

# Pulse of the Congregation



Newsletter of the Restored Church of Christ, Salem Branch



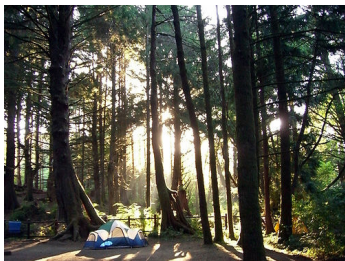
May, 2009

## Important Dates:

- April 17-19: Men's Retreat
- May 1: LRS meeting
- May 10: Mother's Day
- May 15-17: Women's Fellowship weekend
- June 5-7: Women's Retreat
- June 21: Father's Day
- June 26-28: Men's Fellowship weekend at Sunriver
- July 7-12: Reunion
- July 31-Aug. 2: Congregational Camping trip
- August 16-22: Youth Camp
- Every Sunday Evening: Genesis / Exodus Class
- Every other Wednesday evening: Prayer & Testimony service

## Congregational Camping Trip

This year we will be camping at Beverly Beach State Park, July 31 - Aug. 2. The response has been great! At this point, there are members of 17 families signed up, making a total of roughly 40 Saints. Some of the Saints from Vancouver will also be joining us. Several families from Salem have added on this year as well. I am presently working on camp site assignments and meal assignments. Each camper will be asked to bring something small to contribute. More to come!



Beverly Beach Campsite

## Congratulations to the Senior Saints!

This June, Sisters Cessaries Galusha, Jessica Trammell, and Lisa Livingston will be graduating. The Lord has truly blessed each of them in their endeavors, and has blessed us by bringing them into our lives. We are so proud sisters, and hold you each in high regards. Congratulations! Well done!



Sister Cessaries Galusha

Cessaries received her Bachelors of Music Performance from UMKC in 2007, graduating Cum Laude with a 3.917 GPA. Unsure of the next step, she did a lot of praying and applied to several graduate schools in the United Kingdom, and as a back up, the University of Oregon. The guidance she received directed her to Oregon, and she is "incredibly happy to be here, and could not imagine being as happy anywhere else". She will graduate with her Masters in Music on June 12-13, with a 3.92 GPA. Her future plans "are in the Lord's hands" and she is confident that He will direct her to where she should be and what she should do.



Sister Jessica Trammell

Jessica will be graduating from Seattle University, with a Bachelor of Arts & Business Administration with specialization in marketing and university honors. Her cumulative GPA is 3.26 and the GPA within her major is a 3.60. After she graduates, she will be looking for a job in Seattle: "I want to work in Sports Marketing...ideally I would like to be involved in promotions or public relations for the Seahawks, Sounders, or Mariners, but I am currently just looking for a job with a pay check".

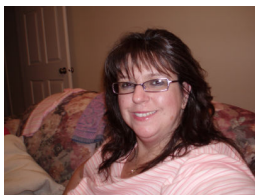


Sister Lisa Livingston

Lisa will be graduating from South Salem High School on June 5th with a 3.49 GPA. She plans to attend Chemeketa Community College beginning this Fall, and to transfer to a university after completing her basic studies... "once I decide what I would like to do later on in life..." "I am excited about my new adventure.", she says. Lisa should be commended in her academic excellence in the International Baccalaureate program, and in her tireless leadership within the drama club.

## Youth Fundraiser

*Written by Traci Scuito, Member of the Youth Commission*



Sister Traci Scuito,  
Member of the Youth  
Commission

The Youth are continuing an effort to raise funds for youth camp. After a very successful wreath-making campaign, they are now preparing for a fundraising lunch. We hope all the youth of camp age will meet at the Clark's, April 25th to fellowship and prepare the lunch. Then all are invited to be served and dine at the Trammell's, Sunday, April 26th after church. Please plan to come and support our youth and enjoy their culinary skills as they work their way to camp, with all of the proceeds going to our youth for their tuition. Come one, come all, and spend a special afternoon together.

**Editor's note:** Remember, as a result of our voting at last year's business meeting, the youth are being encouraged to earn their way to camp this year. The Youth Commission has been working very hard to ensure that every camper has ample opportunity to fundraise their tuition. The Church will help those who have given their every effort and still find themselves short, or in cases where extenuating circumstances demand consideration. The Youth will be best served by those who encourage them to be at each activity, and provide for such. Please contact any member of the Youth Commission or the Branch Pastor with questions. Remember to hug a Youth Commission member today, as they are providing a great ministry!



## Brother's It's Time

Written by Priest Jim Clark

**Editor's note:** While this poem was originally written for the benefit of the priesthood, it is being published here because it is felt to have universal merit.

Brother's its time to answer the call.

*Priest Jim Clark* Many are ripe, their eternity to solve.  
Will you rise up, and give them a hand?

Or will you be blind, unto your fellowman.  
I have come and given you all that I can.  
I have lifted you up, and now your call demands.  
You haven't the luxury of waiting around,  
I'm coming again and the trump soon shall sound.

You must be about the work you've been given to do.  
It's time to be helping, you for I, I for you.  
The world is dying, His children deceived.  
Full of such woes, and full of such needs.  
Opportunities abound, there is so much greed.  
You must show all men how they too can be freed.  
The righteous need leadership, lost to be saved,  
Where are you found, the forefront, or a cave?

Step forward, be numbered as servants devoted.  
Be humble, be willing, in the Book Of Life noted,  
As honorable men living life as they should.  
Ministering unto all, and inspiring all to do good.  
The road has been paved, by faithful Saints of old.  
Their faith and example more valued than gold.  
Stand forth and be counted, your authority to claim.  
The sheep are in need of My word, and My name.

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## Get to Know the Saints

This interview is with Sister Nancy Curtis.

**1) What is your full name?** Nancy Louise (Smith) Curtis

**2) Where were you born?** Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

**3) Favorite hobbies:** Sewing.

**4) If you had to pick 5 items (not people) from your home and surrender everything else, what would you keep?** Assuming I couldn't replace them, my Scriptures, Church History, family pictures and sewing machine.

**5) Favorite Color:** Periwinkle blue.

**6) Least favorite food:** German Food.

**7) In your opinion, at what age does a person become old?** When they can no longer care for themselves.

**8) One thing that many people don't know about you:** My lineage traces back to Joseph Smith.

**9) The Lord permitting, what is one of your plans for the future?** A tossup between driving to the East Coast and back, stopping along the way to visit with family and friends, or a cruise to Alaska.

**10) List all of the former jobs you have had.** Waitress, Parish Middle School Secretary, Locksmith, owner/manager of a quilt shop, and presently, a long-arm quilter.

**11) If you could meet any of the deceased, who would it be?** My mother, who died when I was two.

**12) What is your favorite scripture?** I like stories, and one of my favorite stories is from the Book of Mormon (Alma 26:22-67). It reminds us of the importance of an oath, the teachings of the mothers, trust in those teachings from the sons, strength given of the Lord to the young men & many more lessons. I love that story.

**13) When you think of Zion, what first comes to mind?** Peace.

**14) What person(s) has been most influential in your life?** My husband & my father-in-law.

**15) Who would you like to be interviewed next?** Katie Kurowski.



Sister Nancy  
Curtis

### Announcements:

- 1) Remember, the calendars and newsletters are available at [www.restoredchurchofchrist.com](http://www.restoredchurchofchrist.com). You can also listen to the sermons there.
- 2) Please use 503-949-2484 to reach Brother Brian, and 503-949-2346 to reach Sister Melissa. The other number may not work.
- 3) A special thank you to the Ladies Relief Society, who recently delivered meals to a new mother, and a busy student. Also, thank you for visiting the elderly.

### Zion (article taken from Times & Seasons: July 15, 1841)

The location of Zion or the New Jerusalem, is certainly a subject of importance, and well worth a candid investigation: for it is one that interested the prophets, and much the more it ought to interest every true believer of this remote age of the world; for according to the prophets it will be a place of refuge, and deliverance for the people of God when destruction comes upon the nations. Again, the Lord not only intends to gather all his people together in the last days, but he intends to prepare places for them to gather to. The city of Zion is said to be one of these places of gathering; therefore, it is of all importance that we should know where it will be located or established. That there will be city called Zion or the New Jerusalem, built, beautified, and prepared for the millennium is evident from all the prophets that have mentioned the work of God of the last days. We have in a brief manner touched upon this subject before; but the magnitude and importance of it is such, that we think that justice to it, requires us to give it a more extensive investigation. That there was a Zion established at Jerusalem we do not wish to deny; but that has nothing to do with the one for the millennium [millennium].-However, because some are unable to separate or distinguish it from the one for the Millennium, we will first show the difference between the two, and then proceed to examine the prophets with respect to the place of the location of the latter. This Zion at Jerusalem was sometimes called the upper city, and it was detached from Jerusalem proper by a wall. Historians say that Jerusalem was founded by Melchizedek, then called Salem. Paul says Melchizedek was king of Salem.

(See Heb. vii. 2.) ...continued on page 3





High Priest Bill  
Curtis

Dear Saints,

The subject of Zion has not been discussed here in Salem to any great degree. This subject is one that has been discussed by the Saints since the early Restoration. As I said in the first class, the subject of Zion has much depth to it and mystery as well. Mystery, because we are not able to completely define it. However, through the Restoration movement and spiritual guidance of men who have studied this subject, our understanding has been enlarged. My purpose in wanting to bring this to your attention is to make us all aware of the full design and plan of God, as best I can. The importance of studying this together cannot be stressed enough. The subject of Zion and the realization of the Kingdom of God upon earth go hand in hand. My hope is that as we study this subject, especially in the times we are living, that we will see how prophecy has been given concerning the very times in which we are living. Both the Inspired Version and King James Version of the Bible have much to say concerning Zion. As well as these, the Book of Mormon and the Doctrine and Covenants contain much information on the subject of Zion. Following is a list of Scriptures I will be using. You may want to spend some time looking them up and studying them. They are not in any certain order, but in one way or another, they provide insight into the subject of Zion, the New Jerusalem and the Old Jerusalem:

Doctrine & Covenants 108:5f,g; 57:1a-6b; 45:12-14; 105:9-10b. Isaiah 1:27; 55:11; 2:1-2; 62:1-12; 4:1-5; 11:1-6. II Peter 3:9. Psalms 120:16; 15:1-5. I Peter 4:17-19. Ezekial 13:26-27. II Nephi 7. III Nephi 9:47-93. Matthew 13:32-45. Luke 17:34-39. Ether 6:1-13.

There are many more references concerning Zion in the three books. I hope you will take the time to study and ponder these scriptures so together we will be able to have a much greater insight and knowledge of the plan that God has set in place from the beginning of time, as we know it.

Your brother in Christ, High Priest Bill Curtis

### Fellowship Weekends

In recent years, the Salem Branch has been blessed with additional opportunities for us to come together in fellowship and worship. This year, two more opportunities will be added. There will be a men's fellowship weekend at Sunriver, June 26-28. The Ladies Relief Society is also organizing a women's fellowship weekend to be held May 15-17. The women's fellowship has already been filled. The men's fellowship weekend is very nearly full. If you are interested, and have not yet registered, please call Brother Brian (503-949-2484). These weekends are intended to build upon the blessings of the regional retreats and are not meant to be substitutes. The only cost associated with the men's retreat is the cost of food, though donations will be accepted to pay for the house if one feels so led. Brother Ron Trammell is in charge of organizing our meals. If one is able, each man attending should provide Ron with \$20 to cover the cost of food for the weekend. Also come prepared to enjoy the pool table, Hot tub, canoe, fireplace, bicycles, tennis racquets, and BBQ. Find pictures at: [www.sunriverlodging.com/BGR04.htm](http://www.sunriverlodging.com/BGR04.htm). Learn more at: [www.sunriverlodging.com/bluegrouse.htm](http://www.sunriverlodging.com/bluegrouse.htm).

### Thanks Vancouver!

Four of us recently attended gym night at Vancouver and enjoyed volleyball and b-ball with the Vancouver Saints. Thanks for the hospitality!



### Zion...continued from page 2

Subsequently it was called Jerusalem; but whether or not Zion was founded by Melchizedek is not easy for us to determine; but one thing is certain, it was in existence in the days of David; for when he took Jerusalem from the Jebusites, it is said the he "took a strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David."-2 Sam. v. 7. Many places in the inspired writings where Zion is mentioned, refer to this Zion at Jerusalem.-Isaiah speaking of this Zion says: "For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem,-Isa. xxx. 19. Now if Isaiah had no idea of any other Zion; than the one at Jerusalem, why did he use the preposition at, as though there was another city called by the same name? Indeed he knew that the Lord would cause to be built another city of Zion, which should be a place of deliverance in the last days, which he saw in the vision established upon this land [America]; therefore, he used the preposition, "Zion at Jerusalem," to designate the difference between it and the one of the last days upon another land. But says one, if the ancients knew that God would establish another Zion for the Millennium, why did they call the one at Jerusalem by that name? This is a thing that the scriptures in a measure leave in the dark; however, there is a foundation for an opinion, which we will give... Zion is a very ancient name, and signifies the pure in heart, or the place where the pure in heart dwell; and according to recent revelations which the Lord has given to his people, there was a Zion established in the days of Enoch wherein the church of the first-born dwelt: and perhaps, Paul alludes to this Zion of Enoch when he says: "But ye are come unto Mount Sion, and into the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and the church of the first-born."-Heb. xii. 22, 23. The saints of the Antediluvian world, are the only ones that we can with propriety call the church of the first-born; but they and their Zion are in heaven; and Paul calls their Zion the city of God, and them the church of the first-born. Now it is possible that when Melchizedek, or whoever founded Zion; when arranging the various districts, and suburbs of Jerusalem, called that district, or the upper city, which was so beautiful and elevated, "Mount Zion," out of respect to a former Zion, and because of the pureness of the name; the same as many name their children after eminent men, and those whom they in a particular manner respect. After David it was called "the city of David."

Continued on page 4...

### Zion...continued from page 3

When Jerusalem is rebuilt, it is probable that this city of David, will also be built again; but not in fulfillment of the predictions of the prophets concerning the establishment of the latter-day Zion or the New Jerusalem; but in fulfillment of prophecy relating to the rebuilding of Jerusalem: for when it is built of course all its districts and suburbs will also be built. But we have said enough upon this part of the subject, and we hope that the reader will be able to designate the difference between the Zion which was at Jerusalem, and the one that the Lord shall cause to be built for the saints to gather to, and be a place of refuge and deliverance at the time that God will trouble the nations with his wrath. This Zion of the last days, we believe will be located on the land of America; and indeed the prophets have said enough to establish this idea. David says: "Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion, on the side of the North, the city of the great King. God is known in her palaces for a refuge."-"As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God: God will establish it for ever."-Ps. xlviii. 2, 8. David evidently saw the situation of Zion, which he says is beautiful, at some other place besides Jerusalem, or he would not have said that it was on the sides of the North. Match this saying with what Isaiah says in the xvii, ch. of his prophecy, concerning a land [America] beyond the rivers of Ethiopia, and we learn: first, as Isaiah says, that this is the land where the Lord's ensign of the last days was to be reared, and from whence the ambassadors of the Lord are to be sent to all nations, and where "the place of the name oi [of] the Lord of hosts, the Mount Zion" shall be established, to which the servants of God, or swift messengers to the nations shall bring a present unto the Lord of a people terrible from their beginning.-This proves that Zion is to be located in America. Second, that, according to David, it is to be on the sides of the North; consequently on North America. David says in another place: "I will not give sleep to my eyes nor slumber to mine eyelids until I find out a place for the Lord, an habitation for the mighty God of Jacob. Lo, we heard of it at Ephrata; we found it in the fields of the wood." "For the Lord hath chosen Zion: he hath desired it for his habitation."-Ps. cxxxii 4, 13. It cannot be said in truth that Jerusalem was in the fields of the wood in David's time; therefore, we conclude that he had reference to some other place besides Jerusalem. Indeed, the interior of North America is interspersed with the fields of the woods, or in other words fields in the midst of the wilderness. Isaiah says: "Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation." We have before proved the Book of Mormon to be true; therefore, whatever it says upon this subject we consider as valid testimony.-Moroni writing the words of Ether says, "Behold, Ether saw the days of Christ, and he spake concerning a New Jerusalem upon this land; and he spake also concerning the House of Israel, and the Jerusalem from whence Lehi should come; after it be destroyed, it should be built up again a holy city unto the Lord; wherefore it could not be a New Jerusalem, for it had been in a time of old, but it should be built up again and become a holy city of the Lord: and should be built up unto the House of Israel and that a New Jerusalem should be built up upon this land, unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph, for which things there has been a type: for as Joseph brought his father down into the land of

of Egypt, even so he died there wherefore the Lord brought a remnant of the seed of Joseph out of the land of Jerusalem that he might be merciful unto the seed of Joseph, that they should perish not, even as he was merciful unto the father of Joseph, that he should perish not: wherefore the remnant of the House of Joseph shall be built upon this land; and it shall be a land of their inheritance; and they shall build up a holy city unto the Lord, like unto the Jerusalem of old; and they shall no more be confounded, until the end come, when the earth shall pass away." As we have before mentioned the prophets have declared that there shall be deliverance for the saints in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem; therefore, when we take all things into consideration, we discover that it is perfectly consistent with reason and the scripture, for Zion to be built upon this continent: for this is a promised land to the tribe of Joseph, as much so as Canaan to the House of Israel. For instance, the Lord will establish a place of gathering upon this land, near the centre [center] of the North division of the continent, which will be convenient for the House of Joseph that is upon this land to gather to, and also, for many of the saints that are now scattered among the Gentile nations. And also he will cause the old city of Jerusalem to be rebuilt, and the Jews to gather there, Thus there will be two central places of gathering, and deliverance. Zion, and Jerusalem, when spoken of as being the two great places of deliverance, are not synonymous: for Jerusalem and its suburbs when spoken of at a distance are all ranked under the one head; but the prophets speak of Zion as being established, and having stakes, or auxiliary cities. The city of David or Zion at Jerusalem was merely an auxiliary and not the principal. Isaiah places this matter beyond doubt, that Zion and Jerusalem are not synonymous; but on two separate lands. "For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof, as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory; and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name. Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of thy God. Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken: neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate; but thou shalt be called Hephzi-bah, and thy land Bulah: for the Lord delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married." It is said, Gen x. 25, that in the days of Peleg the earth (not nations) was divided; it is also said, Gen i. 9 that the waters were gathered together unto one place at the time of the creation; and of course the land was in one place; but it is manifest that there has been a great division, so much so that the earth has been divided into continents, which the bible says was done in the days of Peleg; but according to the prophet Isaiah, when the time of restoration comes, then this continent upon which Zion shall be built, shall re-unite with the eastern, and thus fulfill the saying, "thy land shall be married," or joined. But says the objectors, how can there be two places of gathering if Ezekiel's word are true? "And I will make them one nation upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all." We have before proved that the land of America is a promised land to the House of Joseph; therefore, the "mountains of Israel" are here as much so as in the land of Canaan. The idea is that the whole earth will be subjected to one

form of government, and to one code of laws, and one king shall rule over them whether in America or in Asia.-But the two continents are to be united, and then it will be an easy thing for them to become one nation upon the mountains (not mountain) of Israel, and at the same time the tribe of Joseph and others dwell in Zion, and its vicinity upon this land, and the Jews in the land of Canaan, and one king rule over them all. -Times & Seasons: July 15, 1841

*"Let us endeavor so to live that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry." - Mark Twain*

#### Youth Group Cleans Up:

The youth group (and some older folks) participated in the annual SOLV Beach Clean-up on March 28th (picture at right). Afterwards, the Trammell's were kind enough to host the group for lunch and swimming at Whaler's Rest campground. Thank You!

