

BROTHER'S KEEPER

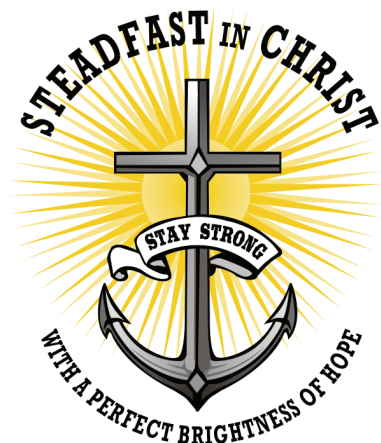
THE COMINGS AND GOINGS OF THE PACIFIC
NORTHWEST

MAY, 2015
VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2



Summer Preaching Series

by Brother Brian Herren



Regional Events

- May 15-17: Men's Retreat
- June 26-28: Summer Preaching Series
- July 10-12: Congregational Camping: D Lake, OR
- August 2-8: Youth Camp
- August 17-23: Reunion
- September 18-20: Priesthood Retreat
- October 2-4: Conference

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- Quilt Raffle Winner
- Sister Katie Jones to Scotland

A summer preaching series will bring the whole region together for three days of preaching, song, and fellowship this summer. Elder Frank Shepard of Maine will preach Friday and Saturday evenings, June 26th and 27th, in Vancouver. The evening services will begin with a song service at 6:45 pm. Preaching begins at 7:00 pm. Brother Shepard will preach again Sunday morning in Salem, with services beginning at 9:45 am. After Sunday morning services have concluded, all are welcome to continue in fellowship with a potluck picnic at Silver Falls State Park. The Saints are encouraged to travel and attend as many of the services as possible, continuing with one accord through the weekend, worshipping and breaking bread together. Brother Shepard has served missions in Australia, Russia, and the Philippines. He also served as a volunteer for the Israeli Defense Forces in Israel. He presently oversees several Restoration branches in Maine.



Brother Frank Shepard plays a game with some youth in the Philippines.



Brother Aaron Smith of Oak Grove, Missouri.

served on the African Restoration Missionary board. He is well known for his preaching and teaching.

In an added blessing, Elder Aaron Smith of Oak Grove, Missouri will be visiting this portion of the Lord's vineyard with his family during the weekend scheduled for the preaching series. Brother Smith has been invited to conclude the weekend with a special youth service Sunday evening at the church lot in Salem, Oregon. Preaching and a campfire service will be directed toward serving the youth, but all those who are young at heart are invited to join us. We will meet near the cross at the lot dedicated for the future church building in Salem. Services will begin at 8:00 pm. Surely the Lord will bless the final service of the weekend as we receive His word with power from our beloved brother. We hope to watch the sun set with camp songs of praise upon our lips, and continue into the evening around the fire with prayer and testimony. Brother Aaron Smith has served four missions in East Africa and has

“...they did also have great joy and peace; yea, much preaching...”
- Helaman 2:135

2015 Pacific Northwest Reunion

August 17-23, 2014, Vancouver, WA

Regional Theme: "Steadfast in Christ, with a perfect brightness of hope" – II Nephi 13:29

Monday, August 17

7:00 Preaching Service
Afterward Refreshments and Fellowship, campfire

Tuesday - Saturday, August 18 - August 22

7:30 - 8:00 Priesthood Meeting
8:00 Breakfast
9:00 Morning worship: regional youth (Builders & Climbers)
9:15 Songs of praise: Sister Cessarries Galusha and Elder G. Livingston
10:00-10:30 Morning Message: Aaronic priesthood
10:45 Prayer and Testimony Service
12:00 Lunch
1:00 - 3:00 Recreation / Rest / Preparation
3:00-4:30 Class
4:30-5:15 Choir practice
5:30 Dinner
6:45 Music
7:00 Preaching Service
Afterward Campfire

Sunday, August 23

8:00 Breakfast
9:00 - 9:15 Song Service
9:15 - 10:45 Prayer and Communion Service
11:00 Preaching Service

Morning Messages

Tuesday	Teacher K. Herren
Wednesday	Priest E. Mason
Thursday	Priest S. Henson
Friday	Deacon D. Mason
Saturday	Priest J. Rew

Afternoon Classes

Tuesday	Elder B. Herren
Wednesday	Elder G. Livingston
Thursday	Elder M. Terry
Friday	Priest S. Henson
Saturday	Elder M. Arndt

Prayer and Testimony Services

	<u>Presiding</u>	<u>Assisting</u>
Tuesday	Elder G. Livingston	Priest J. Rew
Wednesday	H.P. J. Henderson	Teacher K. Herren
Thursday	Elder G. Vaughn	Deacon D. Mason
Friday	Elder W. Moreland	Priest E. Mason
Saturday	Elder G. Jones	Priest D. Ethridge
Sunday	Elder B. Moreland	Deacon D. Mason

Preaching Services

	<u>Preaching</u>	<u>Presiding</u>	<u>Assisting</u>
Monday	Elder B. Moreland	Elder B. Herren	Elder G. Buckbee
Tuesday	Elder W. Moreland	Elder M. Arndt	Priest D. Ethridge
Wednesday	Priest Stu Gage	High Priest J. Henderson	Elder E. Mason
Thursday	Elder M. Terry	Elder G. Vaughn	Priest S. Henson
Friday	Elder G. Jones	Elder G. Buckbee	Deacon D. Mason
Saturday	Elder G. Livingston	Elder B. Moreland	Teacher K. Herren
Sunday	Elder B. Herren	Elder M. Terry	Elder G. Jones

The Pacific NW Regional Reunion 2015

by Brother Brian Herren

Each year the Lord blesses our assemblies in Spirit and fellowship, and I am looking forward to the regional reunion this year, August 17-23. In prayerful consideration of the scheduling, a few changes might be noted:

- This year, we might hear and reflect upon God's word, both morning and night. Several members of the Aaronic priesthood have been invited to speak for 1/2 hour early in the day, and several members of the Melchisedec priesthood have been invited to close each day in sermon.
- The prayer and testimony service has been lengthened slightly. Instead of asking the youth not to participate, it seems better to allow more time for all to participate.
- The regional youth (junior and senior high) will be responsible for a morning worship each day.
- The schedule continues to provide for one class each day, as in years past, but it has been moved to the afternoon and is 1.5 hours long rather than 1 hour. Sometimes, the actual class time realized in a single 1.5 hour class is similar to that realized in two, 1 hour classes when transitions are observed. A morning of worship will give way to an afternoon of learning.
- A dedicated time for choir practice has been provided. Historically, some have had to choose between ministering to the youth in recreation, preparing ministry for other services, resting, or choir. Often, the youth were excluded from choir because of conflicts with choir practice. If one chooses to participate in choir, it won't mean surrendering other important ministry or activities. For those who are older, I might ask that you not overlook the ministry that can come when one loosens his tie, takes off his shoes, and recreates with our young men and women. There is a time and season to all things. This schedule may be more permissive of such ministry.
- "Songs of praise" has been added to our worship in the morning, allowing the Saints a more full expression of praise in hymns, being led by Cessaries with the piano or Gary with his guitar. This also allows those who are older to remember the gladness of their youth (D/C 119:6d) in singing camp songs or other joyful hymns.

I am praying that every soul come together this year, if possible at all, and if not, that the Lord might make it possible. Please consider your attendance and participation at reunion. Our time together is precious and grows ever more important as we press forward together in expectation of Zion in these latter days.

The Pacific NW Regional Youth Camp 2015

by Brother Kevin Herren

The summer is quickly approaching and as it does, preparations are being made for this year's summer camp for the builders and climbers. The camp is open to any and all youth from those who will be entering 6th grade in 2015 through anyone graduating high school in 2015. Camp will again be at Lewis River campground August 2- August 8. I am very very excited for this year's camp! The Lord has been with us as we have been preparing and we can rest assured that He will be with us in our assembly as well.

I would like to personally invite anyone who has been at camp before to tell your friends about it. We are called to be the light of the world and to help bring others to Jesus Christ. Bringing a friend or loved one to youth camp may prove to be a perfect opportunity to share the love of God with those we care about.

I will continue to pray in preparation as the year progresses and as we move through the summer. I will be praying for the campers who will be preparing and that God will meet us there when we come together at camp. I look forward to getting to spend time again with our young friends and coming to a better understanding of our great God. I look forward to spending time together as one body. We will come together in class time the same as meal time, always together as one body. We can look forward to our classes as well as our camp fires which always prove to be a special time when we can come together in a more intimate setting as we settle our hearts and come before our heavenly Father as we close out our days of learning and fun.

I hope to see all of you this summer and hope to see many new faces and make new friends. You are all in my prayers and in the prayers of the rest of the staff. Blessed be the tie that bind us together, which tie is Jesus Christ. If you have any questions or special needs please feel free to contact me. Please ensure that every camper has a registration filled out as only those with a permission slip will be permitted to attend.



Youth Camp 2015



"Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and of all men." II Nephi 13:29

When: August 2-8, 2015

Location: Lewis River, Washington

Cost: \$175 (Please make checks out to the Northwest Region of Restoration Congregations or simply NWRRC). If you need assistance with this fee, please see your local youth leader or pastor.

Emergency Cell Phone Numbers: Brother Kevin Herren's cell: (503) 562-9384

We would ask that all attending this youth camp would come prepared to draw apart from the world and to seek to draw closer to the Lord with a desire to receive and honor His Spirit.

**Please read the rules carefully before signing the registration form. Keep this sheet for reference as you are packing*

- Signed registration and medical forms are required.
- Campers are expected to participate in all activities with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. They must treat others with respect, courtesy, and kindness.
- Be respectful to your counselors and be willing to pitch in and help if asked.
- Be respectful of the grounds and the property of others.
- Dress code will be enforced. Dress code is as follows: no short-shorts, no short shirts (bare midriffs), tube tops, spaghetti straps, low-cut tops or see-through tops. No inappropriate language or logos on any clothing. Please dress in a modest fashion and bring a bathing suit that is modest and has good coverage. Otherwise, you may be asked to wear shorts or a shirt over the suit for swimming. If you are not sure whether an item of clothing fits the dress-code, ask a counselor for an opinion before entering the common areas wearing it.
- No foul language, sexual contact, innuendoes or derogatory remarks are permitted.
- All participants must stay within the boundaries of the campgrounds (to be defined at orientation), through the duration of camp and must remain in areas that are supervised by camp counselors.
- No CD players, cell phones, iPods, or electronic devices are allowed in camp. If brought, they will be taken away until the end of camp. (Counselors will make their cell phones available in an emergency.)
- Possession or use of weapons, tobacco products, alcohol or illegal drugs are not permitted. If probable cause exists, Camp Director will be allowed to search a person and personal property for illegal items.
- No gum, candy, pop or other junk food is to be brought to camp. Refreshments will be provided. There is no need to bring money to the camp. All snacks will be provided.
- All rules will be interpreted at the discretion of the Regional Youth Director and Staff.

Campers and Parents:

Please complete the form on page 5 of this newsletter and mail it with a check for \$175 to Brother Jim Clark, Regional Treasurer, at 4577 Sunflower Way NE, Salem, OR 97305.

Youth Camp 2015

NO CAMPER MAY ATTEND WITHOUT THIS SIGNED PERMISSION FORM ON RECORD

Camper's Name _____ Birthdate _____ Age _____

Grade in 2014-2015 school year _____ Parent/Guardian Name _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Parent/Guardian Phone # _____ - _____ - _____

Email address (for the purpose of receiving information about retreats and camp in the future)

Emergency contact in case parent/guardian cannot be reached

Name/Relationship _____ Phone # _____ - _____ - _____

COST OF ANY MEDICAL TREATMENT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARENT /GUARDIAN

Insurance Co. _____ Policy # _____ ID# _____

Allergies _____

Medications _____

Last Tetanus shot _____

Special Instructions _____

I hereby approve my child's participation at this retreat and give permission to the Retreat Administration to make decisions related to the physical well-being of my child. In case of an emergency, I hereby give permission to the physician and /or hospital, selected by the Retreat Administration, to secure proper treatment for my child, as named above, and will assume liability for any resulting expenses not covered by my insurance. The Restored Church of Christ and its representatives will not be held liable for any injury or loss of property.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ date _____

Camper Agreement: I have read the attached information and expectations and I will abide by and support it.

Camper's Signature _____ date _____

What you should pack:

- ◆ **your scriptures**
- ◆ a jacket or sweatshirt
- ◆ clothing and shoes appropriate for a variety of activities (tennis shoes, swimming suit, etc.)
- ◆ a sleeping bag and pillow
- ◆ towels for showering
- ◆ sunscreen and personal hygiene items

Other items that are optional:

- ◆ If you play a musical instrument, please bring it and share your talent with us!
- ◆ Worship or devotional materials

Reflections on the Pacific NW Regional Winter Youth Retreat

by Sister Machaela Kurowski



In the middle of February, the youth met up at the Vancouver branch Church. During that time, I think that we all grew closer and learned a lot more about each other and how to become more like Jesus. We were so blessed to be given this opportunity to see and learn together as a group. We all learned something that was new to us that opened our eyes. Maybe it was that even in the most shocking situation you can find peace through God, or maybe it was what being steadfast really is.

During one of our classes taught by Brian we were asked what amazed us more, the small flame from a standard candle (steady and reliable), or this huge beautiful flame that let its light shine brilliantly. The majority were awed by the bigger flame and chose it over the candle. The bright blaze was soon gone, having burned out as a flash, but the candle still shined its light. It turns out he had lit isopropyl alcohol in a dish. What Brian was trying to teach us was that the candle showed steadfastness by having a humble, steady, ongoing gleam without burning out. The other source of heat was not as magnificent as we thought. It symbolized people who start to get involved with their religion all at once. Then when it gets hard or they just don't want to bother with it anymore that person's flame ends. His class sort of tied in with the theme of our retreat, 'Wherefore, ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ, having a perfect brightness of hope, and a love of God and all men.' 2 Nephi 13:29.

On Saturday, the second day of our retreat, we had our service project. We went to help a member of the Vancouver branch with their property. Some of us helped clear out the greenhouses, some helped tend the goat, and some helped throw out paint cans. While I was helping out I felt good, but I don't mean the good where you get something, it was more the good feeling that you're doing something that makes someone else happy. I'm so thankful we were able to do this, I would like to do something else like this again soon.

I feel like during this time we spent together, we really got to know each other a lot more. I can remember after we sang our songs, on our last night people were given the chance to speak out what was on their hearts or a struggle they were going through. We prayed for one another, in hopes that their problems would soon go away or that the Lord would guide them through their struggle.

When we had come in after, some of the youth and I would go into the sanctuary and play the piano and quietly talk about how we felt, things we thought about each other, and other thoughts that came to mind. This experience really brought us together.

On our last day together, Monday, we had planned to go on a hike for the afternoon. It was hard and difficult journey, but, I sure think it was worth it. We were so blessed that we stayed safe and no one was severely injured. It was so beautiful, the rocks, the trees, everything was natural beauty that God graced this Earth with. When we reached our destination we ate the lunches we packed and talked amongst ourselves. It got quite cold where we were at one point, and I'm not sure who suggested this but, we all huddled together like penguins trying to keep warm. And before we left we started to make an altar with the rocks and stones that were scattered around. When we had finished we gathered together and said a prayer just before we went back down.

All in all, those whole three days were an amazing time. We came closer with each other, learned more, and just plainly got to spend more time with one another which was a true blessing. With these people, I feel truly happy. When I'm with them, it's hard to be upset. I feel so blessed by just knowing all these people in my church and getting to spend more time with these people that I love dearly. I don't think I'll forget this time that we shared together anytime soon.



Reflections on the Pacific NW Regional Winter Youth Retreat

by Sister Melissa Clark



Sister Melissa Clark

Winter retreat this year was amazing. God really blessed us with beautiful, sunny weather. We were able to have five classes taught by Dustin, Kevin, Cessaries, Mike and Brian. All of these classes seemed to be centered around

discipleship, steadfastness, our tongue and taking peace through tribulation. It was really a blessing to hear God's message for us youth. The whole weekend all of the youth wished to be deeper and deeper in God's most holy presence. We would beg sister Cessaries to play piano for us before we fell asleep and we would all raise our hands to participate in the classes. We were able to spend an afternoon doing yard work at brother Glenn Vaughn's home. Some raked out goat stalls while others tended to the greenhouse or mowed the lawn. Again it was awesome to be out in the Lord's majestic creation with each other singing hymns and speaking of the gospel. All of the youth enjoyed having campfire services where we poured out our souls and prayed for each other. On Monday we were privileged to hike Angel's Rest. Throughout the hike we would pause to take in the beauty around us and pray for those who were becoming sore from the steep journey. I was continually reminded to keep pressing forward, not only on the trail ahead, but also in my spiritual life as we would be coming back home that afternoon. It was truly a blessed weekend and I anticipate the time when all of us youth can be reunited in God's presence once again.



Pacific NW Regional Women's Retreat 2015

by Sister Tanna Click

What a fantastic weekend shared by The Sisters of the Northwest Region, April 17th-19th. We gathered at a new facility this year, Anderson Lodge. It's a beautiful place to meet as you immediately find yourself surrounded by God's majestic creation. The weekend was of course centered around our regional theme for this year, "Steadfast in Christ, with a Perfect Brightness of Hope".

The weekend began with a tasty dinner then followed by a song service and an opportunity to pray together for the weekend, led by Elder Gary Livingston. We also enjoyed a slide show consisting of photos of last year's regional events. This was brought to us by Elder Brian Herren. It was nice to reflect on the precious times the saints are able to gather together as a region.

Saturday we were treated to four chances to study. First a class by Sister Deanne Murnieks, her topic, Steadfast in Christ, godliness in daily life. Second Steadfast in Christ, with a meek and quiet spirit, taught by Sister Jan Esquivel. Before breaking for lunch Sister Cessaries Galusha brought our third class on examples of steadfast women in the scriptures. All three Sisters delivered very inspiring teachings, thank you dear sisters. Following lunch we gathered for our final class of the day based on Faith and Hope with Elder Gary Livingston, also inspiring.

Saturday we also had a craft class that had been prepared by, Sister Sharon Trammell. We created adorable fabric lined baskets, wrapped in rope. Great idea! We finished the day with Gifts and Talents to Glorify God. God certainly has blessed this region.

Sunday morning we shared our last meal of the weekend together, which was very delicious as all the meals were. Services concluded with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and prayers of dedication.

"Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain; but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised."
- Proverbs 31:30



Northwest Pastors Travel to Offer Ministry

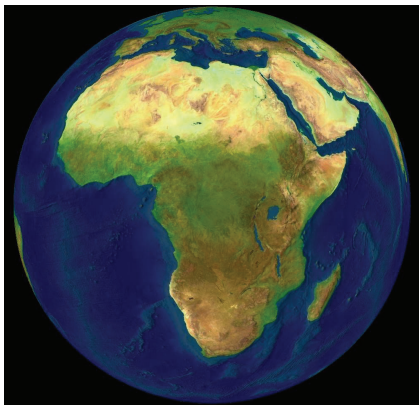
by Sister Melissa Herren



*Brothers Mike Terry and
Brian Herren*

Brother Mike Terry was invited to preach a revival series in Independence, MO beginning April 26. He preached Sunday morning, Sunday evening, Monday evening, and Tuesday evening. Many Saints were expected to attend and we feel so blessed to regularly receive Brother Mike's ministry here in the Northwest. We look forward to hearing and reading the testimonies of the preaching series! We can be sure that the Spirit of God was resident in this ministry, as brother Mike has been used in the Lord's hands many times in the workings of God's will.

Brother Brian Herren will also be traveling to serve domestically and abroad. He was invited to serve as youth camp pastor at Odessa Hills Senior High Camp near Independence, MO, June 14-20. Sister Trina, Brother Kevin and I will also serve at the camp as counselors, and Brother Ron and Sister Dorothy are serving in the kitchen. Brother Brian will preach at Colbern Road Restoration Branch during our stay in Independence. Upon returning home, we will receive elders Frank Shepard and Aaron Smith for a summer preaching series, June 26-28. On July 13th, Brian will travel with Brother Doug Smith to East Africa, where they will serve the missionary field in Kigali, Rwanda and into the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Brian will pass through Kilimanjaro, Tanzania on his way to Rwanda, and they will pass through Entebbe, Uganda on their way home. Please be praying that our brothers are able to obtain visas stateside to cross into Congo. It is not an easy process, and requires an official letter of invitation. Their safety and health is also on my heart and your prayers are requested sincerely. There is so



much unrest in the world today. In one of Brother Doug's emails, these thoughts were expressed: "We do need to be in prayer about the DR Congo visit. It is not necessarily a safe place (not recommended by the State Dept.), and as you know, Chris and I had a narrow escape the first time we went, and I do not want you to feel pressured to go if you have any reservations or do not feel it is where God is calling us to go. I know it would be a boost to the saints there to have a visit, but it does not necessarily have to be this time." Let us pray.

Brother Gary Jones, pastor of the Puyallup Restoration Branch, has traveled to Missouri and Texas, where he has offered ministry to the Saints. Last year he was invited to preach at the Lexington Restoration Branch in Missouri, and may be able to serve there again if his new job allows time away this summer. Brother Gary is following the Lord's promptings and looking forward to being used however the Lord might send him. Several recent changes in his circumstances suggest the Lord is opening doors before him. We feel very blessed to receive his preaching and ministry in Puyallup, Vancouver, and Salem.

A Donation Made With Love

by Brother Jim Clark

As we strive to raise funds for an eventual sanctuary built in Salem, many have donated generously. One such donation was an extraordinary quilt finished by Sister Nancy Curtis. This quilt depicts the fruits of the spirit and measures approximately 7 feet by 7 feet. The embroidered fruit consists of 188,571 stitches. With over 22 hours of labor, including 91 thread changes, it is very beautiful and one can only imagine the effort it took to create. The Saints from five different States purchased 430 tickets in hopes of winning the quilt. Resulting in \$1970.00 being given in the support of the building effort of the Salem Congregation. We are grateful unto all who so generously donated. Brother Gary Livingston drew the name of the new owner of the quilt from a basket, who was a very excited Sister Dianna Clark. The Lord provides so much through the giving of our gifts and talents, the caring of our hearts, and the blessings of our labors.

Sister Katie Jones Planning for Mission

by Brother Brian Herren



Sister Katie Jones, of the Puyallup Restoration Branch, is hoping to serve a six month mission in Scotland beginning this fall or winter. Please keep Sister Katie close in prayer as she searches the Lord's will and responds to His voice. If it be His will that she travel, we trust that God will guide and direct her course, and bring her safely again into our fellowship with many testimonies of His glory to add. We love you, Good Sister.

