

Pulse of the Congregation



Newsletter of the Restored Church of Christ, Salem Branch



April, 2008

Important Dates:

- May 10: Mother appreciation dinner
- May 24-26: Regional youth retreat
- June 27-29: Congregational camping trip
- July 8-13: Regional reunion
- July 25-August 2: Senior High Youth to Independence, MO
- Every Sunday Evening: Church History Class
- Every other Wednesday evening: Prayer & Testimony service

To Honor our Mothers

The annual Mother's appreciation dinner is scheduled for Saturday, May 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the Herren's. As in times past, Brian will be preparing the entire meal for the mother's, but they should not let this deter them from attending. All mother's are welcome.

Additionally, we will be having a potluck breakfast at the church on Sunday, May 11th. The blessing on the food will be asked at 9:45 a.m. The youth will provide a worship at 10:45 and a special ministry of music will be provided by the men's choir during the speaking service.

New Addition to Our Church Website

We have an exciting addition to our church web page which has already become quite useful to those frequenting our site. This addition is PowerPoint Classes. So far we have two classes available to our visitors: "An Introduction to The Book of Mormon" and "Prayer." We also have a class on "Priesthood" which will soon become available and hopefully we'll continue to add more classes as time goes on. Because we have so many visitors to our web site who are new to our faith, these PowerPoint classes are designed to be very basic in nature.

For those who might not know what a PowerPoint presentation is, PowerPoint is a way of showing visuals on a computer in the form of a slideshow. In our case these "visuals" are classes which teach the basics of our church's beliefs. Not only can they be viewed on a computer, but they can also go from the computer, through a projector, and shown on a large screen for a whole congregation to watch.

What's really neat about this is that a person visiting our web page can download these classes to their own computer and view them from the comfort of their own home. They proceed through the class by clicking their mouse button. They can move forward through the class or move

backwards to review material. Since these classes are downloaded to their computer, they can watch them time and time again. They can also email these classes as an attachment to friends, loved ones, or anyone else who might be interested. In this day and age of modern technology the potential is astronomical.

We have many people from all over the world who visit our page. Many of these people are new to our faith and doctrine. Our Pastor has received numerous emails from people from across the globe inquiring about our church and he has mailed out several Book of Mormons and Inspired Versions of the Bible to those who request them. So far these PowerPoint classes have been a surprising success. During the month of March, "The Book of Mormon" class was downloaded 37 times while the class on "Prayer" was downloaded 30 times. It's exciting to know that our branch is literally reaching out to the entire world through people visiting our web page. They are listening to our sermons and downloading classes which teach our basic beliefs.

To view our new web page addition go to www.restoredchurchofchrist.com and click on the button that says "Classes."

- Gary

Get to Know the Saints

This interview is with Sister Dianna Clark.

- 1) **What is your full name?** Dianna Lynn Clark
- 2) **Where were you born?** San Diego, California
- 3) **Favorite hobbies:** Cooking, Crafts, Bowling
- 4) **Favorite color:** Pink/Purple
- 5) **Least favorite food:** Liver, and Peas
- 6) **In your opinion, at what age does a person become old?**

Gary's Age, or 65

- 7) **One thing that many people don't know about you:**

I Was Homecoming Queen.

- 8) **The Lord permitting, what is one of your plans for the future?** To Visit Israel
- 9) **If you had to pick 5 items (not people) from your home and surrender everything else, what would you keep?**

Holy Scriptures, Family Pictures, Toothbrush/Toothpaste, Clothes, and Eyeglasses

- 8) **List all of the former jobs you have had.** Dairy Queen, Chiropractic Assistant, Credit Manager, and Human Resource Tech/Secretary

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Sister Dianna Clark

11) If you could meet any of the deceased, who would it be? Emma Smith.

12) What is your favorite scripture? It is impossible to only choose one, but I will say Habakkuk 3:18.

13) When you think of Zion, what first comes to mind? Peace, Faith, and Joy!

14) What person(s) has been most influential in your life? Al and Nedine Clark.

15) Who would you like to be interviewed next? Margie Rennick.

Dear Saints,

As many of you know, we have not been able to locate a campground that we could use this year for Youth Camp. Dates for camping are very limited unless reservations are made at least a year ahead and finding a suitable campground is a large part of the challenge.

Brian, Gary and I, did locate a campground and looked at it last Saturday. It is very nice and is located just over the Santiam Pass, by Suttle Lake. The lake is used for swimming and canoeing. The lodge we liked is called Wesley Lodge and will accommodate 30 to 32 people. The only available date that is open is the 16th through 22nd of August, 2009.

After discussion with the Regional Youth Director, Jeff Rew, Jeff and I have decided to have Youth Camp this year at the Vancouver Church. As scheduled, it will be the last of July and Jeff will be sending more information to everyone about it.

I hope this will work out for all those planning to attend, both campers and staff. In Gospel Bonds, Bill Curtis

Congratulations Nancy!

Nancy Curtis has spent many hours in day and evening classes since January, to become a Court Appointed Special Advocate (known as CASA). Those who volunteer and qualify after training, are to investigate child abuse and bring this to the attention of the court. The CASA mandate is to work for the benefit of the whole family by ensuring that all facts are brought before the court. CASA members work or talk with teachers, doctors, psychiatrists, counselors, attorney's and any others who may have insight into a child's circumstance.

We know that the Lord will bless her in her efforts and that through her service, she is representing her beliefs and the church. Nancy will be sworn in by Judge Abernethy on May 2nd.

**The Fundamentals Series:
Sunday Morning Adult Classes for 2008**

Please be reminded that the Sunday morning class for adults has changed. The present series of classes are intended to be very basic and are directed at fortifying our understanding of several fundamental topics. I feel that all of us will benefit by attending. This is a great time to ask questions about basic doctrinal beliefs that you may have been shy about asking before. The class schedule is not set in stone, as the priesthood are to be directed by the Holy Ghost and have been given the liberty to teach accordingly. Some classes may last 1 Sunday, while others may last 6 months. There may be additional classes interjected if the need arises. Please see Brian if you have particular ideas about class topics that you feel would serve the congregation.

Class:

- 1) The Restoration Story
- 2) Unique Tenets of the Restoration
- 3) Baptism & Confirmation
- 4) the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
- 5) The Book of Mormon
- 6) Priesthood
- 7) Duty of the Saints /
Responsibility of the Members
- 8) The Word of Wisdom
- 9) Zion
- 10) Resurrection & Eternal Life
- 11) Prayer
- 12) Study
- 13) Fasting
- 14) The Financial Law
- 15) Laying on of Hands for
Administration
- 16) Signs of the Times

Teacher:

- Elder Gene Luffman
- High Priest John Henderson
- High Priest Bill Curtis
- Elder Gene Luffman
- Elder Gary Livingston
- Elder Brian Herren
- Priest Jim Clark
- Elder Gene Luffman
- High Priest Bill Curtis
- TBA
- Elder Gary Livingston
- High Priest Bill Curtis
- Elder Brian Herren
- Priest Jim Clark
- High Priest John Henderson
- High Priest Bill Curtis

Camping Trip

There is a camping trip to "D Lake" at Lincoln City scheduled for June 27-29. The entire congregation is invited and is encouraged to join in the fellowship. Over half of the available spaces have been reserved to date, but there are still sites available with full hook-ups. The only sites remaining will cost \$23 per night. This trip will be informal and simply provide the Saints an opportunity to fellowship outside of church. Brother Ron Trammell will bring his boat for water sports, fishing, etc. Each family will be responsible for organizing their own meals. See Brian for reservations.

Israel Trip 2009

On March 30th many of those interested in traveling to Israel with the Saints met for an introductory meeting. By vote, we decided our first choice for the date of the trip to be Fall of 2009. If this doesn't work, the second choice was February of 2009. We all enjoyed a presentation of the Holy Lands and look forward with some excitement.

Note:
Please remember that volunteer opportunities are available at Simonka Place (ask Brian for details). Also, remember the ongoing food drive.