	Morie Baker
4th	Lailana Hoover
11th	Kelland Severns
13th	Preston Zuidervaart
14th	Dee Woodman
16th	Don Olmsted
18th	Dante Matuu
20th	Morgan Graham
20th	Clary De-Paz
22nd	Nina Herman
24th	Michael Taylor
24th	Myles Vazquez
26th	Blaine Dalton
26th	Ana Lupercio
26th	Jeff Podvin
28th	Chad Hoover
29th	Evelyn Boyd
30th	Hans Glen Rush
31st	Ervin Beasley
31st	Andrea Fluence

ANNIVERSARIES

6th - 1 yr	Michael & Tara Taylor
9th 39 yrs	Gabriel & Camelia Andries



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We were also blessed to have *Nancy* on baby duty, *Demeatrice* and *Chris* on the technical team and as balloon volleyball referees, *Janelle* helping with games and being a big sister to the younger kids, and *Jasmine* and *Jewel* with their artistic skills.

The kids seemed to enjoy themselves. I know the parents did as well. Probably at least a third of the kids were not from Parkwood, though they were invited by Parkwood members.

One parent that Evangelist *Ana* had brought said she wanted to start coming to our church. She asked *Ana* why she was helping out when she did this all day at work.

Ana told her it isn't work for her. And that's how it should be. Using our gifts for God is a blessing and a joy. And it's even better to do it together.

"That was YOU, God?"

by Nina Herman

God has been put to the test and he is proving faithful! Our Church Board remembers what God has done in the past and we glorify his name as we recount the challenges that He has seen us through as a church, specifically in regard to finances. There was a time that we needed a new air conditioner and had not the funds to obtain it. As we scraped together the needed monies, our roof began to leak! The Lord provided. Both projects were completed. The next project was the restroom renovation. Check. Most recently our kitchen remodel was completed.

These faith building projects have led us to our most recent endeavor; the parking lot. Ground breaking begins in the spring, after the rains let up. The project total is \$381,000. To date, the amount that has been pledged and donated is \$280,402. Praise the Lord! With \$100,598 to go, I KNOW we will see God working.

My personal testimony is simple. I asked, "God, how can I give? I don't think I can give MORE but if there's a way, I'm willing." I didn't hear a voice from heaven or anything BUT since my prayer, each paycheck has had a little overtime on it and I just got my first raise in over seven years. I just have to smile, look to heaven and say, "That was YOU, God! THANKS."

Will you link hands with me and ask God how you can give? I truly believe God has plans to bless all who agree to join in His work and invite Him to lead the way.

January 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH
					1 6p - Agape Feast & Communion in Bellaman Hall SUNSET: 4:55	2 Speaker: Pastor Miranda SS, Nina Herman Offering-Church Budget Fellowship Luncheon Grp#1 Watson & Verde 2:30p GLOW Outreach SUNSET: 4:56
3 SWAT Bible workers arrive (Kayla Marcoux and Jenny Beltz)	4 6p Quilting Class 7p Bible Study @ Barker's Home	5 6p Pathfinders 6p Adventurer Club	6 9a -noon Community Service 7p "10 Days of Prayer" in Youth Chapel	7 7p "10 Days of Prayer" in Youth Chapel	8 7p "10 Days of Prayer" in Youth Chapel SUNSET: 5:01	9 Name Tag Sabbath Speaker: Pastor Miranda SS, El Lavea Offering-Women's Ministries Fellowship Luncheon Grp#2 Lavea & Todd 2p "10 Days of Prayer" SUNSET: 5:02
10 10a -noon Spiritual Leadership Training 7p "10 Days of Prayer" in Youth Chapel	11 6p Quilting Class 6p Preschool Board Mtg. 7p "10 Days of Prayer" in Youth Chapel 7p Bible Study @ Barker's Home	12 6p Pathfinders 7p "10 Days of Prayer" in Youth Chapel	13 9a -noon Community Service 6p Church Board Mtg. 7p "10 Days of Prayer" in Youth Chapel	14 7p "10 Days of Prayer" in Youth Chapel	15 7p "10 Days of Prayer" in Youth Chapel SUNSET: 5:08	16 Speaker: AJ Beltz SS, Elma (Toadie Barker) Offering-Church Budget Fellowship Luncheon Grp#3 (Bday's& Anniv) 2:30p GLOW Outreach SUNSET: 5:09
17 8:30a Women's Ministries morning Walk 9:30a Women's Ministries Breakfast location TBD	18 6p Quilting Class 7p Bible Study @ Barker's Home	19 6p Pathfinders 6p Adventurer Club	20 9a -noon Community Service 7p "House of Prayer"	21	22	23 Speaker: Pastor Miranda SS, Youth Ministry Offering-Conference Faith Adv. Fellowship Luncheon Grp#4 Reeve & Gomez SUNSET: 5:16
24 9a Men's Ministry Breakfast - (Hometown Buffet)	25 6p Quilting Class 7p Bible Study @ Barker's Home	26 6p Pathfinders	27 9a -noon Community Service 7p "House of Prayer"	28	29	30 Friendship Sabbath Speaker: Pastor Miranda SS, Harold Barnett Offering-Monterey Bay Acad. Fellowship luncheon Invite a friend. SUNSET: 5:24

DEACONESSES-JANUARY - ELDA MARTINEZ, SANDY O'NEIL, SHERRIE REEVE
 HEAD DEACON - CHUCK FLORES (JAN 2ND, 16TH & 23RD) MEYNARD, THEARTIS, ANDREW, KEN & JOSUE
 HEAD DEACON - DOUG TODD (JAN 9TH, JAN 23RD, JAN 30TH) RICHARD, FRANK, DON, SARGE & LARRY