

BROTHER'S KEEPER

THE COMINGS AND GOINGS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

MAY, 2016
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Regional Events

- August 1-7: Reunion
- August 7-13: Youth Camp
- September 9-11: Priesthood retreat
- October 7-9: Fall Conference

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Summer Preaching Series 2016

The Pacific Northwest Regional Summer Preaching Series will be held June 3-5. Elder David Gilmore, of Colbern Road Restoration Branch (Lee's Summit, Missouri) will be the guest preacher. The services are planned as follows:

•Friday and Saturday services (June 3 & 4) will begin with a song service at 6:45 pm and preaching at 7:00 pm. These services will be held at the Vancouver Restoration Branch: 2602 151st. St. Vancouver, WA.

•A special Sunday morning service will be held at Silver Falls State Park (June 5): near 20024 Silver Falls Hwy SE, Sublimity, OR 97385. Look for the South Falls Day Use Area. The park is about 1.5 hours from the Vancouver Branch. Historically, the Saints have enjoyed a fellowship potluck at Silver Falls Park after the preaching service concluded in Salem on Sunday morning. It has been a special time for the Saints to break bread together, appreciate the vast beauty of God's creation, and strengthen our bonds in fun and fellowship. The guest ministry has always been blessed in their experience at the park. This year, all of our Sunday morning worship will be held at the park. A shelter has been rented within the park's vast forests (9,200 acres in all - Oregon's largest state park), just a moment's walk from the towering South Falls. The facility has running water, electricity and an enormous fire place. Bathrooms are nearby and a paved path connects the picnic shelter (shelter E) to the parking lot. Worship will begin at 10:30 am with a campfire hymn sing, led by Brother Gary Livingston with his guitar. A fireside revival preaching service will follow. Afterward, the Saints will be able to continue in fellowship at a picnic potluck without needing to relocate. There is ample space within the shelter for those seeking reprieve from sun or rain, and the facility is surrounded by green rolling meadows for the children to play in. Several impressive waterfalls are within walking distance and there are many trails to stroll as both young and old consider God's majesty.

Upon arriving at the check in booth at the park on Sunday, please inform the staff that you are with the Restored Church of Christ and you will be permitted to park without paying the usual usage fee. Chairs will be provided.

Women's Retreat 2016

by Sister Jan Esquivel

With joy and anticipation the women of the PNW Restoration branches gathered for the binding fellowship, earnest study, and heartfelt worship of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ that will strengthen and sustain each one for another year. Praise God for the peaceful setting nestled in the wooded foothills below Mt. St. Helens! It drew our thoughts from the chaotic world to the beauty and blessing in God's creation.

Our theme for the region this year is "Discipleship", which challenges each of us to ask "To whom?" and "To what purpose?" We were encouraged to evaluate the gifts we have been given to offer in service to the Lord, to ask in prayer that the Lord expand our coasts (to go beyond our comfort zones) as in the prayer of Jabez, and to ask the Lord for the additional gifts He would bestow on each of us if we would just ask. ...continued on p. 2



Sister Jan Esquivel

Women's Retreat 2016

...continued from page 1

As the world darkens around us, it is the light on which we focus. Jesus is the light and as we take on His countenance we can lead others to the light. We were lead in our classes by Sisters Pat Chadwick and Sylvia Powell who called us to be mighty prayer warriors for our families, the church, our branches, our nation, and for fellow believers around the world. Beginning Friday night they brought "prayer purses" and 3x5 cards. The women pasted inspiring verses and pictures on the cards, then added personal favorite verses or notes. Thanks to the Missouri women who sewed the "prayer purses"!

Saturday our study focused on the power of earnest prayer by a righteous woman. Though prayer is foundational in the life and faith of a Christian, we are admonished not to allow our busy schedules to ease out our sweet moments and hours of prayer. We were advised to have a prayer schedule with certain broad themes assigned to each day of the week. Also suggested was a log of prayer requests, dated, and recorded how each request was answered. Pat and Sylvia shared many testimonies of blessings from our Heavenly Father in response to prayer. We also enjoyed the pictures and testimonies of their trips to Africa and Nepal. In the evening we joined in fellowship as women shared the gifts of music—voice, flute, cello, piano, and ocarina. What a joy to see so much talent, all honoring our Lord! Following the talent show we worshipped in praise and testimony. The Holy Spirit blessed us with a spirit of love and concern for the needs of our families and dear friends.

Sunday Brothers Brian Herren and Gary Livingston again called us to expand our coasts and trust in the Lord, glorifying Him in all we do. We shared in fellowship through sacrament, prayers and testimonies. It was evident the Holy Spirit was guiding our worship. We are small in number here in the PNW but are greatly blessed to be able to gather and share in the fellowship of saints. Praise God for all His mighty works and His gentle spirit that calls us each to worship and glorify Him.



Reflections on the NW Women's Retreat 2016

by Sister Sylvia Powell

When I was asked to participate in the Women's retreat and found out Brian Herren was going to be the pastor I was excited. I had served with Brian at CMRB's Senior High Camp and felt that, under his direction, God had great things in store for us that weekend.

From the very beginning I saw how loving the Saints are in the Northwest. They immediately welcomed Pat Chadwick and myself into their church family and made us feel at home.

They loved sharing their testimonies and giving God the glory for their many blessings. They were also quick to point out how He had gotten them through all of their trials. The scriptures tell us to share our testimonies with others in order that they may be uplifted. I was definitely uplifted and, again, reminded of how much our Heavenly Father loves us.

Saturday morning I was to teach a class on the prayer of Jabez. This is found in I Chronicles 4:9-10. Unless you are an avid student of the scriptures or someone tells you about this prayer you would probably never know of its existence as it's found in the middle of all the "begat" scriptures in the Old Testament. Ever since I stumbled across this little "gem" my husband, Jerry, and I have included it in our prayers every morning. The first part of Jabez's prayer is to "expand my coast". God certainly has done that for me. He's given me wonderful opportunities to share, not only with the Saints, but also with others like the young man I sat next to on the plane on our trip home. He was of Russian descent and goes over to Russia quite often to witness of the Lord. I was able to share about Jabez's prayer with him. He thanked me for giving him another tool to use in his ministry. We were both aware that God had blessed us by placing us next to each other. Yet, again, another opportunity to "expand my coast"!

After my class Pat showed her power point on prayer. This is always an excellent class as God has definitely given her the gift of teaching. In this class Pat gave us many tools to help us improve our prayer life.

The afternoon was spent in making a lovely craft and giving us time to get to know each other better.

Saturday evening was a time of sharing our talents. We were ministered to by music, poems, readings, and testimonies. It's always nice to see people share their gifts and talents. It reminds us of how much thought and effort God puts into creating each one of us. We sang campfire songs and praise hymns and Brian gave us some food for thought in preparing for the communion service the next day. ...continued on p. 3

Winter Youth Retreat 2016

by Sister Melissa Clark



Retreats are always a spiritual high in my life. I look forward to them, as do many other youth. Winter retreat was no different this year. I came into retreat with a heavy heart, but our awesome God blessed the teachers to teach about the heart and how to leave it in God's hands. Our theme was from Romans 14:7 which says, "...For none of us liveth and no man dieth to himself." Brother Dustin Mason taught on how we must strive to give 100% of ourselves, even when we fall short because it all starts with our hearts. Sister Cessaries taught us that we must believe and trust in God in order for him to have our full heart. She then went on to give some good examples of this from the scriptures such as Abraham, Jonah, Daniel and Paul. She told us that our responses are what shows God who we really are and asked if we are doing everything to rid ourselves of sin and impure thoughts. Brother Jeff Rew taught a class on how we must have unconditional love for our brothers and help feed God's sheep, even though trials will come and we will be persecuted. He told us that Jesus suffered all and forgave all so we must as well to be more like him. Brother Kevin Herren taught two hymn classes where we got to sit and dig deep into a few hymns so we could more fully understand what we were singing and truly learn to feel it from the heart because the hymns are prayers. Then Brother Brian taught a senior high class about the battle between good and evil over the hearts of men. He told us that the war is constantly raging and that we must learn to be steady in our faith so we will not be shaken when trials arise. Sister Cessaries taught another class based on the book *Kisses From Katie* which is a story of a young woman who moved to Africa and eventually adopted 13 little girls through God's grace. This taught us to be lights in this dark world and that we should always remain available for God to use us wherever, whenever, and with whomever. In Brother Brian's final class we learned about giving God a new heart. He had us write the feelings we have had in our hearts over the past year and sort them into good and bad categories. He told us that the heart is where the battle is lost and won and that we choose what emotions we feel. He had us make hearts out of a dollar bill and gave us the choice to spend it on sweets or to place it in the offertory plate. Although some were tempted, we all chose to give our hearts to God. Throughout much laughter and bonding I believe we all found a sort of peace, even if only for a moment, in our hearts and we learned how to continually place our hearts in God's strong, faithful hands.

Reflections on the NW Women's Retreat 2016

...continued from page 2, by Sister Sylvia Powell

Sunday morning's communion service was definitely led by the Spirit. The thoughts shared with us were uplifting and strengthening. The prayers offered by the sisters were earnest and heart felt. At the end of the service Brian asked Pat and I to say the closing prayers. Everyone encircled us as we prayed. I felt as if I was in a cocoon created by my sister's love.

I had felt God's Spirit so strongly the entire time we were there that I didn't want to leave. I knew there were those present who didn't have the luxury of returning home to a church family close to them. This retreat was especially a blessing to them. Because of the rich ministry we had received I felt those dear sisters, as well as the rest of us, were going home with a stronger conviction to be the light that God calls each of us to be. I will always count this experience as one of God's many blessings to me. May God continue to bless all of you as you strive to be part of His Kingdom is my prayer for you.

Mount Saint Helens

by Brother Brian Herren

After work and school on April 29, 2016, several of the Saints from Salem traveled north to Vancouver with the hopes of climbing Mt. St. Helens on April 30. The Saints in Vancouver provided a refuge for the night at the church building, which allowed for an early start on April 30. The Salem Saints were joined by Brother Dustin Mason of Vancouver, and began their journey at 4:15 am.

Having signed in at the checkpoint, the mountaineers were on the trail by 6:00 am. They climbed the winter route, a little longer than the summer route and a lot snowier, by using Swift Creek Trail and the Worm Flows Route. Above 4800' elevation, a permit is required, which had been obtained for each member by the expedition's leader, Brother Kevin Herren.

At times, crampons and snow shoes with steel cleats aided the ascent, which took the climbers just over 7 hours to complete. The views from the top were stunning, including crystal clear images of Mt. Adams, Mt. Rainer, and Mt. Hood. Pictures will not capture the awesomeness of God's creative impress, and words will not suffice to share how beautiful the handiwork of God. The climbers were repeatedly impressed with the beauty and serenity of God's preserve.

Glissading much of the way down, the climbers descended in 4 hours, and parted ways with a renewed appreciation of God's majesty, power, and beauty. May He be glorified in our fellowship, and may He be witnessed always in His handiwork.



The Sufficiency of Our God!!!

by Brady Winegar

Editor's Note: Brothers Brian Herren and Gary Livingston traveled to Los Angeles, April 8-10, where they served a three day domestic missions trip. One of the men they came to know and respect had been ordained a Priest in the Church many years ago, but had witnessed the scattering of the Lord's flock in that portion of the Lord's vineyard. The man's name is Brady Winegar, and the following is his account:

My name is Brady Winegar and I have been a member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ Of Later Day Saints since the year 1978.

My brother Anthony and I were speaking about our frustration about the lack of fellowship we have in this part of the Lord's vineyard. Anthony suggested that I go "on-line" and try to hear sermons this way. This had no appeal to me whatsoever, but after long talks Anthony convinced me. He had been listening to some of the sermons while he was on the night patrol. One day I decided to browse the site. And to my surprise I saw a name that I actually recognized. As I thought to myself, I wonder what Brother Stu Gage has to say?

As I listened to this man speak, the Holy Ghost fell upon me in great power and I could only weep. Weep for my sins, weep for the time I had wasted. But most of all the I wept because I felt the love of my Savior.

I continued to listen to these sermons then I had something that I had never heard before; sure I heard about the dealings with God and His people but that was so long ago. As I continued to listen to these sermons I heard something that I had never heard about taking place in my lifetime. It was mentioned in a message that while certain men were serving in another part of the Lord's Vineyard [East Africa] they literary had miraculous blessings heaped upon them: the provision of much needed water, and not "just" being prepared to bring the word- but being prepared in heart alone so that God opened the man's mouth that he might preach, and as he preached he learned with the congregants. And truly when there were no monies left for what was needed God himself thru His Divine Spirit filled a backpack, with exactly what amount of monies was needed! The sufficiency of our God! And as I listened the Spirit bore witness of the truth.

Now I had heard of things like this from early church members and from holy writ as God dealt with his people but that was long ago...

I felt compelled to send a "thank you" letter to the man whose email was on the Salem Branch website [Brother Brian Herren]. And over the course of weeks I interacted with this man. I was informed that sometimes they had guest ministry for people like myself and my family. I was very excited about this.

For the next couple of months my brother and myself made preparation to meet with these traveling ministers [Brothers Brian and Gary]. And as we began to do this something started changing in our hearts and home, and things were good.

My prayer to God was that I might bask all weekend in His goodness with the visiting brethren. How can it be that God answered my prayer? The tender mercies of God...while I spent time with these men the Holy Ghost administered to me in a profound way.

Yet God has done something wonderful to this people here...where there had been no fellowship...through planting and watering and digging about, God Himself has given us a place to worship. May He add increase to our numbers to whom He would, that they might be saved.

For truly Jesus Christ does His best work in graveyards- for the Saints in Santa Clarita were all but dead and God himself is raising up unto Himself a small branch, that we might serve our purpose and remember that God has given us back the years that the locusts had eaten.

"...and inasmuch as ye shall find them that will receive you, ye shall build up my church in every region, until the time shall come when it shall be revealed unto you from on high, when the city of the New Jerusalem shall be prepared, that ye may be gathered in one, that ye may be my people,, and I will be your God."

- Doctrine and Covenants 42

2016 Pacific Northwest Reunion

August 1-7, 2016, Vancouver, WA

Regional Theme: "Discipleship"

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me." - Matthew 16:25

Monday, August 1

7:00 Preaching Service
Afterward Refreshments and Fellowship, campfire

Tuesday - Saturday, August 2 - August 6

7:30 - 8:00 Priesthood Meeting
8:00 Breakfast
9:00 Morning worship: regional youth (Builders & Climbers)
9:15 Songs of praise: Sister Cessaries 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 7

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 D. Mason
Thursday	Priest D. Ethridge
Friday	Priest E. Mason
Saturday	Priest L. Larouche

Afternoon Classes

Tuesday	Elder B. Herren
Wednesday	Elder G. Livingston
Thursday	Elder M. Esquivel
Friday	Elder M. Terry
Saturday	Elder M. Arndt

Prayer and Testimony Services

	<u>Presiding</u>	<u>Assisting</u>
Tuesday	Elder G. Livingston	Elder M. Esquivel
Wednesday	Elder J. Rew	Priest D. Ethridge
Thursday	H.P. J. Henderson	Elder G. Vaughn
Friday	Elder B. Moreland	Priest D. Mason
Saturday	Elder G. Jones	Priest J. Clark
Sunday	Elder W. Moreland	Elders B. Moreland and J. Rew

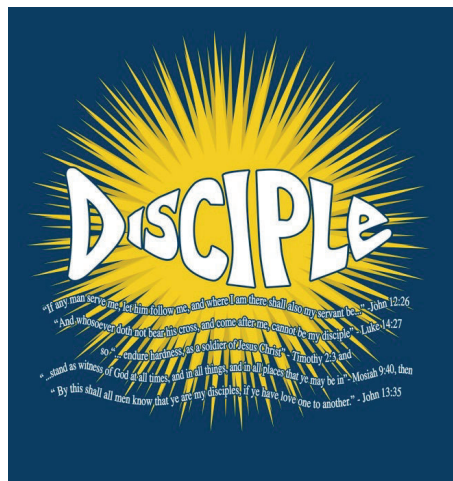
Preaching Services

	<u>Preaching</u>	<u>Presiding</u>	<u>Assisting</u>
Monday	Elder M. Terry	Elder B. Herren	Priest D. Mason
Tuesday	Elder J. Rew	Elder B. Moreland	Teacher K. Herren
Wednesday	Elder W. Moreland	Elder G. Livingston	Priest E. Mason
Thursday	Elder G. Livingston	H.P. J. Henderson	Elder G. Buckbee
Friday	Elder G. Jones	Elder M. Arndt	Elder M. Esquivel
Saturday	Elder B. Moreland	Elder M. Terry	Priest J. Clark
Sunday	Elder B. Herren	Elder G. Jones	Elder Mike Terry

Youth Camp 2016

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me."

- (Matthew 16:25)



When: August 7 - 13, 2016

Location: Lewis River, Washington

Cost: \$200 before July 1, \$225 after July 1 (Please make checks out to the Northwest Region of Restoration Congregations or 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 the next page and mail it with a check for \$200 (\$225 after July 1) to Brother Jim Clark, Regional Treasurer, at 4577 Sunflower Way NE, Salem, OR 97305.

Youth Camp 2016

NO CAMPER MAY ATTEND WITHOUT THIS SIGNED PERMISSION FORM ON RECORD

Camper's Name _____ Birthdate _____ Age _____

Grade in 2013-2014 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 # _____

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

Men's Retreat 2016

by Brother Ron Herren



On the weekend of May 15th through May 17th the men of the Pacific Northwest came together for a weekend of fellowship and worship at the 2016 Men's Retreat. The Lewis River campground was the perfect backdrop for the necessary solitude and peace that allowed each of us the opportunity to remove ourselves from the daily routine and focus on this year's theme of "Discipleship". We had some amazing classes that challenged us individually as to whether we are living as true disciples of Jesus Christ. The classes were taught by Elders Mike Terry, Gary Livingston, and Brian Moreland. We all appreciated truly inspiring song services led by Elder Gary Livingston. I feel blessed to have been a part of this weekend of fellowship. I know I came away strengthened spiritually and reenergized to increase my discipleship.



I found Elder Mike Terry's class especially challenging. When we were given the task of prioritizing how we spend our time, I realized that I have a lot of room for improvement in becoming a better disciple. This sentiment was echoed by many in attendance we realized that we must do more work to move closer to real discipleship. For me, anytime I get to gather with these men I come away strengthened and I grow immeasurably. I look forward to the next opportunity for gathering.



Our Brother John Gay

by Brother Jeff Rew



JOHN P. GAY
April 14, 1940 ~ March 11, 2016

John P. Gay, a resident of Battle Ground, WA, passed away quietly at home March 11, 2016. John was 75 years old and was born in Billings, Montana, April 14, 1940. Being the son of a military father, he traveled quite extensively. He proudly served his country in the United States Navy. John was a truck driver by trade but found his love of softball early in life.

Our family had the pleasure of meeting John and Anita when they began attending church at the Vancouver branch. John carried such a wonderful spirit and was a blessing and joy to all he met.

As we began associating together, I quickly realized his deep love for Christ through his devotion and willingness to serve Him, and others, with a joyful heart in any way he could. One of the fond memories include that of working together with John and Anita in maintaining the church grounds. It brings a smile to my face and warms my heart to remember the ingenuity John had in order to make work a little simpler. As we were trimming the trees and bushes, we had the issue of having to take loads in the wheelbarrow back to the brush pile. John, with a smile on his face, figured this could be done easier if we would lay out a tarp, fill it with brush, fold it in half and pull it with the riding lawn mower. Such a simple idea that saved so much effort!! And oh, what a beautiful job John and Anita did as they shaped the trees and Rhododendrons!

Over the course of time which we had, John and Anita visited our home for meals, commonly centering conversation on the Lord, and helping to develop the church website. John had a wonderful knowledge in so many areas, strived to learn, and was commonly self-taught. Through his knowledge and volunteering to help repair and build the website, we have been blessed to share the gospel to many that may not have been reached. John and Anita continued to be a blessing to my family as we ourselves went through the struggles of failing health in my father. They comforted us with their love, support, and sympathy, as well as delivering wonderful pre-made meals. We are so grateful for the outward expression of their love!

John will continue to be remembered in love, fondness and appreciation. His smile, countenance, cheerful heart, friendship, and devotion to Christ will continue to resonate in all that were blessed to know him. Praise be to the Lord for the blessing of bringing John into our lives!

Congratulations Jeff and Christy!!!

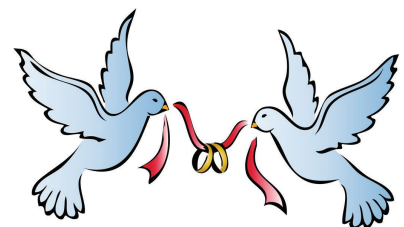
by Sister Pricilla Mason

On March 26th 2016, we had the pleasure to witness Elder Jeff Rew and Sister Christine Ornelia join in holy matrimony. Sister Christine was stunning walking down the aisle with her father Priest Gene Garwood. The lovely string quartet from Salem, OR consisting of Sister Cessaries Galusha, Brother Aaron Dukes, Sister Lisa Dukes and Brother Michael Livingston played during the ceremony. Elder Gary Livingston had the remarks tying the Bride and Groom. For all those who were able to stay after the reception, there was an indoor song service lead by Sister Cessaries Galusha. The wedding was beautiful. The spirit dwelled within the ceremony. Congratulations Elder Jeff Rew and Sister Christine Rew.



“May God add his blessings and keep you to fulfill your covenants from henceforth and for ever. Amen.”

- Doctrine and
Covenants
III



Spring Youth Retreat 2016

by brother Michael Livingston

The theme for the 2016 Winter Retreat is found in Romans chapter 14 verse 7, "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." We had some wonderful classes taught by Kevin, Travis, and Deanne about this topic. Deanne taught the senior high class and Kevin taught the junior high class during the separated class time. Kevin also taught one of the all camp class and Travis taught the other all camp class. One of the activities that Kevin did in his class was with a empty jar of baby food, water with dark blue food coloring in it, and baby oil. We poured the water in the jar halfway and then we poured the baby oil the rest of the way. The water and the oil separated from each other. It was supposed to symbolize the separation between the dark and the light in the world. The dark and light might seem mix at first if you mix it up but in the end there is dark at the bottom and light at the top. We all were very blessed by this retreat and the things we learned from it.



Northwest Mission to East Africa

by Brother Brian Herren

A mission from the Northwest to East Africa is being organized for this winter, wherein Saints from the Northwest will serve at a youth camp in Kenya. Several adult youth leaders have been asked to help in the work. My wife, Melissa Herren and I; Brother Kevin Herren; and Sister Cessaries Galusha will serve as counselors, lead worship, and teach classes at the camp. One pair of adult women and one pair of adult men. Several of the young adults of the region will also have an opportunity to be a part of the camp and may be asked to serve in a variety of ways, as the Spirit directs and their service is needed. Sisters Melissa Clark and Nicole Jones, and Brothers Michael Livingston and Vitaliy Surov have been invited. One pair of young women and one pair of young men who will have turned 18 before the time of travel.

Those traveling, both the older and younger missionaries, will lodge with the campers and minister in testimony, prayer, encouragement, morning and evening devotions, scripture study, camp songs, learning new hymns, sharing tracts, providing positive role models, witnessing of Christ's true Church, giving reason for hope and loving those in great need. There may be as many as 200 or 250 campers.

The adult missionaries will pay their own way. The young adults have been asked to privately pay about one half of their own costs. They plan to petition the regional missionary fund (established 2013) in order to pay the other half of their costs.

Some of the young adults have designed a t-shirt to help them raise funds for their travel and they are selling them for \$16 each. If you are interested in purchasing a t-shirt and helping the younger missionaries earn their way, you can email Sister Melissa Clark at clarkmelissa1998@gmail.com or call her at (503) 390-8398.



Editor's note: Often we find strength and courage in reading the accounts of faithful Saints who have gone before us, recognizing the infinite hand of a God that refreshes men generation by generation and brings to fruition the first principles of His kingdom wherever the honest laborer submits to the Lord of the vineyard. The following testimony is just such an account, written by Brother Benjamin Winchester to Don Carlos Smith (editor of Times and Seasons and Joseph's younger brother) in 1840. The following account was first published in volume 1, chapter 7 of Times and Seasons on page 104. I felt the testimony was encouraging and include it here in case it might be another source of inspiration and joy in our daily discipleship:

Dear Brother in the Lord; It is with pleasure that I take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you, to let you know of the prosperity of our Redeemer's kingdom in this City, And if you think proper, it is at your disposal, for an insertion in the Times and Seasons, for the satisfaction of your readers. I left Quincy, Ill. on the 24 of June, 1839, with a view of resuming my labors in the State of N. J. where I had labored the summer, and winter before; I came by the way of steamboats and railroads' and landed at the place of destination, in 16 days from the time I left: where I labored, preaching in the towns, and neighborhoods, where I had before preached, till the first of Sept. It was, then thought best by the conference that I should come to this city and proclaim the fullness of the everlasting gospel to the inhabitants of the same. I immediately repaired to this place, in order to prosecute my mission. As soon as I had arrived here, I commenced inquiring for a house to preach in, but met with poor success the first two or three days, Indeed, I was ridiculed on almost every occasion when I inquired for a house. (All of this in consequence of prejudice, and false reports.) But my determination was still the same; and that was to proclaim the truth, to the inhabitants of this city. At length I obtained one of the commissioner's Hall's and published an appointment, in one of the news papers; and a crowded congregation attended the meeting, and I addressed the meeting, with the subject of the first principles of the gospel.

*“Thus the kingdom of
God has rolled forth in
this city...”*

I then made other appointments in the same place, and preached some 10, or 12 times; and held one debate with one Dr. Bird, of this city. (a Presbyterian preacher,) which was the means of doing much good.-By this time there was quite excitement, and the former prejudices of the people seemed to be in part removed. I then thought it best to hire a house by the year to preach in that I might have it under my own control. I did so: and have held 5, or 6 meetings, in it a week, ever since. So like Paul, at Rome, I preach in my own hired house. The first of Oct. some come forward, and was baptized; I have continued baptizing all that desired to be, ever since: some weeks as many as thirteen of a week. Thus the kingdom of God has rolled forth in this city; and I have baptized, in all 65 disciples; and some 8, or 10 more have made application for baptism. We had a conference here the first of Jan. 1840, J. Smith, Jr. S. Rigdon, Orson, P. P. Pratt, and many other elders, were present. The minutes of the above, I will send to you as soon as convenient. J. Smith, Jr. bore testimony to the coming forth of the book of mormon which was the means of doing much good. The Lord has prospered me, and made me to see the fruits of my labors. And I feel myself authorized to say that the work of the Lord is gaining ground, in this city: and I trust that it will still roll on. Yours respectfully. Benjamin Winchester.

