

UNITED NEWS

NEWS OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF GOD, AN INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION • P.O. Box 541027, Cincinnati, OH 45254-1027 (513) 576-9796

Vol. 20, No. 5

HTTP://MEMBERS.UCG.ORG

JULY-AUGUST 2014

Ambassador Bible Center Class of 2014

More than 250 faculty, staff, family and friends were on hand on Sunday, May 25, to honor the graduation of the Ambassador Bible Center class of 2014.

by Gary Antion

We had 42 students this year at the graduation—one student finished mid-year and two others will return for the first semester to complete their studies. The hall was beautifully and tastefully decorated with floral arrangements and wonderful specialty cakes in three flavors. Kathy de Campos (assistant registrar and admissions assistant) and her crew prepared all of the flowers for the graduates and those in the program. Kudos to her and her staff. Her husband Jorge looked after the room set-up along with dean of students, Randy Stiver and his wife Linda, with some ABC Alumni.

Ambassador Bible Center is an institution dedicated to imparting the truths from the pages of the Bible. In addition to the biblical instruction, ABC students are given opportunities for leadership and service to enable them to be strong members of our Church, our community and our country. Students come from all over the United States and other countries to attend this special college-level educational center. With this graduating class, we have completed our 15th year of classes!

The students walked into the hall to Pomp and Circumstance led by moni-



tor Amanda Boyer (2012 graduate). The invocation and welcome was done by program coordinator, Gary Antion. The student discourse from student body president Kyle Bornhorst followed. The ABC chorale presented two musical pieces led by director Kenneth Shoemaker and guest director and chorale representative Courtney Shaw.

President Victor Kubik delivered the graduation address and spoke about how important the knowledge from the Bible is. He stressed that we must not leave the information in the notebooks or in the margins of the Bible, but need to put that information into practice and into our

hearts. He said he would miss the class of 2014 for their liveliness and service while at ABC.

Four honor awards were presented. The Ambassador Excellence Award was presented to Kaylee Randle and Mark Miller by Mr. Kubik. The Council of Elders Service Award was given to Chelsea Fike and Joseph Kozenko. The recipients were chosen with input from their classmates who saw them in action all year long.

The diploma presentation followed when dean of the faculty, Steve Myers, recommended the class of 2014 to president Kubik, who conferred upon them the diploma in biblical studies. Mr. Sti-

ver read each name, and Mr. Kubik presented the diplomas to each student as he or she came upon the stage. After all received their diplomas, a hearty round of applause was given to them all.

Frank McCrady, one of ABC's instructors, gave the benediction and prayed for God's continued guidance upon the class as they move on in their careers and in life.

All were invited to join in celebrating the accomplishment of the class of 2014 with a dessert reception.

The class of 2014 has a wonderful future ahead of them as they continue their education in God's Word. **UN**

Congratulations Class of 2014

See pages 8-13 for high school and higher education graduates' bios and photos.



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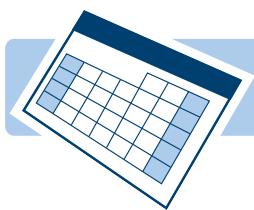
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BY THE NUMBERS

42,813

Estimated number of households on the island of St. Lucia (see page 6)



Up and Coming

Educational Seminars at Feast of Tabernacles Sites Announced

We are all busy making preparations for the wonderful Feast of Tabernacles. In the education arena we have also been making preparations for another series of educational seminars for the Feast this year. Last year, more than 1,100 people in total attended the various seminars offered at different Feast sites domestically and internationally. This year we will be offering some of the same presentations in different Feast sites, as well as new seminars with new presenters.

Here are some of the locations with their presenters and topics, listed alphabetically: Scott Hoefker plans to bring a seminar on the topic of “The Effects of Pornography on the Mind” in Cartagena, Colombia. In Jamaica, Randy and Kay Schreiber will bring their presentation on marriage, “Differences That Unite.” In Ocean City, Maryland, Dr. Roy Fouch will bring two presentations: “Coping with Addictions” and “Seven Principles of Growing a Marriage.” Gary Antion will cover two topics in his presentations at Oceanside, California: “Improving Your Marriage!” and “Happiness Is...!”

In Panama City Beach, Florida, Merna

Eppick will present “Addictions—Intervention, Treatment and Recovery,” which is what she has presented at ABC and in Oceanside at last year’s Feast. Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, will have two presentations: Dr. Daniel Berendt, who is a medical doctor from Canada, will bring his seminar “Happiness is a Choice.” The second presentation is going to be from Jack Scruggs titled “The Cause and Effect of Child Abuse—Ages 1–50.”

Finally, Wisconsin Dells will host two seminars: John Cafourek will present his on “How to Recover from the Ravages of Abuse,” and Dr. Keith Tomes, a school district superintendent, will bring “Understanding the Developmental Assets of Our Youth: Raising a Well-Balanced Child.”

We have planned for 10 educational presentations at four United States sites and two international sites. If you will be attending any of those sites, we hope you will make plans to attend these seminars and become more knowledgeable and inspired about some of the key issues of life. Happy Feast planning to all! **UN**

Gary E. Antion, Coordinator of Educational Programs

Ambassador College Pasadena Multi-Day Reunion Planned for Early 2015

The Ambassador College Pasadena Reunion Committee is pleased to announce two new ways for students who attended AC Pasadena anytime between 1947 and 1977 (the first 30 years) to reconnect and celebrate their unique experiences and friendships as AC students.

The first is a reunion for AC Pasadena students planned from Friday, Feb. 27–Monday, March 2, 2015, in Pasadena at the Hilton Hotel. Plans are underway for a full range of activities, including visits to the former Ambassador College campus, and most importantly, the opportunity to become reacquainted with friends from our college years! All weekend at the Hilton there will be a dedicated hospitality room, replete with memorabilia such as Envoys, portfolios, and pictures, as well as plenty of seating for informal gathering, chatting, and catching up on the ensuing

decades since we last saw each other.

More information, including the opportunity to register for this reunion, is on our newly launched website www.acpasadenareunion.com. This powerful and flexible website is more than just a place dedicated to this reunion in 2015—it is also designed to be a virtual reunion online now and for years to come. If you were a student at AC Pasadena during those first 30 years, you can easily join this site, submit a profile with pictures of your choice and enjoy reconnecting with others who have also joined. Our reunion committee’s goal is to find as many students of that era as we can—any help will be greatly appreciated.

For more information on this reunion or the website, you can contact Jean Updegraff (jean@acpasadenareunion.com). **UN**

Jean Updegraff

Youth Corps Seeks Volunteers for Two Projects

Eagle’s Nest Orphanage, Guatemala



United Youth Corps is seeking 10 individuals who are passionate about working with children, showing them love and affection and are willing to stretch outside of their comfort zone. Once selected, applicants will be involved with planning activities for the project, which will take place Dec. 26, 2014–Jan. 9, 2015. These Youth Corps participants will join five young adults from Guatemala to work together at Eagle’s Nest Orphanage. Team members should be able to maintain a positive attitude when faced with uncomfortable conditions and be able to adapt to a changing schedule. Proficiency in the Spanish language is preferred, but not a requirement.



COST

Room, board and ground transportation to and from the orphanage will be provided by Good Works. Participants are expected to provide their airfare costs and several extracurricular activities (costs will vary depending on location of origin). Scholarships may be made available based on need.

Please see the fact sheet and apply at www.ucgyouthcorps.org/projects/application.php.

For further information please contact Lena VanAusdle at lena_vanausdle@ucg.org. **UN**

Maloca de Moscou, Brazil



United Youth Corps and Good Works will be co-sponsoring a project in Brazil! This project will take place in Maloca de Moscou from Dec. 16, 2014, until Dec. 25, 2014.

This project will be a unique opportunity to serve in a unique location. Volunteers will be working directly with villagers to prepare land to be farmed. Conditions will be rustic; volunteers will be staying in tents, will be helping with food preparation, and will participate in daily Bible studies.

We are seeking four individuals for this project. They must be physically able to

perform strenuous physical activities. Proficiency in the Portuguese language is not a requirement.

COST

Food and ground transportation to and from the village will be provided. Participants are expected to provide 50 percent of the airfare costs. The remainder will be subsidized by Good Works.

Apply at www.ucgyouthcorps.org/projects/application.php.

For further information please contact Lena VanAusdle at lena_vanausdle@ucg.org. **UN**



PETER EDDINGTON
Media and
Communications
Services Operation
Manager

In 1981 I bought a high-mileage 1969 Ford LTD 390 V8. That's a nearly 6.5-liter engine that got about nine miles to the gallon. I was a college student in Pasadena at the time, and I bought the car from another broke student for \$50.

This was quite a unique car. The engine was worn out and the transmission had problems. The tires had little tread left on them. But, as a poor student, it was invaluable.

One Dollar of Gas

Being a student working for about \$1.75 an hour, and only allowed to work 20 hours per week on my international student visa, meant that cash was rather limited. So, whenever I put petrol in this car, I would usually put in only one dollar's worth. Gas was around 59 cents a gallon, so I got about 1½ gallons of gas. Afterwards, the fuel gauge still showed empty, but I knew I could get about 12 to 15 miles on that dollar.

How do you think that worked? I could take my girlfriend at the time, Terri, out to get a hamburger or even some pie at Marie Calendars. But after about two round trips I knew I'd be out of gas. A few times the engine misfired as it gasped for gasoline, but by shaking the steering wheel or pumping the brakes I could get the gasoline to find the bottom of the gas tank and pump a few more ounces into the engine, as we coasted to the nearest gas station.

Terri and I dated like this, with this old Ford LTD, for two years. But, guess what?



The inevitable happened. I miscalculated my mileage. I ran out of gas twice in those two years. (Actually, I'm rather proud of that track record. I only actually ran the tank dry twice in three years!)

I was literally running that car on petrol fumes! The carburetor must have been almost dry many a time. Such is the life of a college student, thousands of miles from home, on a strict, limited budget.

So, what's the point here in this short article? What can we discover about ourselves? Of course, there has to be a spiritual or biblical analogy and tie-in—and there is: "Running on Fumes."

Running on fumes. It's one thing to run a car on fumes, but what about in our spiritual life? Can we afford to just put in one dollar of gas at a time? Can we really go day-to-day *running on fumes*?

How serious are we about developing our relationship with God? Are we just putting in a few cents at a time, *or do we fill our tank*?

Your Oil Lamp

What scriptures come to mind for you in this regard; any parables that jog your memory? Is there an example of gas tanks running on empty? I believe you know where I'm going. In the parable of the 10

virgins, Jesus illustrated how it's imperative that we each ensure that our spiritual tanks are filled—that we are stirring up the Holy Spirit each and every day (Matthew 25:1-13).

The lesson for us today, the warning for us today, is *don't let your lamp run out of fuel*. Don't run the risk of *running on fumes* and having your lamp burn out altogether.

Keep a Full Tank

Is your tank depleted? I know that mine runs close to empty sometimes if I'm not careful. We have to refill it regularly. That comes from a relationship with God that we refresh through prayer, meditation and Bible study. Without ensuring that we have that relationship strong each and every day, the "bridegroom" might come and the wedding door will shut before you have time to get back with your petrol, your oil, with your full measure of God's Holy Spirit.

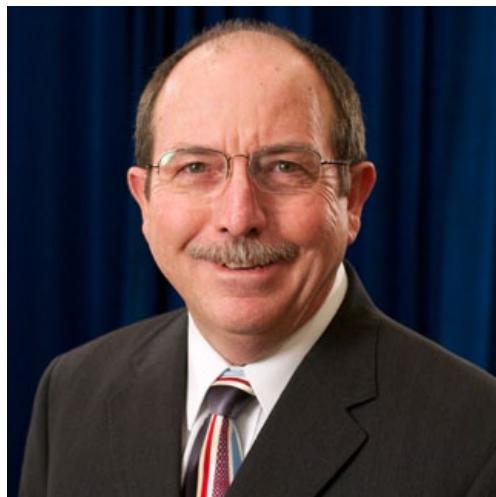
We cannot run on fumes. Our lamps must be full of oil. Our prayer to God and our study of His Word must go deep and be filling our lives. It's a good reminder to us all as we step up to the challenges of life and prepare as sons and daughters in our Father's Kingdom.

Don't run on spiritual fumes. Keep a full tank! **UN**



From The COUNCIL

Comforting: How Our Experiences Become a Gift to Share



by **Roc Corbett**

"Tribulation" is a word that gets our attention, and rightly so. It's not a pleasant thing to have in one's life, is it? It evokes words and emotions of affliction, distress, trouble, suffering and sorrow, all of which may be felt in varying degrees. Every one of us experiences such things, just as Christ said would happen. It's the antidote to these things that is the focus of this article.

For God's people throughout the ages, including us now, it has been during times of tribulation that God provides a very

special blessing or gift, which is simply the *comforting* that comes to us from our Father in heaven. In the way that God inspired His care for us when we are in a "tribulation" there is a spiritual principle that is a powerful and empowering element in our individual and collective journey toward the Kingdom of God.

The apostle Paul, a man who endured many tribulations during his long and effective ministry to Jesus Christ and His

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United News (ISSN 1088-8020) is published 7 times per year (in January, February, March, May, July, September, November) by the United Church of God, an International Association, 555 Technecenter Dr., Milford, OH 45150. © 2014 United Church of God, an International Association. Printed in the U.S.A. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any form without written permission is prohibited. Periodicals Postage paid at Milford, Ohio 45150, and at additional mailing offices. Canada Post publications mail agreement number 1487167.

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Scriptural references are from the New King James Version (© 1988 Thomas Nelson, Inc., Publishers) unless otherwise noted.

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International addresses:

AFRICA & ASIA (except as listed below): United Church of God, P.O. Box 541027, Cincinnati, OH 45254-1027, U.S.A. E-mail: info@ucg.org

AUSTRALIA: United Church of God—Australia, GPO Box 535, Brisbane, Qld. 4001, Australia. Phone: 0755 202-111 Fax: 0755 202-122

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BRITISH ISLES: United Church of God—British Isles, P.O. Box 705, Watford, Herts. WD19 6FZ England. Phone: 020 8386 8467 Fax: 020 8386 1999

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CAMEROON: United Church of God Cameroon, BP 10322 Besséngue, Douala Cameroon.

OTHER FRENCH-SPEAKING AREAS: Église de Dieu Unie—France, 127 rue Amelot, 75011 Paris, France.

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EAST AFRICA (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda): United Church of God—East Africa, P.O. Box 75261, Nairobi 00200 Kenya. E-mail: kenya@ucg.org

GERMANY: Vereinte Kirche Gottes, Postfach 30 15 09, D-53195 Bonn, Germany. Phone: 0228-9454636 Fax: 0228-9454637 E-mail: info@gutenachrichten.org

ITALY: La Buona Notizia, Chiesa di Dio Unita, Casella Postale 187, 24121 Bergamo Centro, Italy. Phone/Fax: (+39) 035 4523573. E-mail: info@labuonanotizia.org

MALAWI: P.O. Box 32257, Chichiri, Blantyre 3, Malawi. Phone: +265 999 823 523. E-mail: malawi@ucg.org

NEW ZEALAND: United Church of God, P.O. Box 22, Shortland St., Auckland 1140, New Zealand. Phone: 0508-463-763

NIGERIA: United Church of God, P.O. Box 2265, Somolu, Lagos, Nigeria. Phone: 803-323-3193. E-mail: nigeria@ucg.org

PHILIPPINES: United Church of God, P.O. Box 81840, DCCPO, 8000 Davao City, Philippines. Phone: (+63) 82 224-4444 Cell/Text: (+63) 918-904-4444

SCANDINAVIA: Guds Enade Kyrka, P.O. Box 541027, Cincinnati, OH 45254-1027 U.S.A. E-mail: norden@ucg.org

SINGAPORE: United Church of God, P.O. Box 535, Brisbane, Queensland, 4001, Australia.

SOUTH AFRICA (and Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland only): United Church of God, Southern Africa, P.O. Box 1181 Tzaneen 0850. Phone: (+27) 0797259453. E-Mail: RSA@ucg.org

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Education Task Force Meets in Cincinnati

■ The Education Task Force (ETF) of United Church of God met for the first time in face to face meetings in three years March 7-9.

by Gary Antion

The Education Task Force (ETF) of United Church of God met for the first time in face to face meetings in three years. The ETF is composed of Dan Salcedo, Keith Tomes, Randy and Kay Schreiber, John Cafourek, Lewis and Lena VanAusdle, Jim and Sue Kocher and Gary Antion. Our non-ETF-member wives are always welcome to join us and contribute. In addition, Vic and Beverly Kubik, Frank McCrady, Randy Stiver, Darris and Debbie McNeely and Michelle Dean joined the meetings. Jim and Sue Kocher were unable to make the meetings due to illness. Randy Schreiber joined us via WebEx.

The task force is responsible for reviewing, revising, recommending and assessing educational programs for United Church of God. Since most of the members are volunteers from the Church, they are not able to bring the suggestions to fruition. That takes the cooperation of the home office staff to achieve.

Since all education, including ABC, is under the oversight of the president's office, Mr. Kubik was anxious to learn about what the ETF does. Saturday evening, each person explained to Mr. Kubik and each other the various duties and projects we each oversee to advance the education for the Church. We had a short night of sleep before resuming our meetings at the home office at 9 a.m. The first presentation was made by Mr. Salcedo, who presented material on how to reach an audience effectively as a teacher. This applies to our speakers in Sabbath services, presenters in our seminars and Sabbath school instructors.

Mr. Cafourek discussed briefly the plans for the Feast educational seminars. The festival locations and seminar presenters can be found on page 2.

Mr. McCrady and Mr. and Mrs. Schreiber brought reports of their successful presentations at Marriage Enrichment Workshops. More than 1,000 brethren have been reached by their combined presentations.

There was a brief discussion about improving the Feast youth education booklets. This task has been assigned to Mr. and Mrs. VanAusdle. These had previously been under the oversight of Mr. and Mrs. Kocher, but they have asked to



take a more supervisory role for the time being. The Schreibers brought forth an exciting proposal about how we teach our children on Sabbath. It was called the Deuteronomy 6 model. It was well presented and brought an interesting approach to Sabbath instruction. You'll be reading and hearing more about this in the future.

Finally, Jeff and Julie Brown brought forth their work over the last several years to bring ABC classes online via Moodle. This will eventually be available

to the brethren. They, along with their team of volunteers, have put many hours into preparing the test class, general epistles. They are building this from the notes and audio of the class. Initially this will be tested in a very limited way to see how it is received before making it available to the brethren. Be on the lookout for more information in the future. This program will include self-grading tests, resources, and handouts. After the test

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Profile: Terry Monaghan—An Uncommon Story

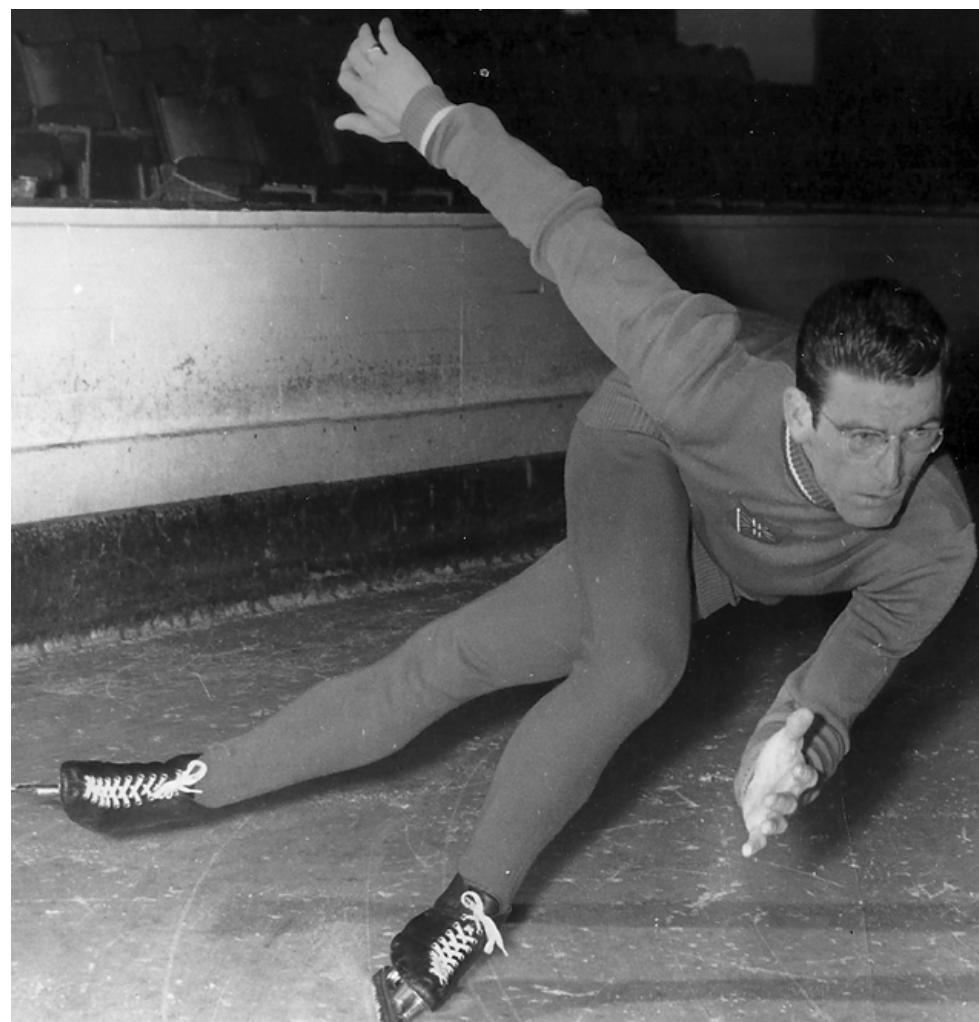
by Debbie Werner

Many of us watched the thrilling highs and lows of the Winter Olympics in Russia in February. Have you ever stopped to think about the dedication and perseverance it takes to make it to the Olympics? Recently, I had the opportunity to speak at a Women's Enrichment Weekend, which had the theme of perseverance, about the story of a former Olympian who goes to our Church. His name is Terry Monaghan.

Mr. Monaghan attends the Portland congregation. But his roots are in a land across the Atlantic Ocean. He was born in Wales and is known as Wales' most successful long-track speed skater. So successful, in fact, that he broke world records and made it to the 1962 Olympics. But his story began as simply as most of ours.

When he was just a little kid, he loved his roller skates (back then he had the kind that you had to screw onto your shoes). Later he moved to inline roller skates. All of that was just about a kid having fun. But in 1941, he saw the movie Sun Valley Serenade, fell in love with Sonja Henie at 8 years old and decided that he wanted to go to Norway and ice skate. His interest developed from there.

His dad died when he was a young teen-



ager, so when his mom found out he loved skating, she bought him a season pass to the ice rink. She wanted to keep him off

the streets and away from hanging out with the wrong crowd.

He would get warmed up with figure

skating and then would work on speed skating. Though he had no coach, he was racing all over different towns in England and Scotland with the Bournemouth Speed Skating Team. You were supposed to be 16 to be on the team, but he was skating at ages 14 and 15 since he was big for his age.

When he was about 16, he jumped over a fallen skater in a race and was told he was skating dangerously and was expelled from the skating club for two weeks. That put him out of the running for the championship half-mile race in which he was the favorite. When some others heard what had happened, they got together and sent him up to Wembley to the half-mile championships of Great Britain instead of the local championships and he made the finals. He learned that despite difficulties, things can work out for the best (Romans 8:28).

After he got out of the Royal Air Force at age 20 he would go to Norway every winter to train as soon as the lake ice was thick enough for skating.

At that time God was starting to work with him, albeit in a subtle way. He used to listen to the top 20 music program from Radio Luxembourg at 11 p.m. He often fell asleep during the music pro-

Please see page 18



Are You Willing to Help?

by David Fitch

As I write this article I'm flying over the beautiful plains of the western United States. One of the flight attendants appears and has mannerisms that make me wonder if he's homosexual. It's not my first time encountering someone who I knew or thought might be homosexual. In fact in my life I've worked with and been friends with several men who have struggled with this. Sometimes I've wondered if God hasn't had some purpose in my knowing these men. While thinking on these things, I thought of a different angle I'd like to share in this article.

I think we all realize the Church has a responsibility to cry aloud, spare not and tell people of their sins; our society embraces sin more and more every day. With the subject of gay marriage so much a part of our national discourse, it's right for us to take a stand against it in our preaching. We know that God created the institution of marriage to be between one man and one woman, and we should stand up for godly values whenever we have the opportunity. God is against gay marriage, and so should we be.

However, in addition for standing up for godly values, I'd like to ask you to consider another Christian responsibility:



ity: how to love and help other sinners, no matter what sin they may struggle with. Believe it or not, we have men and women in the Church who struggle with homosexuality. I've talked to multiple men in our Church who struggle with this challenge. I also recently heard of a young man who committed suicide who attended the United Church of God. He was also struggling with homosexuality. How incredibly sad it is whenever anyone feels they can't go on living. You also can't help but wonder in those situations

if it could have been avoided if the person would have gotten the right kind of help.

We've all heard the saying "hate the sin, but love the sinner." We shouldn't look down upon people struggling with sin, as if from a position of self-righteousness. Jesus died to atone for the sins of everybody—ours included (Romans 5:8; compare Matthew 9:12-13). Just as our friends and brethren in the Church support us as we strive to overcome, so it should be in the Church for those who struggle with homosexuality. We should give the same

love and support for them that we would give to someone struggling with something like alcohol addiction. The Church should be a place where everyone can discuss their challenges without being looked down upon. We should do whatever we can to support anyone who shares their struggles with us. If someone shares that they struggle with homosexual feelings, you might be inclined to avoid them, as you may even fear they are having feelings for you. But pushing them away is the last thing that they need or that God wants you to do. Know that they didn't choose to be attracted to people of the same sex. Research shows that same-sex attraction typically develops very early in childhood development (see "Hope for Homosexuals," *The Good News*, Sept.-Oct. 2003).

Those who struggle with same-sex attraction need to feel welcome in our Church if God is calling them. We can let them share with us, we can pray for them, we can befriend them, and we can let them know that we don't condemn them or look down on them.

Without condoning any sin, let's make sure we don't have a double standard in this area. We don't avoid or shun people

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Raising Godly Children

by Cathy Lee

My husband and I were both very blessed to be raised in the Church. We both were raised with one parent out of the Church and one in. We were both very blessed to have a parent who taught us how to pray to our Creator and what a blessing it is to know Him.

I have been thinking about this a lot lately because my husband and I have three children, and we are very blessed that they are all still in the Church. Not only are they in the Church, but they really love God's way and are so far ahead of where we were when we were their age. Two of the three of our children have attended Ambassador Bible Center, with the third eagerly anticipating attending.

I have had several people ask lately what we have done. First of all, it's not what we have done: It's absolutely what God has done through answered prayers. We've heard some very disheartening stories of children going to camp and not knowing how to pray. I even had a friend tell me that her dad was a minister in the Church, and he never taught her how to pray. This is so sad to me. My motto has always



been, "A family that prays together stays together."

Our son is 26 years old, and when he was a teen, he wanted to play football on Friday nights. As a sophomore we decided that we had taught him the importance of the Sabbath, but we would let him make his decision. To our dismay he chose to

play on Friday nights. As we analyzed this we found that we were still very immature as a couple in that we didn't make the Sabbath a true delight while raising him.

We found with our younger two that because we strived to make the Sabbath special and a delight, they have never had a desire to go out on Friday night. We gen-

erally have a nice Sabbath dinner, we have spiritual conversations that night and the next morning and we have a large Sabbath breakfast. It's a wonderful family day focused on our Creator. We have had a few boys come into the Church just from simply being over for Sabbath dinners and enjoying the family atmosphere with God being the center of that.

In addition to making the Sabbath a delight, another thing we strived to do was never putting any school or other activity above observing the Sabbath. There are times when missing church for certain reasons is acceptable, but as far as a sporting activity or school activity, that was always a definite "no." It's our responsibility as a parent to teach our kids that God made the Sabbath for us to rest and honor Him and that it should be a delight. We have six days of the week to attend sporting and school activities. We should be at church to honor God on the Sabbath.

We talk with our children about God's blessings on our family and the importance of following His path. We have

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From the Managing Editor...

At the General Conference of Elders in May, I heard many stories about God's people having zeal for Him that really inspired me.

One major thread that emerged among these stories was one of local congregations using whatever resources were available to preach the gospel in their communities.

In this new section, I'd like to collect and share stories like these in order to give inspiration to other congregations and to encourage the Church as a whole.

St. Lucia Congregation of Six's Ambitious Plan to Blanket Entire Island in *Good News* Magazines

by Kelland Barthelmy, St. Lucia

Up until February 2011, regular UCG attendance in St. Lucia was nine, at which time it dropped to six. Chuck Smith visited UCG here in St. Lucia during the latter part of February 2011. He began preparing for a series of Bible seminars, with a goal of two per year in St. Lucia. He fired up the congregation as we committed ourselves to playing our part in preaching the gospel.

One of the ways we preach the gospel and increase the presence of the United Church of God in St. Lucia is by stapling inserts to the first page (sometimes to the subscription flyer) of *The Good News* magazine. The inserts summarize pertinent local or world conditions at the time, simultaneously providing readers with local UCG contact information and information on Sabbath services.

Whenever we have a Bible seminar, the *GN* inserts provide information on the topic and location of the seminar. We also mail invitations to *GN* subscribers three weeks ahead of time, followed by one-



St. Lucia members stapling inserts into *Good News* magazines.

minute radio ads a week or two before the seminar. With God's blessing, regular Sabbath attendance has jumped from six to an average of 16 with the highest Sabbath attendance of 23. We had as many as 41 new attendees at a Bible seminar during the Feast last year. The positive

response to *The Good News* is island-wide. We normally put out 700 *GN* magazines per issue island-wide. A few months back, we had an idea—would it be possible to put at least one *Good News* magazine in the hands of every St. Lucian household? There are nearly 40,000 households on

the island. Could we do it? We researched and discovered that if we could get the magazines to the post office, they would deliver them at a minimal cost. But how could we get our hands on 40,000 *Good News* magazines without phenomenal shipping costs? As the saying goes, "Just like you eat an elephant—one bite at the time." We began with 5,000 magazines. Mr. Smith was able to get them transported from Cincinnati to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, where they were put on a ship and delivered to the Castries port in St. Lucia. From there, we picked up the ball. Members sacrificed their home chores and got together in the church building to staple inserts in the 5,000 *Good News* magazines. The general post office will then place them in mailboxes in the populous northern part of St. Lucia.

Stay tuned as we continue our efforts to saturate the island with "a little good news," and we invite you to join us in prayer that God will bless our efforts and grant the increase as He sees fit. **UN**

"Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing"
(Matthew 24:46).

Looking Out for Opportunities to Distribute God's Truth

by Lloyd Nelson, Rochester, Minnesota

After spending four years in the U.S. Navy during World War II, I had great joy and elation when the war ended. But then things began to happen that started to trouble me—the Korean conflict, riots in South America, the Kent State incident. How could that happen so soon after WWII?

I attempted to read the Bible, but was not able to understand it so I shut it up. I tried to pray, but did not know how. I tried again saying, "If there is a God up there, I need help."

In 1958, I saw an ad in a farmers magazine offering three booklets and a subscription to *The Plain Truth*. The amazing thing was that this was offered free of charge as it was paid for by others (Matthew 10:8; 2 Corinthians 11:7).

I didn't realize it at the time, but God was answering my prayer. Soon I was studying the 52 lessons of the *Bible Correspondence Course*. I sent for more booklets and began to listen to the radio program where I heard, "Don't believe me, believe your Bible."

The seed had been planted! As I studied I was beginning to understand how Jesus was moved with compassion for people. I wanted what Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 1:3, "May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ love you and give you peace." In my life I had seen a lot of suffering, including the death of my wife shortly after we were both baptized. This wonderful knowledge helped me change my life and I wanted to make it available to help others.

As time went on, a door opened for me to distribute *The Plain Truth*. I always

believed that the best measure of success we can use is to read the letters to the editor: When our media helps people create happy homes, the work is bearing fruit.

Passing on literature can change lives. My second wife Norma left her church she had attended for 40 years and went God's way after her brother gave her some *Plain Truth* magazines to read.

Small and large doors continued to open. I approached a local hospital administrator to explain that *The Plain Truth* was a magazine of understanding that could help change lives or even comfort people (Matthew 25:36). I suggested he take it home and look it over. I prayed for God's blessing, and when I called on him the next day he said it was a wonderful magazine; he allowed me to distrib-



Lloyd Nelson at the newspaper box he distributes *Good News* magazines in. Photo by Scott Moss.

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Announcements



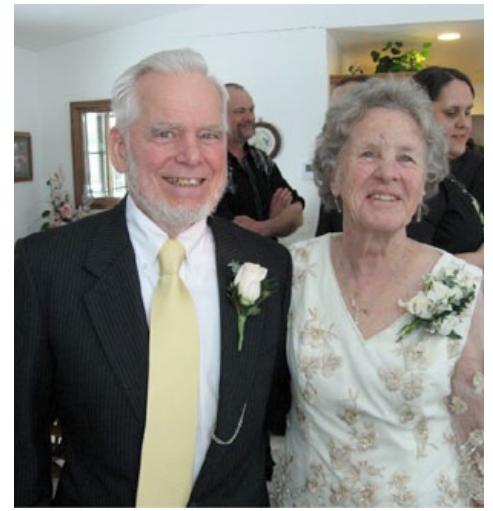
Evelyn Gabrielle Mirigian



Katherine Renee Orsak



Michael Sage Phillips



Elmer Salmon & Wilma Edelbach

March 15, 2014

Births

Mark and Micah Mirigian of San Jose, California, along with grandparents Dave and Hiromi Mirigian (Oakland, California), and grandma Karen Bradley (Phoenix, Arizona), are thrilled to announce the birth of their first child, **Evelyn Gabrielle**, born Jan. 29, 2014. She weighed 8 lb., 11 oz., and was 20.5 in. long. Evelyn is the first Mirigian girl born in over 40 years and is the first grandchild and great-grandchild in the Bradley and Hazelip families. Glory be to God!

Tim and Debbie Orsak of the Houston, Texas, congregation, are pleased to announce the birth of their second daughter, **Katherine Renee Orsak**. She was born at 11:07 p.m. on April 21. She weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz. and was 20 in. long. Her older sister Samantha (2) is excited with the new addition to the family. Katherine is the seventh grandchild of Mario and Caty Seiglie and sixth of Mike and Regina Orsak.

Mark and Megan (Fooshe) Phillips of Dickson, Tennessee, are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, **Michael Sage**. Sage was born on Nov. 7, 2013, and weighed 8 lb. Sage is the first grandchild of Michael and Shari (Styer) Fooshe (also of Dickson, Tennessee). He was also welcomed by his doting aunts, Mariah and Marissa Fooshe. Sage is a fourth generation member of the Church. His great grandparents are Mary Styer and the late Gerald Styer of Burns, Tennessee. They all attend the Nashville, Tennessee congregation.

Weddings

Elmer Salmon and Wilma (Russell) Edelbach were married Sabbath evening, March 15, 2014, in Albert Lea, Minnesota.

Their wedding, officiated jointly by David Schreiber, the bride's pastor, and Malcolm Murray, the groom's pastor, was held at the Schreiber home. Ken Cline and



Delvin & Joyce Possin

25 years

his wife Jean were best man and matron of honor, respectively. It was a very small, intimate ceremony primarily attended by the bride's children, grandchildren, the bride's sister and her husband (Sandy and Arnold Goodfellow) and a few close friends.

The newlyweds were honored by the Southern Minnesota congregation following services on March 22, 2014, with a reception celebrating their wedding. The happy couple are youngsters in love.

Mr. and Mrs. Salmon (also affectionately known as the Wilmers) have made their home in Hayfield, Minnesota.

Anniversaries

The Southern Minnesota congregation honored **Delvin and Joyce Possin** on May 24 in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary. The Possins have faithfully and lovingly served God and His people for many years. The Church members gave them an anniversary card and a gift certificate to a local restaurant. After services there was a potluck meal, a lovely chocolate cake inscribed with their names and a bowl of refreshing punch. The couple brought their wedding album, and everyone enjoyed viewing the pictures from bygone days.

Their story began 27 years ago when



Rex & Rita Spears

50 years

Delvin and Joyce met at Sabbath services in Mankato, Minnesota. Later, Delvin asked Joyce to join him for a Spokesman's Club ladies night held in St. Peter, Minnesota. She willingly accepted. Next, Joyce asked Delvin over for dinner—a home cooked meal—the rest is history. The Possins were married May 28, 1989, in Blue Earth, Minnesota. The wedding was attended by family members, close friends and their Church family. Their church pastor, Steve Nutzman, performed the ceremony.

Rex and Rita Spears of Concord, California, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 5, 2014. Members of the Oakland area congregation enjoyed an ice cream social after the Sabbath service. The Spears were united in marriage on April 4, 1964. Their union was blessed with three children: two daughters, Rona and Andrea, and a son, Ramen. The Spears also have four grandchildren: Zoey, Kaleb, Ryder and Luke. Rex retired from Del Monte Foods after 44 years. Rex was ordained a deacon in the 1970s and an elder on April 6, 1993. Rita is a homemaker and retired from Episcopal Homes Foundation. She now spends much of her time quilting and knitting for others.

March 29, 2014, was a special day for **Bill and Connie Smith** of Gladewater,



Bill & Connie Smith

60 years

Texas. It marked the 60th wedding anniversary for the couple and also the day they were honored at a reception by the East Texas congregation after Sabbath services. Rita Crane created a multilayered cake decorated with spring flowers and birds for the occasion. Brethren, family and friends enjoyed finger foods and punch.

Bill and Connie met back in Dayton, Ohio, where they both went to the same school. Two years later Connie threw her clothes out the window, and the couple eloped. The next day Bill reported for duty in the army. Connie returned home and didn't tell anyone they were married for a while. This was during the Korean War, and Bill volunteered to join the service. He had limited vision in one eye so he memorized the vision chart in order to pass the physical.

Bill was in the service for three years. The salary for the serviceman and his wife was \$90 a month. Bill volunteered to join the paratroopers and jump out of planes so that he could earn an extra \$50 per month.

Bill taught Connie how to cook. She once made spaghetti and didn't rinse it. Connie threatened to throw away the glob, but Bill told her to save it. Sure enough, by the end of the month they cut

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Congratulations, Class of 2014

High School

Andrew Bergmann

Parents: Matthew and Melinda Bergmann

Congregation: Nashville, Tennessee

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Andrew always enjoys getting together with friends, old and new, at the Feast and Winter Family Weekend.

Favorite Motto: Before honor is humility.

Heidi Braun

Parents: Martin and Ailsa Braun

Congregation: Charlotte, North Carolina

High School Accomplishments: Heidi has taken 10 years of piano lessons and received a national merit scholarship letter of commendation.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: She enjoys playing piano and singing for church, doing craft projects such as sewing and knitting, writing children's books, reading, attending Church summer camps and many other interests.

Plans After Graduation: Heidi plan to find summer work, attend community college for two years and then attend Ambassador Bible Center. She will probably pursue more college education after that.

Favorite Scripture: Psalm 118:24 and Philippians 4:13.

Danielle Caldwell

Parents: James and Dianna Caldwell

Congregation: San Antonio, Texas

High School Accomplishments: Danielle won first place in dessert competitions and has finished extra curricular activities in homeschooling and in life.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: She enjoys singing special music and greeting some Sabbaths. Danielle loves to cook, bake and occasionally have relaxing reading time.

Plans After Graduation: She plans on attending ABC and then eventually going to several vocational schools.

Favorite Scripture: Romans 8:28: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (New International Version).

Logan Corbin

Parents: Son of Rob and Jayne Corbin

Congregation: Murfreesboro, Tennessee

High School Accomplishments: Honors diploma, commander of the rifle team in JROTC, captain of operations and training with JROTC, Presidents Scholarship and Hope Scholarship

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Logan has attended Church camp since he

was 7 years old, starting at Camp Tomahawk. He has been to teen Church camp every year since age 12 and has been able to attend five different camps. He helps set up the sound system and podium at church every week. His hobbies include traveling and riding his motorcycle. He also loves computers.

Plans After Graduation: Logan will be attending East Tennessee State University in Johnston City, Tennessee, where he will be getting his degree in criminal justice. Logan's goal is to get a job with the federal government in some capacity.

Favorite Scripture: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13).

Jake Crouse

Parents: Bobbie and Larry Crouse

Congregation: Phoenix East, Arizona

High School Accomplishments: Some of Jake's accomplishments include a programming internship at a game studio called 2XL Games that became a first job; the New American University Scholarship President's Award (due to a 4.0 unweighted GPA and 2170 SAT score); and acceptance to the ASU Barrett Honors College.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: At church, Jake is able to serve by running the sound system. It has been such a blessing to be able to help in that way. Right now, he is working on a biblical video game that youth in the Church will be able to enjoy playing and hopefully become more interested in God's way.

Plans After Graduation: Jake is pursuing a degree in software engineering at ASU in the fall. *Advice:* Multiple small, in-the-moment prayers for God to change your thinking are very powerful spiritual tools.

David Aaron Demers

Parents: Kelli and Dale (deceased) Demers

Congregation: Northern Arizona

Accomplishments: David is an active participant of tae kwon do, and received two first place trophies at a tournament, in open forms and sparring. David is currently a low brown belt, and is working towards his goal of black belt—which is only three belts away. He was also awarded the Chad Tucker Mark of Excellence Scholarship, which paid his tuition last year. He's been involved in several community projects and enjoys helping others.

Plans after graduation: David has no immediate plans after graduation, except to continue working at his job until he decides what trade to study for at college. He thoroughly enjoys working with children and would like to become a paid

instructor in tae kwon do, to give back to the community what they gave him after losing his father to cancer three years ago.

Favorite scripture/quote: Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me."

Derrick Fenger

Parents: Jerry and Laura Fenger

Congregation: Cincinnati East, Ohio p.m.

High School Accomplishments: Derrick is a member of the National Honors Society. He graduated with 3.8 GPA, earned 48 credit hours in the post-secondary program and became a member of the dean's list for his last three semesters. He also completed a 12-mile mud run named the Tough Mudder.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Derrick loves to attend United Youth Camps and to fellowship with God's people. Currently he serves as an usher, a sound crew assistant and a member of the security team for the local congregation.

Plans After Graduation: In one year he will earn an associates degree in psychology from the University of Cincinnati. He will then attend ABC, after which he will resume classes to earn a B.S. degree in industrial/organizational psychology. His eventual goal is to earn a master's degree, which will allow him to train business leaders.

Favorite Quote: "Always remember there was nothing worth sharing like the love that let us share our name." ~ Avett Brothers

Favorite Bible Verse: Romans 8:18: "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Mariah Leighann Fooshe

Graduating From: Heritage Covenant Academy

Parents: Michael and Shari Fooshe

Congregation: Nashville, Tennessee

High School Accomplishments: Mariah was the first-place recipient of the Goodlark Educational Foundation Essay Scholarship, 3.9 GPA in high school, 4.0 GPA in college dual enrollment courses. She has won second and third place for the two past years in the InTEENsity Photography Contest and has had her winning photos displayed at the Renaissance Center in Dickson, Tennessee.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Mariah attended summer camps for eight years, including at Pinecrest, Winter Camp and Camp Woodmen. She served on staff for five years at Camp Tomahawk preteen camp and has sung in the Feast

choir since she was 4 years old.

Mariah enjoys archery, writing, all forms of dance, reading, playing her piano, art, skating, photography, spending time with family, singing all over town, making people laugh and learning new things.

Plans after Graduation: Mariah currently attends Nashville State Community College and is pursuing her degree in culinary arts. She plans to become a chef and open up her own restaurant in the future. Mariah has served the community by teaching dance lessons to her peers and working on the prom committee each year. She is also currently working part time with Advantage Sales and Marketing.

Favorite Scripture: Matthew 19:26- "With God all things are possible."

Favorite Quote: "You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore." —Christopher Columbus

Mariah's Motto: "Yeah... I can fly" —Iron Man

Amanda Gilbert

Parents: Jeff and Connie Gilbert

Congregation: Cincinnati North, Ohio

High School Accomplishments: Amanda was involved in the Greenhand and Chapter Degree in FFA as well as an active FCCLA member for three years. She is proficient in archery and has completed some veterinary shadow work.

Church Activities/Interests/Hobbies/etc.: Amanda is on the set-up crew at Cincinnati North and has attended Camp Pinecrest for four years. She was heavily involved in the PALS program in FFA, which teaches children about agriculture. Along with PALS she has also been involved with Food for America, which educates fifth graders at surrounding schools concerning the benefits, production and consumption of agriculture. Amanda has also been a martial arts instructor for more than five years and has attained a black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

Plans After Graduation: She will be attending the University of Cincinnati Blue Ash campus, majoring in veterinary technology.

Favorite quote: "Do not pray for an easy life, pray for the strength to endure a difficult one"—Bruce Lee

Morgan Gilmer Greene

Parents: Wiley and Debra Greene

Congregation: Kingsport, Tennessee

High School Accomplishments: Morgan graduated with a 4.0 GPA and ranked number one in his class. He was involved in varsity tennis for three years and cross-country and track for four years. Morgan

High School



Andrew Bergmann



Heidi Braun



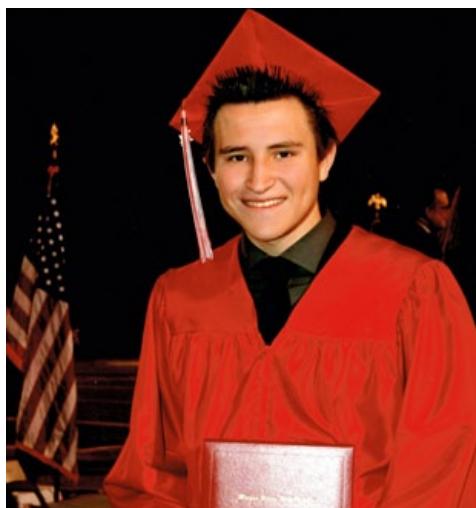
Danielle Caldwell



Logan Corbin



Jake Crouse



David Aaron Demers



Derrick Fenger



Mariah Leighann Foeshe

also received the math, science and history award for his senior class.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Morgan attended camp Woodmen for four years.

Plans After Graduation: He will be attending King University and majoring in pre-med.

Favorite Scripture: Ecclesiastes 9:10

Kevin Greer

Parents: Todd and Tina Greer

Congregation: Kalamazoo, Michigan

College Accomplishments: Kevin graduated with highest academic honors (all four years), is a National Honor Society member and a recipient of the Math Department Award from Portage Northern High School.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Kevin loved attending camps (Buckeye, Cotubic, and Winter Camp), teen speech club and the Feast of Tabernacles. He loves math and music, and enjoys listening to, playing, and writing his own music. He also love to draw, explore nature, try new things, spend time with friends and family and learn more about God's way . Kevin played clarinet in symphonic band and wind ensemble in high school, and front ensemble percussion in marching band. He served as student leader for Interact Club, a Rotary-affiliated volunteer organization. Lastly, he volunteered as an assistant counselor at Camp Buckeye.

Plans After Graduation: In the fall Kevin will attend Western Michigan University to pursue a career in mathematics or engineering.

Favorite Motto: Love all, serve all.

Montana Lea Hermann

Parents: Karl and Lori Hermann

Congregation: Fort Wayne, Indiana

Accomplishments: Montana graduated with academic honors, completed a work-based internship capstone experience, received health and related sciences academy certification. She participated in Project Lead the Way, receiving a certificate in biomedical sciences. She was her high school drama set crew head for six productions and received Trustee Scholarship to Trine University.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Montana attended Camp Buckeye as a camper and counselor, Camp UCanDo as camper and counselor, Camp Heritage, Camp Cotubic, Winter Camp, Northwest Camp (this year) and served her congregation as a Sabbath school teacher.

Montana also enjoys snowboarding, reading, drinking tea and traveling.

Plans After Graduation: She will attend Trine University in Angola, Indiana, as an honors student in biomedical engineering.

Favorite Quote: "Be who you want to become."

Favorite Scripture: "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed

by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:2).

Melissa Johnson

Parents: John and Tammy Johnson

Congregation: Orlando, Florida

High School Accomplishments: Melissa graduated from New Smyrna Beach High School, where she was on Honor Roll all four years. Her artwork was selected for community art show.

Church activities/hobbies/interest/etc.: Melissa likes photography, bike riding and 5K runs. She has been a greeter and helped with hall clean up at church, as well as singing in the choir for church.

Plans for graduation: She plans to go to ABC this year (Class of 2014-2015) and attend Daytona State College when she get back to Florida.

Favorite Scripture: Matthew 6:34

Favorite quote: "Life is like a camera... Focus on what's important, capture the good times, develop from the negatives, and if things don't work out, take another shot."

Elizabeth Kyle Joseph

Parents: Brian and Angela Joseph

Congregation: Dayton, Ohio

High School Accomplishments: Elizabeth graduated from Troy High School and was a PSEO (post-secondary enrollment

options) student taking full-time college classes at Edison and Sinclair Community Colleges her junior and senior years. She was chosen to go on an overseas school trip to England and France her freshman year of high school and was on the honor roll/dean's list all four years of high school. She is the recipient of the SEW Eurodrive Scholarship.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests: Volunteering and taking part in community service projects is very important to Elizabeth. She was a member of Key Club, Astra Club, Clubhouse, the Future Begins Today, Young Women of Distinction and Women of Wonder. She volunteered with Kids Read Now, Reading Buddies, Project Linus, Project GIVE, the St. Pat's Soup Kitchen and was a weekly volunteer in both the kindergarten and first grade classrooms her junior and senior years.

Elizabeth was in concert choir, symphonic choir and show choir. She was on the swim team, the Troy bowling team and took gymnastics for nine years. She was a staff member at preteen Camp Ironwood and attended Camp Cotubic, Camp Pinecrest and Winter Camp. She has been an active participant in her congregation, performing special music and making it a point to interact and communicate with members of all ages.

Plans After Graduation: Elizabeth will be continuing her education at Sinclair Community College where she will fin-



Amanda Gilbert



Morgan Gilmer Greene



Kevin Greer



Montana Lea Hermann



Melissa Johnson



Elizabeth Kyle Joseph



Stephen Lee



Michala Lockwood

ish her associate's degree in sociology next spring. She then plans on transferring to the University of Dayton to get her bachelor's degree.

Favorite Bible Verse: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

Stephen Lee

Parents: Andrew and Karen Lee

Congregation: Winterthur, Switzerland

High School Accomplishments: Stephen graduated from International School of Zug and Luzern. His school activities and awards include JV basketball and soccer, model United Nations, sailing and kayaking, and the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Stephen was awarded the University Scholarship at John Carroll University in recognition of his high school achievements.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Stephen has enjoyed participating in the Church summer camps for the past four years. He is an avid reader, and enjoys sailing and international travel.

Plans After Graduation: Stephen is enrolled to begin college this fall as a business major at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Michala Lockwood

Parents: Scott and Collette Lockwood

Congregation: Denver, Colorado

High School Accomplishments: Michala received the best ASL student award,

served as 4-H community service committee head and ASL club vice president.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Michala loves pretty much anything to do with ASL (American Sign Language), travelling and volunteer work. She has been to 31 countries and can't wait to visit more! At church she likes helping with the potlucks/socials, kids' activities and the booklet/information table.

Plans After Graduation: Michaela will attend ABC and then pursue a bachelor's degree in something with either ASL or nursing.

Favorite Scripture: Her two favorite scriptures are 1 Corinthians 9:12: "To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law" (English Standard Version), and John 7:24: "Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly" (New International Version).

Aaron Samuel Lopez

Parents: Matt and Rhonda Lopez

Congregation: Tulsa, Oklahoma

High School Accomplishments: Aaron was an Eagle Scout. He also was a member of Jenks High School Orchestra for four years as cello player and a member of Tulsa Honors Orchestra for two years. Aaron plays the saxophone, drums and cello.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Aaron has served on staff at Camp Osage and Camp Colorado pre-teen camps. He also participated in Camp Pinecrest for four years. Hobbies and interests include

listening to and creating new music, men's apparel/design and playing cello.

Plans after graduation: Will attend Tulsa Community College and participated in their orchestra.

Matthew Lyons

Parents: Robert and Kristel Lyons

Congregation: Matthew attends the UCG congregation in Los Angeles, California.

High School Accomplishments: Matthew has been homeschooled from the very beginning of his education by his mother, Kristel Lyons.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: He is proud to be finishing up his second novel, *Fearful*, a sequel to the novel he completed last year, *Fearless*. This passion for writing probably stems from his interest in reading. He also enjoys the occasional tomahawk throw or archery trip and loves to ride his bike to the gym for a daily workout. He enjoys many of the activities that they host there throughout the year, including bicycle rides and baking for the cake auction. His most frequent activity though is chatting and making jokes with his fellow Church members and friends.

Plans After Graduation: Matthew now hopes to start creating his next novel, featuring a theme of character growth. He adds that if he had some advice to give, he would say not to forget that "what one man can do, another man can do." If someone else can finish high school with good grades, write a book, or get that dream job, you can too.

Favorite Quote: "What one man can

do, another man can do," Matthew Lyons' father, Robert

Lyons, told him, and it is one of Matthew's favorite movie quotes. Only now has Matthew truly glimpsed how right his dad was.

Sabrina Moffitt

Parents: Ed and Norma Moffitt

Congregation: Des Moines, Iowa

High School Accomplishments: Sabrina graduated as valedictorian of her class. She also dual-enrolled at the local community college for the past two years. She was involved in student council, National Honor Society, the Academic Bowl team and was class secretary.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: She really enjoys making pottery.

Plans After Graduation: Her plans are to attend community college in the fall and finish her associates there. Further down the road Sabrina would like to attend ABC.

Favorite quote: "You can take the girl out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the girl."

Favorite scripture: Philippians 4:8

Sophie Colette Pebworth

Parents: Tim and Maryse Pebworth

Congregation: San Jose, California

High School Accomplishments: Sophie is a member of the National Honor Society, the California Scholarship Federation, as well as the National Honor Society of High School Scholars. She graduated from the King's Academy High School with highest honors. She won the technology and



Aaron Samuel Lopez



Matthew Lyons



Sabrina Moffitt



Sophie Colette Pebworth



Lindsey Randle



Sophia Del Signore



Kalin Sitter



Courtney Stith

French departmental award and was co-founder of the French club her freshmen year. Sophie was captain of the girls water polo team during their inaugural season and received the Leadership, Integrity, and Teamwork award for leading the efforts toward the creation of the team. She was team captain of her senior varsity swim team and was awarded for competing at varsity level for all four years of high school. Sophie has been studying the piano since she was four years old and recently received the senior award for completing all 10 levels of the Certificate of Merit exam from the California Piano Teacher's Association. She has also won a gold medal in the Youth Focus piano competition.

Church Activities/hobbies/Interests: Sophie loves to attend as many United Youth camp as humanly possible! She loves singing in the adult choir at Church and plays hymns and special music when needed. Sophie also enjoyed playing JV Volleyball and JV Soccer. When she isn't studying or playing sports, she's either reading, especially dystopian novels and historical fiction, or hanging out with her friends playing boardgames and laughing.

Plans After Graduation: Sophie will be attending the University of California Irvine in the fall, where she plans to major in computer science with a minor in marketing. She also plans to attend ABC at some point.

Favorite quotes:

"A woman is like an artichoke, it takes a bit of work before you get to her heart."— Jacques Clouseau, the Pink Panther.

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."— Winston Churchill.

Favorite scripture:

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble" (Matthew 6:34).

Lindsey Randle

Parents: Thomas and Deborah Randle

Congregation: Twin Cities, Minnesota

High School Accomplishments: Lindsey received academic letter for two years, band letter for two years, German Club letter and a club member of HOSA (health occupations students of America).

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: She has been preteen camp staff, and has attended summer camp for five years and Winter Camp for three years. Lindsey enjoys music. She plays clarinet in church ensemble, piano, and sings in the choir. She also enjoys painting every once in a while and likes going to shows like concerts, movies and theater productions.

Plans After Graduation: Lindsey plans on getting her degree in medical laboratory sciences.

Favorite Quote: "I like nonsense, it wakes up the brain cells. Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living, It's a way of looking at life through the wrong end of a telescope. Which is what I do, and that enables you to laugh at life's realities."—Dr. Seuss.

Favorite Scripture: One of her favorite scriptures is Hebrews 13: 5-6.

Motto: Hakuna Matata



Cameron Taylor

Sophia Del Signore

Parents: Vincent and Rebecca Del Signore

Congregation: North Canton, Ohio

High School Accomplishments: Sophia is a member of the National Honor Society, and she won Coach's Choice of the Year award in swim team.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: She ran track and cross country through high school and also swam on the swim team. She plays piano for Sabbath services, was involved in various choirs and piano performances, loves being outside (camping, etc.), serves on staff at Camp Buckeye and has been to Cotubic and Winter camp.

Plans After Graduation: She plans to attend Shawnee State University and major in occupational therapy.

Favorite Scripture: "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all



Jacob Welch

these things shall be added to you." (Matthew 6:33).

Favorite quote: "Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can."—John Wesley.

Kalin Courtney Sitter

Parents: Rose and Aaron Sitter **Grandparents:** Lloyd and Marlene Sitter

Congregation: North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada

Kalin is one of two teens in all the Saskatchewan congregations and has been attending in North Battleford since 2009. Prior to that she lived in Tumbler Ridge, British Columbia, and attended in Prince George and Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.:

She has an interest in singing, photography, hunting and fishing and was an avid participant in her high school senior volleyball and basketball teams. Spring track and field took her to provincials in hurdles.

Plans After High School: Kalin plans on taking a year off after high school to focus on doing humanitarian work in various areas of the world.

Favorite Quote: "In a gentle way, shake the world." —Unknown.

Courtney Stith

Parents: Tony and Elizabeth Stith

Congregation: Twin Cities, Minnesota

High School Accomplishments: Courtney was a National Honor Society officer, school board scholar, and an honor roll and school AAA award winner. Courtney graduated from Princeton High School.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Courtney enjoys making music by playing the piano, guitar, percussion and singing. She serves in her local congrega-

tion's choir. In school she participated in band for seven years, choir for nine, tennis for six and track for two. Courtney has attended Ironwood preteen camp, Camp Pinecrest, Camp Cotubic, and Winter Camp. This last winter she was part of the Winter Leadership Camp at Winter Camp.

Plans After Graduation: She will pursue a degree in accounting online through the University of Minnesota.

Favorite Scripture: Romans 8:38-39

Cameron Taylor

Parents: Dan and Corinne Taylor

Congregation: San Jose, California

High School Accomplishments: Graduated Saint Francis High School with honors. During the course of his high school career he performed more than 50 hours of community service. His senior year he served as session leader of his senior retreat.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/

etc.: Every week Cameron help gather songbooks. For the Holy Days, Cameron helps his dad load equipment to transport to services with their sister churches. He also enjoys attending summer and winter camps and was a staff member this last Winter Camp in Wisconsin. He enjoys skateboarding, skiing, hiking and talking with his friends. His last two years in high school he had a part-time job as a sports photographer and purchased his own car.

Plans After Graduation: San Jose State University, majoring in engineering.

Favorite Scripture: Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Favorite Quote: "It's not the size of the dog in the fight; it's the size of the fight in the dog." —Mark Twain.

Jacob Welch

Parents: Jeff and Amy Welch

Grandparents: Mike and Barb Joseph

Congregation: Lansing, Michigan

High School Accomplishments: Jacob participated in lacrosse for four years and served on the staff of the school newspaper and yearbook. He also participated in Select Men's Chorale, which was selected to participate in the Michigan Youth Arts Festival in May.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Jacob attended Camp Heritage several times and served as a teen staff member at Camp Buckeye. Jacob is an active volunteer with the Dwarf Athletic Association of America and volunteered last summer at the World Dwarf Games held at Michigan State University, where more than 500 dwarf athletes from 20 countries participated. He also enjoys playing guitar and working at the fine dining restaurant, where he has been employed for the past two years.

Plans After Graduation: Jacob will be attending the Culinary Institute of Michigan to pursue his dream of becoming an executive chef.

Higher Education



Raymond Emehiser



Daniel Jacobsen



Jessica Jackson



Rachel Jackson



Jason Kline



Mark-Phillip Pebworth



Celia Bradley

Raymond Emehiser

Parents: Jeff and Berenice Emehiser

Congregation: Spokane, Washington

College Accomplishments: Raymond is graduating from Eastern Washington University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry and a minor in biology.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Ray helped at the Northwest preteen camp as an assistant counselor and as a lifeguard helping with the river float. He has served

at Northwest Camp with the beach activity and this year will assist with archery. His interests include gardening and wood-working. He also loves backpacking.

Plans After Graduation: After graduation Ray will attend ABC and then hopes to attend graduate school.

Daniel Jacobsen

Parents: John and Bonnie Jacobsen

Congregation: Mankato, Minnesota

College Accomplishments: Graduated from Minnesota State University of Mankato. He earned a bachelor of science degree in communications and nursing home administration with a minor in music.

Jessica Amber Jackson

Parents: Steve and Sarah Jackson

Congregation: Boise, Idaho

College Accomplishments: Bachelor of

science degree in business administration from Northwest Nazarene University.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Jessica is a member of Ambassador Young Adults, a door greeter, and helps with church service set-up and take-down. She is a certified 4-H leader and judge, superintendent for the poultry division of the Canyon County Fair and an accomplished pianist.

Plans after Graduation: Jessica is looking

for work in her field of study.

Favorite Motto : “There are basically two types of people: people who accomplish things and people who claim to have accomplished things. The first group is less crowded.”--Mark Twain

Advice: “Pick yourself up, dust yourself up and start all over again.”

Favorite Scripture: Isaiah 11:9: “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.”

Rachel Emily Jackson

Parents: Steve and Sarah Jackson

Congregation: Boise, Idaho

College Accomplishments: Masters of American history from Norwich University.

Church Activities/ Hobbies/ Interests/ etc.: Rachel is a member of Ambassador Young Adults, a door greeter, and helps with church service set-up and take-down. Rachel is also a certified 4-H leader and judge.

Plans After Graduation: Rachel is currently looking for employment in the history/education field. In the meantime, she has accepted a position pioneering a doctoral program at Norwich University. She is also a certified dog trainer.

Advice: “That men do not learn very much from the lessons of history is the most important of all the lessons of history.”—Aldous Huxley.

Jason Nolan Kline

Parents: Al and Tina Kline of Missoula, Montana

Congregation: Spokane, Washington

College Accomplishments: Bachelor of science in mechanical engineering, with honors.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Jason is Interested in fun, high-performance, well-tuned vehicles. He also enjoys summer evening drives, road trips and the great outdoors.

Plans After Graduation: Jason would like to work in the automotive industry of engineering and design.

Favorite scripture: Philippians 4:6-7: “Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

Mark-Phillip Lee Pebworth

Parents: Tim and Maryse Pebworth

Congregation: San Jose, California

College Accomplishments : Mark-Phillip is graduating Summa Cum Laude from Santa Clara University (SCU) with a bachelor of science degree in bioengineering, minoring in French, and a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry, minoring in biotechnology. Mark-Phillip was the treasurer and later president of SCU's Biomedical Engineering Society chapter. As the volunteer coordinator and outreach secretary for SCU's Tau Beta Pi (national

engineering honors society), Mark-Phillip founded a science and engineering demo program at a local family shelter. Mark-Phillip was also inducted into Phi Beta Kappa (national honors society for the arts and sciences), Alpha Sigma Nu (honors society for Jesuit universities/colleges) and Phi Lambda Upsilon (national chemistry honors society).

While a student at SCU, he obtained an undergraduate fellowship research grant and participated in the Amgen Scholars' summer research internship program at the University of California, Berkeley. His research on cancer cell migration patterns during his final two years of University led to a preliminary patent filing and him becoming the recipient of the Research Excellence Award from the School of Engineering upon graduation. Mark-Phillip also received the Bioengineering Academic Achievement award for being one of three students with the highest grade point average in the Bioengineering Department.

Plans After Graduation: In August, Mark-Phillip will be attending the 2014-2015 Ambassador Bible Center program, after which he will enter the biomedical sciences Ph.D. program at the University of California in San Francisco.

Favorite quote: “Taking a new step, uttering a new word, is what people fear most.”—Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *Crime and Punishment*

Favorite scripture: Proverbs 3:2: “Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them

around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.”

Celia Bradley

Congregation: Bellevue, Washington

College Accomplishments: Celia has earned her master's degree in education.

Church Activities/Hobbies/Interests/etc.: Celia has served the teens in her local congregation. She desires to serve families in their educational needs, including home school. She loves spending time with her family and watching her two grown children carve out their lives. She also enjoys riding her motorcycle, archery, gardening, and cooking.

Plans After Graduation: She is an upper elementary school teacher and educational consultant for parents who school at home. She hopes to use her masters of education to serve families in a greater capacity.

Favorite Quote: Don't look for miracles in what you don't have; look for miracles in what you do have!

Favorite Scriptures: “Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.” (1 Corinthians 13:4-8. She strives to practice this every day in her classroom.)



Local Church UPDATES



Children in East Texas with the donations collected for the Truman Smith Center.

Texas/Louisiana Congregations Join in Donation Drive

East Texas Church members combined efforts with the Texarkana and Ruston, Louisiana, congregations in a spring donation drive to benefit the Truman W. Smith Children's Center in Gladewater, Texas.

The Truman Smith Center is a children's hospital specializing in serving the long and short-term needs of the

medically fragile youth. While some of the children are at the facility for rehab, others are long term, some even in comas. The center was in need of various items such as socks, t-shirts, videos, toys, hair accessories, books, Christian music CDs and other items. Toys, books and Christian music are used in the daily rehabilitation programs. Even a child in a coma has books read to them and other sources of stimulation such as music and movies played.

The center accepts and will sanitize gently used items, so this allowed all ages to participate in the drive. While adults watched for garage sales and clearance items, children donated some of their own toys and other accessories. Even some neighbors of members joined in on the drive. One member located a resale shop donation so large it had to be delivered ahead of the scheduled ending date.

Activity director Cassandra Hall was surprised and touched at the quantity and variety of the donations. She pointed out specific toys that would benefit certain children. She commented that some of the items such as puppets will be used by the teachers in their classrooms. She was also grateful for the many hair accessories, as they are greatly needed.

According to Ms. Hall the facility receives donations at other times of the year but early summer is usually when items run low or wear out. She expressed great appreciation to the Church for filling this need.

Many Church members enjoyed collecting donations and offered to do it again when needed. “We all appreciate the ability to help,” said Glenda Neff of the Texarkana church, “It was fun.”

Linda Daniels

Southern California Hosts 119 Ladies at Women's Weekend

119 ladies, mostly from various areas of California, experienced an outstanding Women's Enrichment Weekend Feb. 7-9 at the beautiful Embassy Suites in Santa Ana, California. The weekend was hosted

by the Garden Grove congregation, and the theme for this year was “Courage—Stepping Out of Your Comfort Zone.”

The brightly colored decoration on the walls and table centerpieces designed by Judy Dyches provided a vibrant atmosphere as the ladies entered our meeting hall on Sabbath morning when the main portion of the weekend began. Joe Horchak, pastor of the Sacramento and Reno congregations, set the tone with his theme-related sermon, “It Could Happen.” The sermon was preceded by exceptional special music selections, including a nine-member women's ensemble.

The theme was expanded in the Sabbath-afternoon sessions. LeeAnn Luker, our special guest speaker, opened the afternoon with “The Path of Life,” as she shared some of the challenges of this past year that definitely took her out of her comfort zone, along with some valuable lessons she has learned on this journey.

Elaine Carlisle then shared a personal example of her great-grandmother who came to America from Wales with her family in the 1870s. How she triumphed over the many hardships in her life provided an enduring legacy. After a break, Jean Updegraff shared the adventures

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Jerry & Jeannette Berg

60 years

Continued from page 7

up the spaghetti glob and ate it.

Bill was sent to Germany in 1956 for a year, and Connie went back home to await his return. After the years in the service they returned to Ohio, where Bill went into the tool and dye business with his dad.

In 1968, Connie began listening to *The World Tomorrow* on the radio. Bill was working seven days a week at this time. He told Connie it would be fine to find a church to join; Connie chose the Church of God. She was baptized in 1969, and Bill was baptized in 1978.

In 1970, the family moved to Big Sandy where Bill ran a dairy. In 1988, he opened another machine shop between Gilmer and Longview. In 2006, they moved to their current home in Gladewater.

Bill and Connie have two children: Beth and Bill. They are blessed to have five grandchildren: four boys and one girl.

When asked what makes for a successful marriage, Bill and Connie both agree that God comes first, above all things. "The Bible is our guide." Also, having a sense of humor goes a long way!

Congratulations to Bill and Connie on 60 years of love and commitment.

The Tacoma congregation celebrated the 60th wedding anniversary of **Jerry and Jeannette Berg** on June 7. They met at Central Kitsap High School and were married soon after graduation. Jerry went to Edison Tech where he learned electronics. Their first home was a very small fishing cabin in Seabeck, Washington, where they had their first son, Larry. They moved to a bigger home in Bremerton and had two more children, Allen (Lannie) and Julie.

Jerry was hired by KING Television in Seattle, Washington, and they moved to Edmonds, Washington, where they built their own home. They heard Herbert Armstrong on the radio and then Garner Ted Armstrong. They sent in for the free literature and began attending the Seattle



Leven & Gladys Rieger

60 years

congregation in October of 1964. In 1967 Jerry was ordained a deacon.

Jerry was offered a job in the television studio of Ambassador College in Pasadena, California, in 1967. He worked for the college for 10 years. Jeannette was ordained a deaconess in Pasadena. The Bergs were very involved with the youth, Sabbath class, basketball and cheerleading squads. They had many fund raisers to help raise money for the kids to go to their tournaments. Jeannette was the cheerleading coach and made their uniforms and cheerleading outfits. They were known for their hospitality in the area.

Jerry did freelance work and was later hired by NBC and worked there for 25 years before retiring. They bought Jeannette's mother's property and built a home there, where they raise chickens and turkeys. They would love to hear from old friends.

Leven and Gladys Rieger of the Bismarck, North Dakota, congregation celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 27. They met in Hosmer, South Dakota, when Gladys was working in the town and Leven came over from a nearby town. It was several years after that before they married. Leven served as a marine and completed a tour of duty in Korea. Following that he and Gladys were married in Hosmer. They settled down on a farm in Eureka, South Dakota, where Leven worked for many years as a farmer. They became part of the Church of God in the late 1970s. Leven retired several years ago, and they reside on the farm. They have four children: Debbie Rieger of Colorado; Linda Towns of South Dakota; Bob Rieger of South Dakota; and Tim Rieger of Arizona. They are blessed with eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

John and Dolores Coco were married June 4, 1949. The Beloit, Wisconsin, congregation helped them to celebrate the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary



John & Dolores Coco

65 years

sary with a potluck, special table decorations, and of course a cake, on May 31.

They have five children—one son and four daughters. John's last job before retirement was with the Chicago Sun Times newspaper as a driver. About 1957, Dolores started listening to Herbert Armstrong on WLS radio in Chicago. She then requested the location of the Chicago church. Later she received a visit from Cecil Battles and George Meeker. Dolores and all five children began attending church services in February 1958 using the city bus for transportation. John started attending with his family a few months later. After deciding to obey God even though his boss had cut his hours to four days a week, he was baptized on the next Holy Day. To make a long story short, John was returned to working five days a week.

Their first Feast was in Big Sandy, Texas, in Booth City where they met Herman Hoeh during registration. After moving to Rockford, Illinois, John and Dolores began attending UCG services in Beloit in January 2012. The Cocos were delighted to be able to attend the Feast in the Dells and met many old friends. They said "It was like coming home again!"

Obituaries

Jane Baer, a long-time faithful member and deaconess in the UCG St. Petersburg, Florida, congregation died peacefully May 11, 2014, in New Port Richey, Florida, at the age of 90 in an assisted living facility. Jane loved God, the Church and the brethren very much and spent countless hours serving others in her earlier years.

Warner G. Gens Jr., age 59, of the Dayton, Ohio, congregation died peacefully Friday, April 25, 2014, at his home following a lengthy illness. Warner was born May 30, 1954, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He started attending in the Church in 1972 while attending Western Iowa Tech



Jane Baer

1924-2014

in Sioux City, Iowa. He has been a baptized member since July 3, 1976.

He was predeceased by his father Warner G. Gens Sr.; mother Peggy L. (Kuhlwind) Gens; and sister Kim (Clarence) Winter, all of Montoursville, Pennsylvania.

He is survived by his wife, Merri Ellen (Green) Gens; his son Eric; two daughters, Christina (Eric) de Campos of Loveland, Ohio, and Dena (Nathan) Dubry of Middletown, Ohio; two grandsons James and David; four sisters, Sandy Bussom, Peggy Gens, Cathy (Ken) Kaufman all of Montoursville, Pennsylvania, and Jodi (Tim) Eberly of Lititz, Pennsylvania.

As a child he was in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Little League Baseball. He was in the Montoursville High School Band, which was why he became interested in his profession. He also did very well in high school tennis, which was another profession he was thinking about. After graduating from Montoursville High School, Warner went to Western Iowa Tech in Sioux City Iowa to learn Band Instrument Repair. He later learned string instrument repair from an elderly gentleman in Venice, Florida.

Warner met his wife Merri Ellen in Sarasota, Florida.

They later married in Lakeland, Florida, May 19, 1984. They would have been married for 30 years this May.

He was a long-time employee of Hauer Music in Dayton, Ohio.

Helen B. Goltz, 87, of Plymouth, Minnesota, died peacefully at home on March 24, 2014. She was born in Staples, Minnesota, May 19, 1926, to George and Ruth Hix and grew up in the Pillager, Minnesota area. Helen was the fifth of seven children.

Helen had two girls with her first husband, Dortha (Bob Heun) and Melva (John Dunn). After 10 ½ years of marriage her husband died from a sudden heart attack.

Helen then attended floral design school in Denver, Colorado, where she



Helen B. Goltz

1926-2014

became a floral designer. Returning back to Minnesota to raise her daughters, she worked as a designer at Jar's Flowers in Marshall, Minnesota.

Three years later, she met Ron Goltz. They married Nov. 5, 1960, and remained together for more than 53 years.

Helen and Ron were baptized on March 13, 1965. Helen was a devoted and faithful Christian, looking to God for guidance, healing and the resurrection.

As her love for flowers grew, Helen began her own floral business. She also assisted Ron with his grain bin moving and building business for many years.

Helen also loved people, gardening, water skiing and the outdoors. She was an excellent wife, cook and home keeper; she enjoyed sharing her talents and home through entertaining guests.

Helen is survived by her husband, Ron; brother, Clifford (Deloris) Hix; daughters, Dortha (Bob Heun) and Melva (John Dunn); eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Helen is greatly missed by



Martha Virginia Leonard

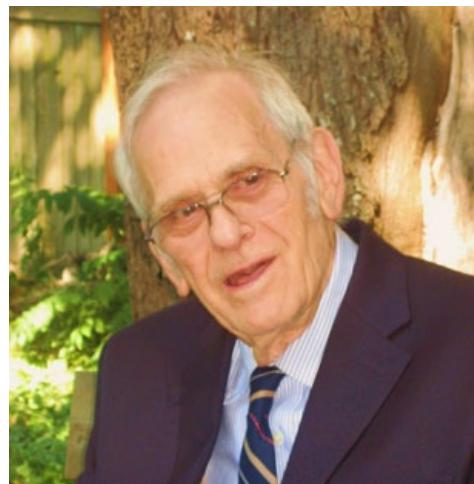
1926-2014

family and friends.

Martha Virginia Leonard of Longview, Texas, died peacefully on May 29, 2014. Martha was stricken with polio at the age of 5 and was told she would never walk, have children or live a long life. She was a determined person with a strong will, and despite having a leg that was shorter and smaller than the other leg, she walked, had seven children and lived to age 94. Around her 90th birthday she was reminded of the diagnosis she was given as a child. She said she would like to return to her home town of Benton, Kentucky, and show them (she had done what they said she couldn't), but they were all dead.

One of Martha's many grandchildren, David Kellers, commented: "I thanked God that a woman who knew so much pain early in life did not have any at the end."

Her daughter, Lucretia Kellers, stated: "Mom sewed clothes for us, cooked and cleaned for us, but the most important



Harold Shonyo

1927-2014

thing she did for us was to teach us to have faith in God."

Martha was well known for her sense of humor that continued to the end. Her daughter, Elaine Mitchell, who did the most to care for Martha in the last years of her life, wrote of something that happened just a few days before Martha's death: "(I) leaned over tonight to say good-night to my mom... was going to put my face up to hers. She slowly rolled her face toward me and said a very quiet 'boo!'"

Martha and her husband, B.C. Leonard, began listening to *The World Tomorrow* broadcast in the early 1950s. She was baptized in December of 1956, and he was baptized the next month.

Every Sabbath they would load the kids into their station wagon and arrive early at the Big Sandy congregation so they could serve. The picture included with this is of them at a dance held by the Big Sandy congregation. Martha is preceded in death by her husband B.C.; and two children Martha June Cleveland and Bill

Leonard.

An uplifting graveside message was given by Don Ward, who reminded us of Martha's faith and service. He read inspiring verses of Scripture that give us hope of the resurrection to which Martha will rise with B. C. at the return of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Harold Shonyo died May 15, 2014. He was born March 24, 1927. He came into God's Church 60 years ago. He and his wife Margaret (deceased in 2009) and their children, Donna, Patricia and Dwight, attended the Pasadena church held in the Ambassador College library that later moved to the Shakespeare Club. As a senior scientist/physicist aerospace engineer he contributed substantially to the industry, moving around the United States for various government contracts until working for Boeing in Bellevue, Washington, where they resided for more than 20 years. After the passing of Margaret, he moved to Fairfax, Virginia to be closer to his daughter Donna. He required care at a nursing facility, where he died after four and a half years. Harold is survived by three children and eight grandchildren.

Announcements:

Please submit announcements of the births, engagements, weddings, significant anniversaries (25, 40, 50, 60, etc.) and obituaries in your families. Most items are 50 to 100 words and should not exceed 250 words. Please **e-mail (preferred) to UN@ucg.org or give them to your local pastor** to forward to *United News*. If you mail via regular mail, please include a self-addressed envelope if you would like photos returned.

Local Church UPDATES
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Linda Kozachenko and Gloria Taylor at the Southern California women's weekend.

and lessons from Roz Savage, who in this past decade rowed 15,000 miles alone across the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans, definitely typifying coming out of one's comfort zone. This was followed by an interactive discussion by tables led by Kerry Heesch. A delicious banquet meal capped off the day.

Sunday morning, six ladies (Ixis Ahearn, Sarah Douthett, Parisha Doyle,

Rocio Gonzalez, Linda Moffitt and Coleen Moriarty) reinforced the theme of courage and stepping out of our personal comfort zone by sharing their varied personal experiences. Sunday afternoon, after lunch and fellowship together, Suzanne Miller shared slides and experiences of the 2013 Feast in Kenya followed by LeeAnn Luker's presentation of "United Ambassadors," sharing examples of women fulfilling vital responsibilities in the international work of the United Church of God. Deborah Barr expertly wove the presentations together as our moderator.

Our ladies left the weekend inspired to take steps to come out of their own personal comfort zone this coming year and equipped with tools to do just that.

Jean Updegraff

Ohio Women's Club Reads and Reviews Book

In January and March of this year, the

Cleveland, Ohio, Women's Club held a two-part series reviewing the book *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat* by John Ortberg.

The first meeting was especially animated, with the addition of some awesome visual props created by Mark and Lisa Skapura to go along with one of the early chapters, which discusses the concept of "boat potatoes"—the nautical equivalent of couch potatoes. In contrast to the 11 other disciples, we were encouraged to step out of the boat like Peter did, which represents leaving our comfort zone and security apart from God, to begin our voyage of discipleship. After the discussion on the first half of the book, each woman chose a boat potato to take home as a reminder of the concept of stepping out in faith to do something outside of our comfort zone, helping us to grow and gain confidence in the faith that Jesus Christ is always there for us.

During the second meeting

we talked about dealing with fears as it relates to stepping out of the boat. The wind and the rain distract us and cause us to be fearful. We discussed the trait of resiliency. God gives us strength when we keep our eyes on Him, despite the storms that surround us. God can help us move forward again, just as he did for Peter. We can do things with God's help that we could never do on our own.

The book draws some deeply thought-provoking lessons that we can learn from Peter's example of stepping out in faith and keeping his eyes on God. The review

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The women's club in Ohio with visual props from their meetings.

Support

“The Zone” is the millennial atmosphere that the dedicated staff create each summer and winter

in the United Youth Camps program. In applying God’s way of life in such an intense, determined way, it’s almost inevitable that glimpse of God’s coming Kingdom is created.

Fundamental to each camp is a supportive structure: administration and staff working together in unity and harmony. Support is a characteristic that is essential to the creation of the Zone, and it’s the purpose of this article to examine this fourth element of the Zone.

Support Creates a “Safe” Environment

Sadly we live in a world that is in all too many cases unsafe. Teens today are faced with bullying and other threats at school, in their neighborhoods and even online. The camp program seeks to provide a supportive atmosphere so that campers feel safe with the staff and with their peers. Instead of being on the lookout for threats, teens can relax and focus on more positive aspects of life. To feel safe is a blessing from God and is a product of His way of life. The prophet Ezekiel addresses the safe environment of the world to come, “And they shall no longer be a prey for the nations, nor shall beasts of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and no one shall make them afraid” (Ezekiel 34:28-29). While we look forward to what Ezekiel describes being a reality encompassing the entire earth,

camp offers all in attendance the opportunity to be in a safe and supportive environment that week.

Support Builds Relationships

Campers who have come to camp year after year already know they are entering a positive atmosphere. They have experienced it firsthand.

However, not all campers arrive fully expecting such a safe environment. Some campers are wary and unsure of what is going to take place. Why? Because of the harsh conditions at home and school, they do not normally live in an environment that is safe and supportive. They have a “wait and see” attitude concerning what is going to take place at camp.

For example, some campers arrive with clothing and attitudes that do not meet with camp standards. As a camp director, you can see that these kids face challenges that have caused them to react by having something to prove to their peers. The challenge is that their behavior and attitudes can disrupt the entire camp if allowed to continue through the week ahead. However, in most cases, those who are uncertain about what is going to unfold at camp find a positive, supportive environment created by the staff. In a short period of time, they come to see that the staff is genuine in their concern and desire for them to have a memorable week. They find they are welcomed and valued as members of the camp community.

Over time this supportive approach

opens the way for open communication and the building of positive relationships with other teens, and most importantly with our God, who is central to the program.

Support Teaches How to Respond to Another’s Needs

By being in a supportive atmosphere, teens can begin getting their minds off of themselves and begin to take on an outgoing concern toward others. Seeing the impact in their lives of a staff who has taken an interest in them, been patient with them, and encouraged them, it sets an example that can be followed. They can begin to support and encourage those campers who are still struggling to move in a more positive direction.

By being less focused upon themselves, they can listen to and observe what a struggling member of the dorm is going through. They cannot resolve all problems but they can express empathy and compassion toward those who are having

Support...

- teaches how to respond to another’s needs
- creates a “safe” environment
- builds good listening skills
- builds empathy and compassion
- builds patience
- takes time and communication, thus building relationships

a hard time at camp or in life in general.

In trying to build up others, it is sometimes trying. Not everyone responds immediately to people caring about them. It’s easy to be hardened in a wrong mindset or attitude. But once a camper comes to realize the impact of a supportive atmosphere on them, they can persist in

Please see next page



Education Task Force Meets in Cincinnati

Continued from page 4

of this first class, the hope is that we will soon be able to complete more classes for the online format.

The meetings concluded just after 2 p.m., at which point several departed for the airport and their trip home. Thanks to all of the task force members for their efforts to support and add to the educa-

tion of the brethren in United Church of God. Special thanks go to Barb Antion for all her work to prepare and serve delicious meals to the education task force members. The savings from not eating out are amazing. Prayers for the education task force are appreciated as they complete their roles in this Church-wide endeavor.

Here are two comments from ETF members after returning home.

“Julie and I thank all of you in Cincinnati who had a hand in making the

weekend so warm, enjoyable, exciting, and productive. We had simply a marvelous time in your homes, a wonderful Sabbath, and inspiring meetings. It sure helps to see what everyone is doing and it inspires us to push on and continue working on our own little piece of the education puzzle”—Jeff and Julie Brown.

“We were all kept on the task of working together to meet and accomplish the goals of the agenda items. It was apparent that there was a desire to cooperate in working together to bring about unity

and consensus throughout the times we met. It certainly was nice to continue to develop our friendship with one another! I felt a positive attitude from each person to do his/her part in helping to create a successful teamwork approach throughout the weekend. I believe that all of us will continue to strive for excellence in future opportunities to work together, as we focus on the Educational Vision of UCG.

What an exciting and profitable weekend!” —Dan Salcedo. **UN**

Continued from previous page

seeking to help those in need. They may be rebuffed in their efforts, but by being patient with others it helps them to have a positive impact, building up another camper.

This result is achieved because a committed camp staff has put into practice an approach that is supportive. Jesus Christ set the perfect example of compassion and empathy toward those who were suffering in various ways (Matthew 14:14). The apostle Peter speaks of an approach

that responds to the needs of others: “Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing” (1 Peter 3:8-9).

Campers, in essence, join the staff in being supportive to their fellow campers. They become a productive part of the Zone.

Support is essential because it not only helps to create the Zone at camp, but

campers and staff take this attitude of care and support home with them, thus it spreads to others as well. As members of God’s Family, we would all do well to carefully maintain this support with all of God’s people throughout the year. Especially as campers return from camp and are energized by their experiences in the Zone, let’s all focus on supporting them and each other as an example to everyone.



From The COUNCIL

Comforting

Continued from page 3

Church was inspired to write about many of the troubles he faced, and of God’s help to him during those trials. He also wrote of how this principle was learned and shared in the lives of the members of the church during his ministry, resulting in the strengthening of himself, many others and the Church as a whole.

This spiritual principle is clearly stated in 2 Corinthians 1:3-4: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, *that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we are comforted by God*” (emphasis added). Two main points to consider from this passage are (1) as our Father, God knows that one of the blessings that all of us need is to be comforted “in all our tribulation”; and, (2) this gift then becomes a blessing we can share with many others.

The attribute of being a comforter, one who is able to truly extend spiritual comforting and encouragement to others, is descriptive of God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord. In fact, the attribute of being a “Comforter” is so closely associated with God’s own character that the Holy Spirit is also called “...another Comforter...” (John 14:16, KJV).

Paul had felt this kind of comforting, and was passing it on to the church in Corinth. Notice the effect it had, because this is the same effect we can expect when we comfort those around us. He wrote “Great is my boasting on your behalf. I am filled with comfort. I am exceedingly joyful in all our tribulation. For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side. Outside were conflicts, inside were fears. Nevertheless God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, and not only by his coming, but also by the consolation with which he was comforted in you, when he told us of your earnest desire, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced even more”

(2 Corinthians 7:4-7).

Life is like that sometimes, isn’t it? No rest, trouble on every side, conflicts, fears, being downcast, these are things that are common to us all. But knowing that others cared, and that one of the brethren on behalf of all came to extend to him this spiritual blessing gave Paul spiritual strengthening and joy when he was in great need of just that.

One reason I’m writing about this subject is because I often talk with people who sincerely need to be comforted, because the trials of their life are hard. My purpose is to encourage each of us to be aware of this need, and to extend this blessing to as many as we can, just as the

remember and appreciate that God comforts us often, and that we can, therefore, comfort others. I’ll share one such memory in my life, and ask that you meditate on how you have experienced spiritual comforting from God and others.

There was a time about 50 years ago when I learned a valuable lesson about the power of sincere comforting from my mother. My family was very poor, living in “third world” conditions, and often with very little to eat. My father was in a hospital for many months at a time, and when he was home, was not healthy enough to provide very well for our family of seven children. This was before food stamps and free school lunches were available, as

Notice when there is a need in someone’s life. Sometimes the signs are subtle, but the need is great. Do what you can to fill the void that is there in the lives of others. Sometimes it’s the necessities of life, and sometimes people just need to be comforted in whatever trial they are experiencing at the time.

verses above teach.

Think about how others have comforted you when you really needed it. Remember how much better it made you feel, how much it encouraged you just to know that someone cared enough to notice that you needed a friend or brother to stand alongside you in a time of trial? Remember how being comforted by someone who loves you gave you strength and the ability to endure, and even to find joy in your troubles. When we are comforted, especially by someone who has God’s Holy Spirit and is sharing this spiritual blessing, we are strengthened, encouraged, edified, and more able to come through “any tribulation” with our faith not only intact, but increased.

Personal examples can help us to

is so common in the U.S. today.

There were numerous times when there simply was no food for my mother to prepare for our school lunches. At times like that, we literally had to “live off the land.” As the oldest boy in the family, I did all I could to help provide food and other necessities for my six siblings and parents.

As I was getting ready for school one morning, eating a small bowl of boiled corn meal for breakfast, she said she was sorry that there was no food for my lunch at school. She gave me some advice, as a way to comfort and encourage me. She said, “If you sip water slowly through the day, you won’t feel as hungry.” Lacking resources to provide a mid-day meal, she comforted me with her words, her caring tone and her love. And, I found that her

advice did help a bit, on many occasions afterwards. More than that, I’ve come to realize that *the comforting my mother gave me was even more important than a peanut butter sandwich would have been for my lunch on those days*. Having done all she could in that “tribulation” which she also was enduring, she took the opportunity to extend the blessing of comforting. That simple act turned out to be one of the best lessons of my life.

God was good, as He always is, and eventually the principal of my school noticed that I and sometimes my siblings often went without lunch at school. He offered me a helping hand. If I would serve in the cafeteria, by washing dishes and cleaning, he would make sure that I and all my siblings had lunch every day at school. What an honor for me, and a blessing it was to my family! For me, one of the best parts of this experience was being able to comfort my mother, by sharing this good news with her that day when I came home from school.

This article won’t be complete without a call to action. Let’s make a conscious commitment every day to remember that in all our tribulations God is there to help, to provide, and to comfort us. Then, let’s make a conscious commitment, backed up with tangible action, to extend comforting to others.

Notice when there is a need in someone’s life. Sometimes the signs are subtle, but the need is great. Do what you can to fill the void that is there in the lives of others. Sometimes it’s the necessities of life, and sometimes people just need to be comforted in whatever trial they are experiencing at the time. If you have had a similar trial and God has comforted you, then you do have something very good to share with others. You can pass on that same kind of comforting, because you do know how it feels, and often what is needed. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 is a powerful and empowering spiritual principle of receiving and giving comfort. Every time we comfort others as God has comforted us we will have helped to create an environment for growth in someone else’s life, and therefore, in the congregation and church. These are the kind of lessons that endure, as the lesson from my mother has in my life. **UN**

Terry Monaghan

Continued from page 4



gram so the radio stayed on through the next radio program, which happened to be *The World Tomorrow*. Today he thinks he must have absorbed some of Herbert Armstrong's teachings because they came back to him later when he came into contact with the Church.

Looking back, he sees many spiritual lessons developing during his training and competing years. He would train on his own and would improve by watching the other skaters who were better than him, just as we learn from spiritual mentors in our families and congregations (Titus 2:3-5).

Mr. Monaghan competed in long-track speed skating internationally from 1956-1962 (ages 23-29).

He told me many stories. But my favorite, which was also the biggest race for him and one where he could remember every detail, was a race for the European Championships in Oslo, Norway, in 1958. He and his competitor were evenly matched. He knew his competitor (Dutch skater Gene Vandenburg) wouldn't quit. Every time they came past the finish line in a race with 25 laps, they were at exactly the same pace despite each trying to break away. With three laps to go, the guy who is supposed to turn the board over showing how many laps were left forgot to turn

it over for two whole laps, but they were still neck in neck. After they had done 25 laps, they knew they had actually finished the race but looked at each other and both kept going because the crowd was still shouting and the final gun hadn't gone off. The next time around the track they both waved at the guy to change the lap board, and he turned it over to two more laps to go...so they went three extra laps! Talk about perseverance! Afterwards, Gene put his arms around Terry and collapsed on him and said, "Let's go find that guy and kill him." They had given everything they had for 10,000 meters and then still had to give more. In the end they had absolutely drained themselves. Again, he learned a deep lesson that translates spiritually—we've got more in us than we think we have. God knows what we can do far better than we do (James 1:2-4). There was also clearly a bond between speed skaters, even competitors, because of shared experience. The same thing can be said in the Church. Wherever you go in the world, if you're with Church members, there is a deep camaraderie that overcomes many political and linguistic barriers (1 Corinthians 12:12).

Throughout his training and competing, he faced many challenges that he simply had to push through. The first time he fell over in a race it was at the very beginning of the match, and he ended up having to chase his competitors for the rest of the race. He was gradually catching up but realized he would never be able to catch up before the end of the race. But then they *all* fell over! In the end, he won the race. He learned the race is never over until you cross the finish line (1 Corinthians 9:24).

Mr. Monaghan had to maintain mental focus every day. He would skate at speeds around 30 mph in below-freezing temperatures, so the chill factor was difficult to handle. Ultimately, he knew it was mind over matter, but he also had to know himself and his limits. For years he had three fingers that were white and stiff and almost frostbitten from the hand he used to shield his mouth while skating in order to protect his lungs from the cold

and ice. He even fell through the ice three times while training on thin lake ice. Yet he kept going because he had a goal to pursue, just as we are able to soldier on when we keep our eyes on the Kingdom (Hebrews 12:1).

He competed for Great Britain in the 1960 Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley. He was age 26. Great Britain had only two competitors that year in four events, Mr. Monaghan and another man, for four different lengths of speed skating.

Before the Olympics, he had focused on developing his adductor muscles in his legs. He was stronger (because of tons of weight training) than a lot of the other skaters, but they had a faster style and would pass him on the corners. He learned he needed to allow the weight of his body to perform the necessary motion. He points out that there's a spiritual lesson in this too—we can go on our own strength but it's not enough. It takes God's Spirit and allowing God to work in us to be able to succeed (Ephesians 3:16).

He remembers the opening ceremonies of the Olympics vividly. While he was standing there they released hundreds of doves, and while they circled over the heads of the athletes and spectators assembled, he just thanked God for letting him be there and achieve his lifelong ambition. He knew he wasn't going to win but was thankful to be there for the experience. Looking back, he believes God blessed him abundantly as a result of his prayer of gratitude.

His 10,000 meter time at the Olympics beat the world record at the time (but four other men skated faster so he did not get to be record holder in the end). At the closing ceremony, he thanked God again for helping him excel and do better than he expected.

He decided to stay in the U.S. for the summer. As a result, he was in Squaw Valley during the first Feast there in 1961 working at the ice arena and as a ski instructor. He thought the name Radio Church of God rang a bell and told me he had "heard it in his dreams" from falling asleep during Mr. Armstrong's radio programs. He started talking with some

Church members, and they seemed nice so next he talked with a minister and started purposefully listening to *The World Tomorrow*.

He had a lot of plans for his life, but as he was being called that all changed to being led by whatever God convicted him to do. He points out, when God is leading you, trust Him in faith even if you don't understand or it doesn't work out right away (in the long run it always does).

Mr. Monaghan came into the Church in 1963 and was baptized. Ultimately, he said he had to give up speed skating because it was his idol. It had been all-consuming for him—everything he ate, studying health and nutrition, anatomy and physiology—and would have left no time for God. Everything regarding skating was about the physical. He had to change over to the spiritual instead as God opened his mind. He didn't even pay attention to any news about skating championships for the first few years.

Everything he learned from his experience he applied spiritually. We can all identify with that—everyday experiences often turn into spiritual lessons when we meditate on them.

I was curious to find out if he still skates. And yes, he still has his roller blades—around five years ago (at age 76 mind you) he was skating on coastal roads and came down a steep Oregon coastal road. He was going so fast he had to spread his legs apart and crouch down in an attempt to slow down. It didn't work. He came to the bottom of the hill and couldn't stop so he went right through a stop sign, praying all the way! He said it was a lot of fun... but that was the last time he skated.

Though his is an uncommon story, many in the Church have similar stories of physical and spiritual challenges faced and accomplishments achieved with God's help. Seek out the stories of others, you'll find they offer much sound advice for facing the challenges in your life. Though Mr. Monaghan's story may be an incredible and unique one, it's really a story that all of us can relate to—one of perseverance to the end as we all journey to the Kingdom together. **UN**

From THE WORD

Are You Willing to Help?

Continued from page 5

struggling with sins involving the opposite sex like pornography and lust. Neither do we condone it. We give each other help and support. Some homosexual men even ask others to be accountability partners with them to mutually share their struggles and to hold each other accountable to God's commands.

We should have the same standard for

If someone does have the courage to share their struggles with you, will you stand up and take on the challenge to help them? I hope the answer is yes.

those struggling with homosexuality as well. We can love, support, encourage, pray for, and befriend those struggling with homosexuality as well. And yes, we can do this without condoning homosex-

ual activity.

If someone does have the courage to share their struggles with you, will you stand up and take on the challenge to help them? I hope the answer is yes.

I hope that our congregations will become a place where more people will feel comfortable sharing their struggles with one another. The apostle James said that we should be willing to "confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed" (5:16, King James Version). We are not a Church full of perfect people. In fact, it's just the opposite, isn't it? Let's help each other in our individual walks with God, to encourage one another and be there for one another, no matter what challenges anyone shares with us. Along with standing up for godly values, this too is our Christian responsibility. **UN**

Raising Godly Children

Continued from page 5

always prayed together as a family not only before dinner, but out loud on our knees together. Not all our children have felt completely comfortable doing this, so if one chooses to listen while the rest of us pray, that's okay. My husband and I always pray that God dwells in our house.

My husband and I have made it a point to make God a part of our daily conversation, striving to follow Deuteronomy 6:6-7: "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up."

We heard in a Bible study by Ken Martin at the Feast that if you are not praying and spiritually fighting for your kids every single day, Satan is fighting for them always! That was such a profound statement to me because, I am sure like me, nobody wants Satan to get ahold of their children. We need to pray daily that God

gives our children the wisdom to choose right over wrong and to protect them from the influence of Satan.

We've also always made it a priority to have our children involved as much as possible in the Church. They have all been in teen speech club, and we have tried to make sure that they all attend camp. Sometimes they didn't want to, but they were always very glad when they did. We have tried to attend every Winter Family Weekend. It's very important that our children establish close relationships with other youth in the Church because the relationships really do last a lifetime.

Last but not least is the very touchy subject of discipline. In today's society it is very socially unacceptable to discipline your children. First of all, kids like rules and boundaries—it makes them feel secure. God disciplines us through trials. "Do not withhold correction from a child, for if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with a rod, and deliver his soul from hell" (Proverbs 23:13-14). "Correct your son, and he will give you rest; yes, he will give delight to

your soul" (Proverbs 29:17). I am not saying to beat your child with a rod, but you cannot reason with a two-year-old. A little spanking or smack on the hand never hurt my husband and me when we were growing up, nor any of our children—actually we probably could have used a few more.

All in all, the key points that we have striven to abide by in raising our children are:

- Pray with your children from the time they are able to get on their knees. Make them feel comfortable talking to their Creator.
- Pray that God dwells in your household and that He will give you the wisdom to raise your children in the way that He would want them raised. They are on loan to you from Him.
- Talk to your children about God and let them know that He is the center of your life and the center of your marriage. That everything that goes on in your life in some way relates to lessons God is teaching us on a daily basis. "Train up a child in the way he

should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

- Make sure that you are setting the right example. Do not expect your children to follow God if you are not. One major reason for rebellion is hypocrisy. If you make a mistake or do something that is not right, apologize to your children and let them know that you made a mistake. You could even take them with you to God and ask God for forgiveness in front of them. Explain how sorry you are, don't make excuses for what you did; just simply admit you were wrong.

God wants us to have children who love their parents, who love their homes, and most of all who love Him. If we ask Him continually for guidance in raising our children, He will give that to us.

The best inheritance that we can leave to our children is to know God with their entire heart and soul and to truly love Him and His way. **UN**

Cathy Lee is a member from Lansing, Michigan.

Into All the WORLD

Opportunities

Continued from page 6

ute it through the hospital waiting rooms. Although a door had opened it soon closed as by 1995 there were so many changes and it was no longer in print.

The Good News was now our flagship publication, and there was no way to dis-

tribute it. After a few years, God opened another door. Our local newspaper the *Post Bulletin* was installing several metal boxes with hinged glass doors in our downtown mall. The rent was \$10 per month per box. I brought the idea to our pastor who said, "Let's go for it!"

It was exciting to check our news stand to see how many were being picked up. It started slowly with about 25, then 35, with a maximum of 50 a month, but didn't

improve much beyond that.

It was then that the *Post Bulletin* called to offer a different spot that had opened up at a local grocery store. He said, "You won't be able to keep it filled." That was not quite true, but we have distributed more than 400 per month and never less than 200. It depends on the cover and the time of year. Sometimes our presence is not always well received. We have found other literature on top of ours and notes with less than intel-

ligent comments on them, but we simply turn it over to *the Post Bulletin* to correct.

We are sometimes asked why we labor at distributing *The Good News*. That question has already been answered: to help change lives.

Yes, we pray that peoples lives can be changed for the better, but we also pray that some may be called, hopefully even through some of our efforts (1 Corinthians 3:6-9). **UN**

Local Church UPDATES

Continued from page 15

helped us all ponder on how this biblical example can be applied to our everyday lives.

BJ Thomas and Diane Webber

ABC Charity Auction and Variety Show 2014

The 13th annual ABC Charity Auction and Variety Show hit the stage at the Ambassador Bible Center lecture hall on Sunday evening, May 18! ABC partners with LifeNets each year to raise funds for a specific, international charity project.



On stage entertainment at the ABC Live charity auction.

This year the ABC class of 2014 raised \$6,000 to fund camper scholarships and young adult staff at summer camps in Columbia and Mexico for next summer. These funds are vital to the success of the camp.

The funds were raised through a silent auction of items donated by local businesses and church brethren and a live, bake sale during the entertaining variety show performed and organized by the ABC students.

The bake sale featuring the excellent culinary arts of members in the Cincinnati area and nearby UCG congregations accounted for the majority of the funds. In fact, Barbara Antion's famous batch of delicious baklava sold for \$475. The show was called ABC Live (a send-up of Saturday Night Live) and featured a band near the stage and skits and entertainment around ABC happenings. Quite entertaining! Organizing the fund drive and producing the variety show is the major ABC student project of the year, teaching them many lessons in organization, service, teamwork and faith. Near midnight, after cleanup and resetting the hall for class the next day, the students left the building satisfied



The Greensboro congregation.

and encouraged that they had learned a lot and had well served a much-needed cause.

Gary Antion

Greensboro, North Carolina, Church Pays Tribute to the Mills and to Calum Powers

David and Sandra Mills were honored by their congregation for pastoral service in Greensboro and for 50 years of service in God's Church.

The Mills were honored with a thank-you card signed by the congregation on May 17. The Greensboro church is very grateful to the Mills for their love and care they give to their congregation and the surrounding area.

The Greensboro church honored Calum Powers on his high school graduation with a cake and card on May 24. We also thanked Calum for his

service to the church. Calum is very helpful in serving with the sound system and other services.

Sadie Parks

Local Church Updates: Send us news and events from your local congregation! Check with your pastor and have him forward what you write. We're looking for 100- to 300-word articles and photos with captions. Please include a self-addressed envelope if you'd like photos returned. Include the author's and photographer's names. Please double-check the spelling of names. Please **e-mail (preferred) or give the material to your local pastor** to forward to *United News*.



What's New In MEDIA?

■ Beyond Today Airing Schedule

Title	Host	Airing Period
<i>Near Death Experiences and the Bible</i>	Gary Petty	July 13-19
<i>Will a Temple Be Built in Jerusalem?</i>	Darris McNeely	July 20-26
<i>Dabbling With Demons</i>	Gary Petty	July 27-Aug. 2
<i>The Great War: Will You Take the Long View?</i>	Darris McNeely	Aug. 3-9
<i>Is God a Trinity?</i>	Steve Myers	Aug. 10-16
<i>Heaven on Earth?</i>	Gary Petty	Aug. 17-23
<i>The Next World Superpower</i>	Steve Myers	Aug. 24-30

■ Upcoming Personal Appearance Campaign to Be Held in Cincinnati

In a few months we will be starting a new initiative in preaching the gospel: Personal Appearance Campaigns (PAC). We want to try doing these in addition to all the other media efforts in order to personally reach as many people as possible who come in contact with us.

The first PAC will be held here in Cincinnati. The

theme will be "Why Were You Born?" This is an extension of the Kingdom of God Bible Seminars that many of our pastors are still conducting. Gary Petty will be the first principal presenter. Doing Internet searches on his name shows excellent first-page results and identifies him quickly with the United Church of God. Gary has years of media exposure through *Beyond Today* television programs, *Good News* radio and sermons. He is our most listened to speaker on sermon downloads.

"Why were you born?" is a very familiar theme of the Work of God going back many years. It leads to the primary gospel message of repentance and the Kingdom of God. It starts with God's showing His interest in man by creating man in His image.

Doing a search on our www.ucg.org website you will find 1,800 references to why were you born. Our current booklet *What is Your Destiny?* is going to be renamed *Why Were You Born?*

Before the Sept. 10 event, Gary will be interviewed on

area radio and television. In addition we plan to have the campaign advertised on at least a dozen Cincinnati billboards.

We are very optimistic that the PAC will be successful in engaging many of our subscribers and Internet onlookers and we pray that its success will enable us to explore PACs in other U.S. cities. Your prayers and support are greatly appreciated!

Victor Kubik



Gary Petty recording a video teaser for the personal appearance campaign scheduled for Sept. 10.

UNITED NEWS



NEWS OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF GOD, AN INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION • P.O. Box 541027, Cincinnati, OH 45254-1027 (513) 576-9796

Periodicals Postage Paid
at Milford, Ohio, and at additional mailing offices

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 20-23: Preteen Camp Ironwood, Minnesota

July 20-27: Northwest Camp, Oregon

Aug. 3-6: Preteen Camp Buckeye, Ohio

Aug. 3-6: Northwest Preteen Camp, Oregon

Aug. 11-14: Council of Elders quarterly meeting, Cincinnati

Aug. 6-7: *Beyond Today* Recording, Cincinnati

Aug. 17: Ambassador Bible Center Orientation Picnic, Cincinnati

Sept. 10: Personal Appearance Campaign, Cincinnati

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY POSITION POSTED

Help Desk/Junior Programmer Analyst Wanted; Application Deadline Aug. 22

Human resources and information technology have announced an opening for a help desk/junior programmer analyst.

The help desk/junior programmer analyst will be present at the home office each workday. He or she will be responsible for providing technical assistance and support related to computer systems, hardware, and/or software. He or she will work with personnel in multiple departments at the home office, ministers in the field, as well as with external vendors when needed. The current employee in this role also provides support for international offices when needed. An additional duty of the applicant will be to use postal software to prepare mailings that others will print and deliver to the post office.

Required skills include excellent customer service, troubleshooting and communication skills. A good understanding of Microsoft Office, e-mail, Microsoft

Windows, anti-virus software and PC hardware are a must. Consistent customer care and quality standards are core competencies of the position. Experience in programming and web development, especially in Microsoft Access or .NET and Drupal/PHP are a plus.

A college degree or equivalent and two years related experience and training in computer skills are required.

Potential employees must be baptized members of the United Church of God. Applicants must be biblically literate and possess a thorough working knowledge of the doctrines, beliefs and practices of the United Church of God. The deadline for submission of an application is Aug. 22, 2014.

The Church does not keep submissions or applications that do not result in the applicant being hired. For more information about the position and to submit a resume, please contact human_resources@ucg.org.

UNITED STATISTICS

French *Bonnes Nouvelle* Print Runs

As recorded each July-August issue, 2008-2014

