

# Pulse of the Congregation



**Newsletter of the Restored Church of Christ, Salem Branch**



**February, 2012**

## *Important Dates:*

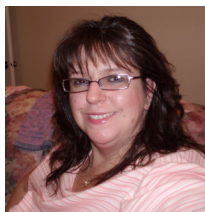
- March 10: Women's classes sponsored by Vancouver LRS
- March 17: Youth game night
- March 26: Youth service activity
- Youth Movie night
- April 8: Easter
- April 13: Regional Women's Retreat
- April 27-29: Women's Fellowship Weekend
- June 8-10: Regional Men's Retreat
- July 22-27: Regional Youth Camp
- July 27-29: Congregational Camping at Fort Stevens

## **Sunday School Change**



*Sister Clark*

After twenty dedicated years of teaching the elementary Sunday school class, Sister Dianna Clark (known as "teacher") was relieved of this responsibility in January. Her service is tremendously appreciated. Sister Traci Scuito was asked to teach the elementary class after much prayer. She is proving to be an excellent teacher already!



*Sister Scuito*

## **Dear God in Heaven, Thank you**

*by Sister Kelli Pieratt*

As I sit here in church writing this, it is here that I have found my perfect place to write about one of my many testimonies. This past year there has been a lot of tears, fears, and pain. But, with all of that we are in a place in our lives where God has slowly and precisely guided us to be. This testimony is about how my two little boys and I got the home we were supposed to have.

It started when the true reality of us having to move, leaving a home I've had for ten years and the boys since they were born, hit me. Also, wondering if the critters we had and loved were going to be with us. As I have prayed to God for guidance and help, I have never felt His Spirit as much and as strongly as I have going through such a difficult

time in my life. We found a home that we thought was perfect. It was a beautiful country yellow mobile on 5 acres with a big shop. It was lacking fencing for the animals and had a 2500 gallon cistern, but it was only 1½ miles from my family! The boys and I would pray for this home. We would stop in to look at it every time on our way home from town, thinking how wonderful it would be. My realtor was still looking for other possibilities, but even he himself thinking that this was the one. Even my mother-in-law took the time to look at it with me and tried to persuade my soon to be ex-husband to accept their loan to him to give to us, so we would be able to buy this home. He declined, time still going and still praying for a home. But now, praying not for this specific home, but asking God to choose the right place to be. Even if it meant giving up the critters and living in an apartment. A couple of months went by, two court trials were postponed and our "perfect" home was sold. I found out that my court trial was finally going to be in October, three months away. It would finalize everything, custody and parenting time of the boys and settlement of money. During these months my realtor was still looking for homes for us, even possible

rentals. I asked him once if he could find out about the place across the road from my family. It had been empty for at least a year. No signs, just grass getting taller and garbage. He checked on it but, no activity. This place was maybe a possibility, but not my first choice. Two months before my trial, my parents noticed activity across the road. It was being cleaned up and an auction

notice on the door. I told my realtor, and he said it could take several months up to a year for it to come on the market. He said he'd keep an eye on it. My trial finally came and we got enough money that I'd hoped for a down payment on a home. My realtor asked if I'd call him after my trial so he'd know what to start looking for. At that time, no one knew how much money I'd get. I called my

realtor the evening after my trial and told him the news. He said, "Well Kelli you're not going to believe this, but the place across from your family just came on the market at 6:00 pm tonight." My trial had finished at 5:00 pm. I told him. He said, "someone up above is sure looking after you". After seeing this place through clearer eyes, it was the most perfect of any of the homes we'd seen. Five acres, partially fenced, a well, a stick built home with 3 big bedrooms, 2 baths, large dining room and kitchen area, vaulted ceilings and best of all we were right across the road from our family. Because of all of God's guidance, we knew of course this was our home. The next thing to figure out was how to get a loan since I hadn't worked in five years and still had to pay my half of bills from the divorce settlement. Banks wouldn't loan me the money, so I asked about people who do private loans, but that didn't work. I started talking to family and friends, but at the time they were unable, though wishing they could. As I got off the phone with the last person, I prayed to God: "please help me know what to do or where to go". In an instant, a couple I've known for years (since I've lived in Central Oregon) popped into ...**concluded on page 7**



*Brothers Nathaniel and Noah play in front of their new home*

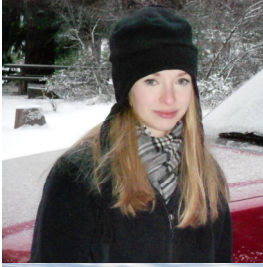


## Young Adult Group Snow Trip

*By Sister Cessaries Galusha*



To start the new year off right, the Young Adult Group went on a snow tubing adventure on the Santiam Pass for the weekend of January 6-7th. We drove up together Friday afternoon to camp at Link Creek campground at Suttle Lake, where we discovered exactly what a "yurt" was. We were all delighted with the snow, the beauty of the area, and the brightness of the moon, which Kevin insisted made the campground as light as mid-day! We were greatly blessed with a wood stove in each yurt, one for the men and



one for the ladies. We experienced a night of "roughing it", but it was thoroughly enjoyed. Brian immediately set to work providing us with a very warm fire, which kept us very warm and comfortable through the night. Kevin took care of the fire in the men's yurt so it would be warm for them when



they retired. We congregated in the ladies' yurt for dinner, singing, praying and fellowship next to a crackling fire. In response to the lack of running water, we improvised. We resolved to using the packing ice brought in the cooler to keep the food cold. Melting ice into water and bringing water

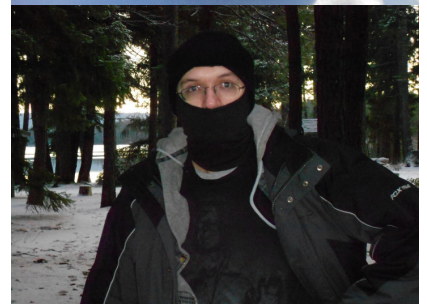
to boiling takes an exceedingly long amount of time, we discovered, but dinner (pasta and bread) was most welcomed and delicious, thanks to wonderful Melissa, who also provided us with a hot lunch after sledding (sloppy joes and soup). In order to save resources, several used the starchy pasta water to make hot cocoa, and testified that it tasted just the same....that is until Kevin found a noodle in the bottom of his cup! We laughed and shared and sang together, and were kept quite warm and toasty all the night long as long as the fires were kept.



The next morning we enjoyed breakfast together, and once all packed up, we headed to the Santiam Snow Park about mid-morning. The sun was bright and shining, and with the park nearly all to ourselves, we had a wonderful time. More joined us as the day went on, and some even brought their dogs. Experimenting with different ways to ride down the hill, there was some definite excitement, including running into a clump of trees at full speed! Another thrilling moment was on our very last run, where two tubes were connected and four people rode down together. It was all fun and games until the larger tube ran over a dog named Molly! She seemed to take it well, however, and immediately ran down the hill after us to make sure we were ok.



It was a very good day, and the YAG group grew closer in bonds in Christ. What a delight to have Travis Clark



join our midst among the YAG, we enjoyed his company very much. Let us continue to strengthen our bonds and love for one another, and be effectual servants of the Most High. He is worthy to be praised!



## 2011 Christmas Ministry

By Brother Ron Trammell



*Some of the presents and food items delivered to families in need.*

Our 2011 Christmas Family giving was some of the best ever for need and spirit. The Ladies Relief Society brought a great spirit to these families in hope and love.

Gifts and meals were brought and a great

warmth was received by us. The light that came from the eyes of the children and the love and gratitude that was expressed by the parents/grandparents was at times overwhelming. I wish everyone could have come with us to feel the spirit that we felt. I would like to thank all who helped by purchasing food and gifts for the families and the donation of funds to help with this cause. Also, a special thanks to Ron and Dorothy Herren and the Salem Fire Department for the donation and wrapping of the toys for the children.

**Editor's Note:** I would like to thank Brother Ron Trammell for his leadership in organizing the Christmas giving efforts this year. His coordination between the Church and the Oregon Department of Human Services ensured some of the most needy families in our community were blessed in the bonds of Christ.

## Youth Progressive Dinner

by Brother Michael Livingston



*The youth and members of the Youth Commission gathered together after fireside chats*

On January 13, seven of our youth took part in a progressive dinner. We sang a song at each house we went to. Our first stop was Ron and Sharon Trammell's house. They served us nice little tacos. Then we visited the Clark's where we

had very good soup. Jim shared a testimony about one of the youth camps he had served at several years ago. Then we went to Sue Herren's place. She had lasagna and pizza for us. We also got to share testimonies at her house. We were at Sue's longer than we had planned because almost all of us shared testimonies. Then we went to Brian and Melissa Herren's for dessert. Brian shared a fireside chat about David and Goliath and how we should be willing servants. We even got to use a sling! We all had a wonderful time at this progressive dinner.

**"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."**

- Jesus Christ

## Winter Youth Activities

By Sister Trina Herren



*Youth at Christmas Party*

Year after year the youth come together to create beautiful 18 inch wreaths to put on display in as many homes as possible. It seems the wreaths sell themselves at this point and the desire for them has increased to an all-time high. At \$10 each, the youth have earned an amount of money equivalent to sending several of them to camp. The money was divided among all those who participated in the selling and/or making of them and will be used exclusively to pay for their youth camp. With a combined effort from all the youth and many others, over the span of 4 evenings, 110 unique wreaths were put together. The sound of Christmas hymns being sung and the youth enjoying them is something I look forward to each year. Thank you to all who chose to display one of these amazing rings full of hard work and dedication. I would like to give a special thank you to Jim Clark for his undying dedication to the yearly project and many hours spent in a cold garage helping teach the new comers the art he is able to accomplish, and the Trammell's for the use of tables, clippers, materials, and the always needed heater as well as help every year. As I hung out with all those who were so willing to help, I came to realize a few things about these wonderful masterpieces. Our Lord is never-ending as the circular ring they are made of and the same today, tomorrow, and always as the process in which the job is completed. The dedication to make each ring special in its own right is a characteristic to be absorbed from those around to use in daily life. Next year's wreath sales are already in the works for some who have expressed the love and enjoyment that comes from having one hang from your door. Thank you for your continued support from parents and grandparents who have provided a way in which the youth may sell them and provided rides to and from the event. A big thank you as well to the congregation for allowing us to provide something we find beautiful to be a part of your Christmas. The youth also enjoyed a Christmas party. We learned how even a candy cane witnessed of Jesus and passing them out was a delightfully sweet way to serve the congregation while showing the history of how the treats came to be. The youth had a wonderful time making ornaments, playing games, and preparing for Christmas which landed on a Sunday this year. What better way to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior then meeting together in the Lord's house and worshipping alongside our brother's and sister's. It warmed my soul to see so many smiling faces at the youth Christmas party. I wish it



*Sister Melissa's ornament*

would not have ended. Thank you to the youth for your participation, anticipation, and continuing enthusiasm to worship the Lord of Lords and praise forever the King of Kings. Thanks very much to Traci and Steve for hosting the Christmas party year after year and allowing each one to be as special as the last. May our Lord continue to resonate in the hearts of all until we meet again in whatever way the Lord may see fit.



*Brother Robert sweeps after making wreaths*

## The Youth Provide Chapel Service at Simonka Place

By Sister Cessaries Galusha



*Sister Cessaries*

For the past several years the Salem Branch has been involved with serving dinners at a women's and children's shelter called Simonka Place. Various Saints sign up and contribute their time and energy to blessing those who have been destitute and stricken with trials by helping to serve the evening meal and clean up afterwards. Those who have ministered there have found these women to be filled with thankfulness and praise to the Lord Jesus, even though many have faced tremendous affliction. They receive the Saints with joy and clap for them in gratitude for their service in such a small way. They know without a doubt that the Lord has cared for them and preserved them in their lives, and they sing His praises gladly. Those Saints who have served find it a great blessing to be with these beautiful souls and pray for their needs as the concerns of the women become their own.

Recently, the Youth Commission found opportunity to serve at Simonka Place in a new way. Every evening at 6:30 the ladies are required to attend a chapel service that is provided by local churches. Because UGM is non-denominational, they allow various sects to come in to worship and teach the women about the Gospel. The youth group were able to plan a worship service for February 4th and we were amazed by the blessings that came from it. Michael and Melissa made introductions, read the parable of the lost sheep, expounded upon the scripture, and offered an opening prayer. A ministry of music was given by a flute duet playing the hymn "Just as I Am" and then Kevin stood and shared a testimony of his life and overcoming the trials he has had. The invitation was given to the women to participate and share their testimonies and the response was tremendous! The hour was filled and each heart was touched by those who shared, praising God for bearing them up and carrying them through trying times. As we sang hymns, every soul sang exuberantly, and when the scripture was read, each woman located the passage in their Bible to follow along. The youth who participated were overjoyed and expressed desire to provide such a service again and again! The Lord's Spirit truly blessed us and opened up the way for His presence among us. We hope that the women were half as blessed as we were, and we praise our Father for His bountiful gifts as we seek to serve Him and His people.

*Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction... – James 1:27*

### Christmas Caroling

By Brother Brian Herren



*Several of the Saints gathered to carol*

On December 16, 2011, several of the Saints assembled once again to spread glad tidings of peace and good will to men as we worshipped the Lord in hymns. We passed from door to door and sang Christmas hymns to old and young. Along the way, we collected non-perishable items to be donated to the Marion-Polk Food

Share. It was a rich blessing to see our older neighbors take joy in our song and bring their young ones to the door to introduce them to a bygone day. Half way through our worship, we stopped at Sister Sue Herren's home, where we enjoyed many delicious treats, sandwiches, hot soup and warm cocoa. On the final leg of our efforts, a young woman and her daughter followed us unbeknown to us, until she finally caught our attention. She offered money and canned food and asked for one more song to be sung for her daughter. We are truly small, but the glad tidings of His kingdom are sown as seeds and our days are redeemed one hour at a time. I truly enjoyed the company of the Saints, and the song of the humble. Glory to God in the highest, from generation to generation & from home to home, through warm summer breezes and starry winter nights.



*Some of the food collected for those in need*

### A Missionary Trip

By Brother Brian Herren



Approximately two years ago, I felt led to offer service in Africa, though such a prompting seemed very unlikely to materialize given my poverty of contacts and inexperience in such matters. Nevertheless, I made this prompting a matter of prayer and expected that someday the Lord might provide

a way. Shortly thereafter, through extraordinary circumstances, Elder John Larson (Independence, MO) was led to bring ministry to Salem. He stayed in our home and we visited deep into the nights. It turned out that Brother Larson had made multiple trips to Africa as a missionary and was serving on the board of the African Restoration Ministry. Soon afterward, Seventy Ron Smith (Lamoni, IA) brought ministry to the Northwest and stayed in our home. He was serving in the leadership of the Seventy and had provided ministry in Africa many times. Since beginning prayers toward this end, I was blessed to have had both Brother Larson and Brother Smith come right to my door. The way was open!!! ... concluded on page 5.





## Youth Group Sledding Adventure

*By Sister Trina Herren*

Sometimes the youth surprise me in ways that make me stop and think about my own life. On February 11th, Branden, Zach, Robert, Melissa, Brooke, and Michael traveled to Santiam Snow Park to enjoy the snow that the Lord has so graciously given to us. We met at 8 am and left shortly afterward to make the 2 hour drive that included every song we could think of; even happy birthday to Robert who turned 16 on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Another youth group consisting of about 50 people joined us on the hill to take advantage of the beautiful day. Watching everyone enjoy themselves made me think of our own kids and how wonderful they are and how blessed I have been to be able to spend one on one time with each of them. Until next time, continue to seek after the Lord while never losing the love you share for one another.

## A Missionary Trip

*...continued from page 4*

...Brothers Larson and Smith helped organize my thoughts and counsel my heart, and the Lord encouraged me onward. I contacted the head of the Church in Kenya, Elder Eric Odida, who received my offer excitedly by way of email. As it turned out, he had been preparing to visit the United States, and when he did, we were able to speak on the telephone. It was wonderful and helped solidify the effort. Brother Odida's trip to the U.S. also afforded him an opportunity to visit with some of the brethren he was familiar with in Independence, who had served at my side, and knew me. In August of this year, Brother Travis Clark and I will be traveling to Kenya for 2 weeks to serve in whatever capacity the Lord may see fit, at the discretion of Brother Odida. In retrospect, it is truly amazing how each piece of the Lord's plan has unfolded perfectly. While our efforts are independent in funding, intent and motive, we have submitted a letter to the African Restoration Ministries board to obtain their blessing before our travels, having a great respect for their years of leadership (africaministries.org). We have also recently begun the necessary series of vaccinations against yellow fever, typhoid fever, etc., and have received anti-malarial and antibiotic prescriptions. Still, after the convergence of all these matters and the exercise of our best character, our trust remains undividedly in the Mighty God who has brought us to this hour. May God bless every Christian soul as we endeavor to serve our brothers and sisters in love, and preach our Lord in word and deed to every living creature.

*"We feel disposed to go forward and unite our energies for the upbuilding of the Kingdom..."* - Joseph Smith

## An Open Invitation to All Women

*By Sister Rebecca Humphrey*

Dear Sisters of the Restoration,

The Church of Christ Restored, Vancouver Restoration Branch extends an invitation to all sisters of the Pacific Northwest Region to a one-day retreat, on Saturday, March 10th, 2012. The retreat will start at 9:45 am and will last until 1:45 pm. We will be having informative classes on Modesty, Store-housing, Extreme Couponing, 72 Hour Emergency Kits, Heirloom Seeds, and Laundry Soap Making. Please, come and join us for the day. We will be having brunch around noon. You should bring a three ring binder, pen, and notebook. Hope to see you there!

For more information, please call Rebecca Humphrey at ———, Thank you and God Bless!

## Message Delivered Through Apostle Arthur Oakman

*Spring, 1973*

"...And forget not, my handmaidens, to whom much is given--much is required of thee. I have so much to give to thee if ye will but ask. Ye may form food and home classes, sewing classes and others. They should be for the sole purpose of helping one another to live a more Zion life. I have given thee the Word of Wisdom, yet few follow it. Freely have I given thee--freely ye should give of thy knowledge and wisdom. Do not boast of thy knowledge and do not ridicule or look down on thy sister's lack of knowing all of these things, for remember, there has not been such a great need for this knowledge as with this generation. Do not allow thy classes to become just a social gathering. Remember--time is running out. Teach in a spirit of love and concern of one another. When ye plant seeds, can, quilt, or in getting thy storehouse ready--do not think only of thine own family's needs but set aside a little extra for those to come. If ye need further light on this, pray, and I will give it to thee..."

## An Update: Ladies Relief Society

By Sister Melissa Herren



*Sister Cessaries saws a tree*



*Sister Dianna saws a tree*

The Salem Ladies Relief Society has been very busy! During the winter months, we were asked to help with the delivery of gifts and food to families in need in our community. It was wonderful and we felt that we were ministered to as much as the families were. Brother Brian also identified families within the Church that might be able to use a donated Christmas tree. The Christmas trees were delivered and we had a lot of fun preparing them! Packages filled with goodies and notes of thanksgiving were mailed to each guest speaker that came to Salem in 2011, and we received some very nice thank you cards in return. The packages were mailed as far as Missouri and Iowa, but also included the brethren from Vancouver who had blessed us. Brother Mike Terry referenced the gifts in his recent sermon in Salem, which was very nice of him. We do appreciate all of the brethren who serve us so willingly. Also, the LRS continues to sponsor



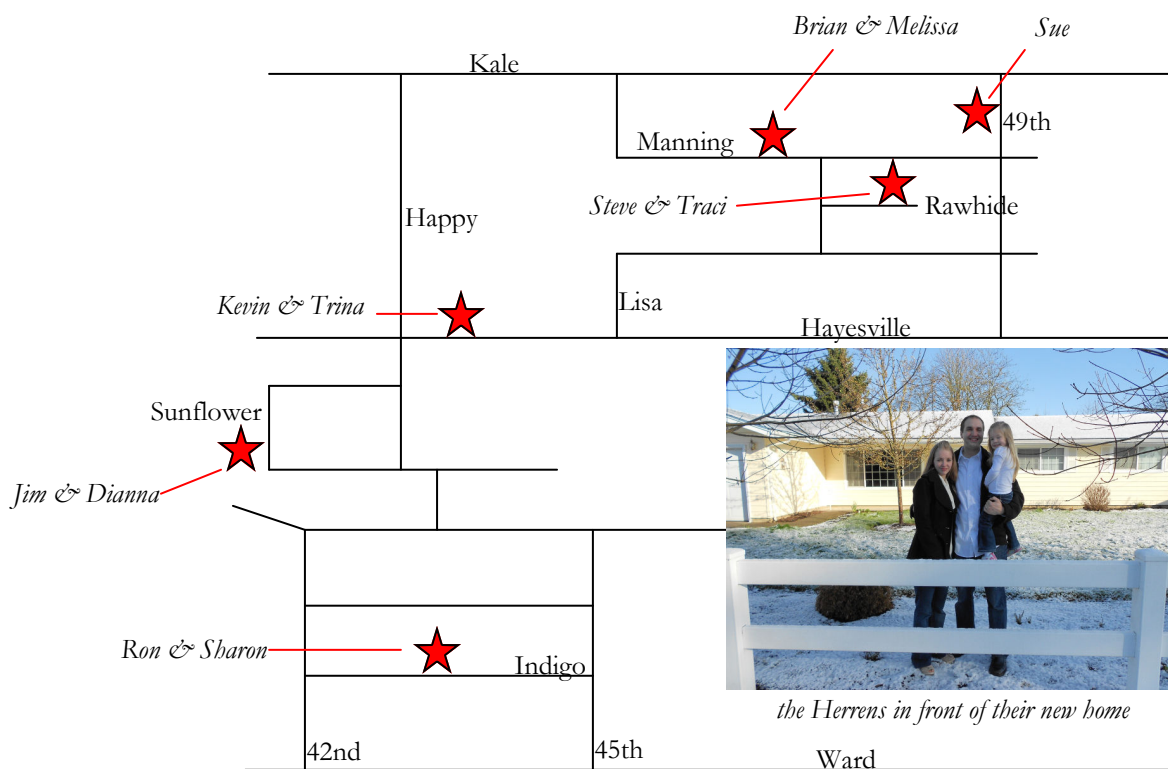
*some of the "Thank you" packages*

craft/fellowship nights on the fourth Thursday of each month. The last meeting was reorganized into a "help Sister Trina pack up and move boxes" night. In all things, we hope to serve God and serve our fellow man in love.

## Address Changes in "Zionit"

By Brother Brian Herren

On February 21, 2012, Brother Kevin and Sisters Trina and Gabriella, received the keys to their very first home. By the end of February 25th, they were moved in and settled. It was a joy to be a part of their home search because of the criteria which was mentioned again and again: "it needs to have a room big enough to host prayer service", "we need a place for youth activities", etc. Their unselfish desires were all met in a wonderful home at ————Dr. NE, Salem, Oregon 97305. Brother Steve and Sister Traci then moved into the home that the Herrens had moved out of: ————Ct., Salem, Oregon 97305. After the carpets were shampooed and the walls painted, the Scuitos moved in on March 3rd. The Scuitos have also made their home available for many years for church-related activities, invoking gratitude from the leadership. Both the Herrens and the Scuitos chose to stay within a neighborhood affectionately termed "Zionit" (pronounced Zion-ect) by the inhabitants, because of the large number of Saints that have moved close to one another and the principles of character practiced collectively. The term means "little Zion". The Saints are able to walk to the prayer services and Sunday evening classes that are held in the homes of the Saints within the neighborhood. It is common to see the Saints pass by on a walk or riding bicycles and help is always very near. It is not altogether rare to find one's leaves picked up, or their grass mowed when they arrive home from work, and sometimes there are flowers or mysterious treats left on doorsteps without evidence of the benefactor. A rough map of the neighborhood can be viewed below.



*the Herrens in front of their new home*

The neighborhood has grown without specific agenda or motive, without formal plans or ambition, but rather has come as the natural fruit of the Spirit; of a desire of the Saints to be close together, help one another, love one another, etc. Sister Traci's words when moving from South Salem are clearly remembered: "I just want to live near the Saints". Though the addresses have changed a little here and a little there, the blessings of fellowship remain. Congratulations to the Herrens on their new home.



## Dear God in Heaven, Thank you

*...continued from page 1*

...my head. I called them immediately. And to let you know, this is all occurring the morning after my trial. Well, I called Nan and told her our situation. I told her how much money I had to put down on a home and asked if they'd be interested in carrying the loan. She said, "I can't say yes or no right now, I'll have to call Henry". She called back ten minutes later wondering if I could come to their house to talk that afternoon. I got to their home at 1:00 pm and by 2:00 pm they looked at the house, figured out my payments, and said yes. I called my realtor right away. He talked to Nan and Henry and got an earnest money check, which got the ball rolling. They made an offer on the house. The bank accepted. We were the first and only people to make an offer on our home. There was never even a "for sale" sign on the property. Now thanking and praising God every minute of the day, our trials weren't over. Waiting for the documents to be signed, my realtor called telling me that due to the large sum of back taxes owed on the property, the bank couldn't close until December 25<sup>th</sup>. We had to be out of where we had been living by November 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm! After the o.k. from Nan and Henry, we started moving our things to Mom and Dad's to save time while waiting for signatures. But now, though we technically had a home, we couldn't move in for a month. Taking things in stride and having faith in God that He'd take care of us, I started calling for storage rentals for some of the items that couldn't be left outside at Mom and Dad's. I called a storage rental office. The man said he had one left in the size I needed. He said he could hold it for me until the next day and I could pay him then. The next morning my realtor called and again said, "You are not going to believe this, but I heard from the bank and the taxes are not going to be an issue after all, you can start moving into your home right away!" In a week and a half, and three days before Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm, we were sleeping in our home.

Even though our journey was hard and sometimes full of many tears, I wouldn't change any of it. Because if it weren't for the trials we faced I wouldn't have the faith or feel God's presence or love the way I do everyday now. Through this past year I learned that the more love, trust and faith I had in God, the more calm I was and the things in our lives were how they were supposed to be. My daily prayer every day and forever will be, "Dear God in Heaven, thank you for today, please bless this day with your loving hands and take charge and control of our lives and let things be as they should. Thank you, and we love you. Amen."

### Wives of Priesthood Appreciation Dinner

*By Brother Brian Herren*



*Food prepared by the men*

Each of the brethren ordained to the priesthood understands that a priesthood call places great demands upon his entire family. In an effort to thank our wives for their tireless support and ongoing ministry, the priesthood come together once a year to cook dinner for them, and serve them in grand

style. We gathered together on February 21, 2012 for the "Wives of Priesthood Appreciation Dinner". The food was most excellent, including a Tortilla Casserole, Pasta Prima Vera, Frito Pie, and Cheesy Chicken a la Jim. Afterward, we were all treated to a blueberry surprise, fresh from Brother Jim's oven. The fellowship was much appreciated, and our wives worthy of our daily thanksgiving. May God continue to bless our homes through their adorning faith, graceful hands, and wise words.



### Youth Dinner

*By Brother Brian Herren*

Periodically, all of the youth are invited to the home of the branch pastor for dinner and fellowship. Their input, questions, recommendations, concerns, cares, and needs are all very important and should be given proper place. And then there is the stick wrestling, tussling, sling shooting, and ball games. The most recent youth dinner was held on February 7, 2012. After prayer, a nacho bar, and civilized discussion, the youth were ready to try their hand at a 19th century game of stick wrestling. Other activities proved equally entertaining and our evening was filled with laughter and smiles (and a little back pain). Our youth are absolutely wonderful, disciplined, faithful, honest, steadfast, caring, and knowledgeable. The entire branch is blessed because of their present qualities, and the promise of their continued offerings. The pictures below represent a fraction of our enjoyment, and regretfully, do not include a photograph of the plates of the youth. Congratulations to those who decorated their chips so artfully, and a special credit is owed to one who

piled enough taco meat on his chips so as to qualify him for the Guinness Book of World Records, as well as earning my deepest culinary respect.

## Brother Kevin Herren is Called

By Brother Brian Herren



Brother Kevin Herren has received a priesthood call to the office of Teacher within the Aaronic order. After the call was revealed with power, it was presented to High Priest Bill Curtis and Elder Gary Livingston, counselors to the office of pastor, for their consideration. Each confirmed the divine authenticity of the call, acknowledging it's origination by the hand of our Heavenly Father, and consented to it's presentation to Kevin. Brother Kevin was instructed in the serious nature of priesthood calls, the origin thereof, consequences thereto, and the specific responsibilities of a Teacher. His wife, Sister Trina, was counseled with regards to those demands and responsibilities innate in being a companion to one called. Kevin was advised to seek his own testimony, which he did, having received of such before accepting the priesthood calling. A branch business meeting was announced with sufficient time to prepare, and was convened on Sunday, February 26, 2012. After the testimonies of several were heard, and Brother Kevin bore his own witness, the branch unanimously voted to support Brother Kevin in the priesthood call. His ordination is scheduled to occur on March 18, 2012. All are invited to attend, member and non-member alike.

*"The work of God among men is so great that is cannot be appreciated or accomplished in any one generation. It is necessary, as Malachii reminds us, that the 'hearts of the fathers shall be turned to the children and the hearts of the children to the fathers', which we understand to mean that the generations shall all be knit together in one great endeavor...so that the priesthood of every man is joined to that of his predecessors and his successors...priesthood is therefore, 'without father, without mother, without descent having neither beginning of days or end of life...in the affairs of the kingdom, Divinity [is] properly represented by the officers of the kingdom..." - Brother F. Henry Edwards*

## Sergeant Jamie Leach Scheduled to Deploy

By Brother Brian Herren



Sister Jamie

Staff Sergeant Jamie Leach is scheduled to deploy to \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of \_\_\_\_\_. Her daughter, Evelyn, will remain in Oregon with her grandmother and great-grandparents. Special prayers are asked for the entire family in preparation for the deployment, and during. Our beloved sister is the object of great respect and honor in our homes, having witnessed her rise through the ranks with great effort and discipline, giving her best to our country and the God who keeps it. May His almighty hand grant her strength in moments of need, courage in the face of fear, and a safe return to those who hold her in gospel bonds and deep respect.



Sister Jamie with family at her pinning ceremony



Women's fellowship weekend 2011

All Women Are Invited: Women's Fellowship Weekend. A Condo has been reserved in Sisters, Oregon for April 27-29, 2012. Come enjoy a weekend of fellowship with your sisters in Christ. Contact Sister Melissa Herren for more information.