



## Niki Nelson New Secretary at GP SDA School

Niki Nelson (Day) was a student at the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist School from 2002-2009. She has precious memories of her third through ninth grade years at the school. She believes that Adventist education is one of the most important things we can provide our children. Nelson writes, "I appreciated being in an academic environment where I felt safe, cared for, and connected with like-minded Christians and friends. This school has a special place in my heart."

Nelson later volunteered as a teacher's aide for Mrs. Sheryl Shewmake. She shares, "I loved working with the kids, and they loved having me in their classroom. I felt that I was doing something good. I

hope I made a difference, if not in most of their lives, in at least one kid's life." Nelson assisted students during study time, played with them during breaks, and read with them. Most importantly, she acknowledged and listened to these students.

Anyone who knows Nelson knows her commitment to children. She has organized Christmas programs and is usually a significant part of Vacation Bible School each summer. She also brings, in her new role, several years of office experience.

Previously, she worked for an optometrist, as well as a family medical practice. It was always her time at the Adventist school she cherished most.

Life with husband Cody and son Jordan (born in early April 2020) has been blessed. Life has a way of interrupting the "ideal." Circumstances led to uncertainty with employment, as many have experienced during the pandemic. God

provided, leading to Nelson being called to the front office role at the school.

Niki Nelson is excited about her position. "I'm most looking forward to seeing the kids' happy faces and watching them grow as young Christians. It's a good place to be. It's something I've really missed." She is excited to be working in a God-centered place where her son will likely be a student someday.

~Jennifer Burkes

### *In this Issue...*

- 1 Niki Day: New Secretary at GPSDA
- 2 Temperance Essential for Christian Growth
- 3 Prayer Ministry
- 4 Baptisms this Summer!!
- 5 Traveling the Narrow Way
- 6 Thoughts & Prayers
- 7 COVID-19: Dry-Run for the Final Crisis
- 8 Family Portraits: Ron & Grace Mathiesen
- 9 Kid's Corner
- 10 Because You Prayed - Miracles 2 & 3
- 11 Calendar - September 2020
- 12 Pastor's Page - Pastor Tanner Martin





## HEALTH CORNER

### *Temperance - Essential for Christian Growth*

The apostle Paul counsels us that a Christian “*that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things.*” 1 Cor 9:25

In the New Testament, the most common Greek word for self-control (temperance, KJV) is *enkrateia*. Its root meaning is “power over oneself” or “self-mastery.” Self-control, in its widest sense, is mastery over our passions. It is the virtue that holds our appetites in check, controlling our rational will or regulating our conduct without being duly swayed by sensuous desires

Temperance, through moderation, should have its way even in health promoting practices such as hard work, diligent study and daily exercise Too much of a good thing is a bad thing. If we are not careful, work, exercise and even Bible study can be carried to extremes at the expense of both body and mind. In this regard, Jesus was careful to spend time “between the mountain and the multitude”.

Too much of a “good thing” is exemplified by recent findings on excess intake of vitamin and mineral supplementation..As one example, excess intake of vitamin A can lead to a host of health problems, not the least of which is lower bone mineral density and risk of hip fractures in both men and women.

While moderation is to be practiced in things that are wholesome, it has no place in things that are harmful. Here, total abstinence is required. Self-control and self-denial are essential habits to be practiced if a Christian is to present his/her body as a living sacrifice.

When it comes to harmful foods and heart disease, Caldwell B. Esselstyn Jr., MD, Cleveland Clinic surgeon says, “We

must eliminate the lethal phrase, ‘this little bit won’t hurt.’ Regarding unhealthy foods he adds, “moderation kills... It’s gasoline on the fire.”

Benjamin Franklin noted that “Temperance puts wood on the fire, meal in the barrel, flour in the tub, money in the purse, credit in the country, contentment in the house, clothes on the back, and vigor in the body.”

The decision that Daniel made with regard to appetite is a wonderful example of the blessing obtained when the will rules the clamors of the body. On the other hand, the decision that Esau made shows what happens when one allows the body to rule the will.

For almost a thousand years, the Japanese archipelago of Okinawa has



maintained a reputation for nurturing extreme longevity. Okinawans over the age of 65 enjoy the world’s highest life expectancy: Men are expected to live to about 84, while women are expected to live to almost age 90. They have the world’s highest proportion of centenarians, at approximately 50 per 100,000 people They suffer only a fraction of diseases that kill Americans: a fifth the rate of cardiovascular disease,

a fifth the rate of breast and prostate cancer, and less than half the rate of dementia seen among similarly aged Americans.

What is a major part of their secret? “Hara hachi bu.” It is a Japanese term meaning “Eat until you’re 80% full.” It is a Confucian teaching that roughly translates to English as “Eat until you are eight parts (out of ten) full” or “belly 80 percent full.” This self-denial and mastery over appetite is temperance at its finest, and produces not only health, but self-respect and the approbation of God.

It is interesting to note where Peter placed temperance in the order of Christian growth:

*“Add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.”* 2 Peter 1:5-7. Temperance is rightly placed here as to order, for knowledge is a prerequisite to temperance, and temperance to patience. It is very difficult for an intemperate person to be patient.

*....For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”* 1 Cor. 6:19-20 The words, “Ye are not your own, for ye are bought with a price,” should be hung in memory’s hall, that we may ever recognize God’s right to our talents, our property, our influence, our individual selves. We are to learn how to treat this gift of God, in mind, in soul, in body, that as Christ’s purchased possession, we may do Him healthful, savory service. {*Amazing Grace* 173.4}

*~John Mauro*



# Prayer Ministry

***“If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.” Luke 9:23***

“To enter into the deeper life, seekers must be ready to accept without question the Word of God as the one final authority on spiritual matters. They must be willing to make Christ the one Supreme Lord and ruler in their lives. They must surrender their whole being to the destructive power of the cross, to die not only to their sins, but to their righteousness and everything in which they formerly prided themselves.

If this should seem like a heavy sacrifice for



anyone to make, let it be remembered that Christ is Lord and can make any demands upon us that He chooses, even to the point of requiring that we deny ourselves and bear the cross daily.

The mighty anointing of the Holy Spirit that follows will restore to the soul infinitely more than has been taken away. It is a hard way, but a glorious one. Those who have known the sweetness of it will never complain about what they have lost. They will be too well pleased with what they have gained.” ~A. W. Toser, submitted by Donna Griffith

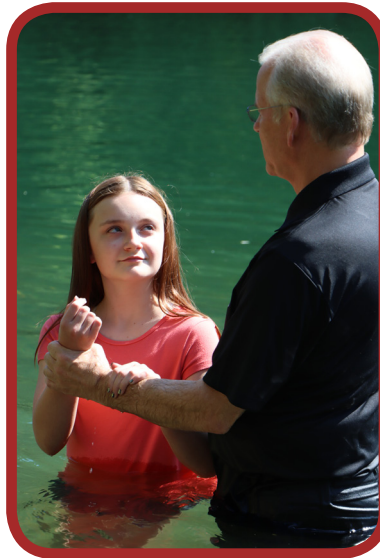
## Giant Check for Godpods



On August 8, during the church service, a giant check for \$8,750, with calligraphy done by Becky Kruger, was presented by Bob Kruger to Perry Parks of Adventist World Radio to purchase Godpods for the natives of Papua New Guinea. Although we exceeded our goal, we still want to purchase more of these. See story on page 10.



# Rejoicing With the Baptisms from July 4 & 11...



*Below, left to right: Sue Li, Doug Yarbrough, and Pei Wen Yarbrough became members of the Cave Junction church. To Pastor Byrd's right: Wendy and T.J. (Clyde) Guidry, and Haley Frank, who joined the Grants Pass church. Jordan Meluga (above left) and Desiree Mourning (top right corner) also became members of the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist Church. We praise God for the commitment they have made to follow Him all the way! (photos by Sao Beasley)*





# TRAVELING THE NARROW WAY

While at Battle Creek, Michigan, in August 1868, I dreamed of being with a large body of people. A portion of this assembly started out prepared to journey. We had heavily loaded wagons. As we journeyed, the road seemed to ascend. On one side of this road was a deep precipice; on the other was a high, smooth, white wall.

As we journeyed on, the road grew narrower and steeper. In some places it seemed so very narrow that we concluded that we could no longer travel with the



loaded wagons. We then loosed them from the horses, took a portion of the luggage from the wagons and placed it upon the horses, and journeyed on horseback.

As we progressed, the path still continued to grow narrow. We were obliged to press close to the wall, to save ourselves from falling off the narrow road down the steep precipice. As we did this, the luggage on the horses pressed against the wall, and caused us to sway toward the precipice. We feared that we should fall, and be dashed in pieces on the rocks. We then cut the luggage from the horses, and it fell over the precipice. We continued on horseback, greatly fearing, as we came to the narrower places in the road, that we should lose our balance and fall. At such times, a hand seemed to take the bridle, and guide us over the perilous way.

As the path grew more narrow, we decided that we could no longer go with safety on horseback, and we left the horses and went on foot, in single file, one following in the footsteps of another. At this point small cords were let down from the top of the pure white wall; these we eagerly grasped, to aid us in keeping our balance upon the path. As we traveled, the cord moved along with us. The path finally became so narrow that we concluded that we could travel more safely without

our shoes; so we slipped them from our feet, and went on some distance without them. Soon it was decided that we could travel more safely without our stockings; these were removed, and we journeyed on with bare feet.

We then thought of those who had not accustomed themselves to privations and hardships. Where were such now? They were not in the company. At every change, some were left behind, and those only remained who had accustomed themselves to endure hardships. The privations of the way only made these more eager to press on to the end.

Our danger of falling from the pathway increased. We pressed close to the white wall, yet could not place our feet fully upon the path; for it was too narrow. We then suspended nearly our whole weight upon the cords, exclaiming: "We have hold from above! We have hold from above!" The same words were uttered by all the company in the narrow pathway.

As we heard the sounds of mirth and revelry that seemed to come from the abyss below, we shuddered. We heard the profane oath, the vulgar jest, and low, vile songs. We heard the war song and the dance song. We heard instrumental music, and loud laughter, mingled with cursing and cries of anguish and bitter wailing, and were more anxious than ever to keep upon the narrow, difficult pathway. Much of the time we were compelled to suspend our whole weight upon the cords, which increased in size as we progressed.

I noticed that the beautiful white wall was stained with blood. It caused a feeling of regret to see the wall thus stained. This feeling, however, lasted but for a moment, as I soon thought that it was all as it should



be. Those who are following after will know that others have passed the narrow, difficult way before them, and

*continued on page 6*



will conclude that if others were able to pursue their onward course, they can do the same. And as the blood shall be pressed from their aching feet, they will not faint with discouragement; but seeing the blood upon the wall, they will know that others have endured the same pain.

At length, we came to a large chasm, at which our path ended. There was nothing now to guide the feet, nothing upon which to rest them. Our whole reliance must be upon the cords, which had increased in size, until they were as large as our bodies. Here we were for a time thrown into perplexity and distress. We inquired



in fearful whispers, "To what is the cord attached?" My husband was just before me. Large drops of sweat were falling from his brow, the veins in his neck and temples were increased to double their usual size, and suppressed, agonizing groans came from his lips. The sweat was dropping from my face, and I felt such anguish as I had never felt before. A fearful struggle was before us. Should we fail here, all the difficulties of our journey had been experienced for nought.

Before us, on the other side of the chasm, was a beautiful field of green grass, about six inches high. I could not see the sun, but bright soft beams of light, resembling fine gold and silver, were resting upon this field. Nothing I had seen upon earth could compare in beauty and glory with this field. "But could we succeed in reaching it?" was the anxious inquiry. Should the cord break, we must perish. Again, in whispered anguish, the words were breathed, "What holds the cord?"

For a moment we hesitated to venture. Then we exclaimed: "Our only hope is to trust wholly to the cord. It has been our dependence all the difficult way. It will not fail us now." Still we were hesitating and distressed. The words were then spoken: "God holds the cord. We need not fear." These words were then repeated by those behind us, accompanied with: "He



will not fail us now. He has brought us thus far in safety."

My husband then swung himself over the fearful abyss into the beautiful field beyond. I immediately followed. And oh, what a sense of relief and gratitude to God we felt! I heard voices raised in triumphant praise to God. I was happy, perfectly happy.

I awoke, and found that from the anxiety I had experienced in passing over the difficult route, every nerve in my body seemed to be in a tremor. This dream needs no comment. It made such an impression upon my mind that probably every item in it will be vivid before me while my memory shall continue.

~Ellen White, in *Christian Experience & Teachings*., pp 179-184



## Thoughts & Prayers

Catherine Bell  
Stan Bishop  
Cathy Bovee  
Joyce Casper  
Mildred Chaney  
Larry Day  
Artur & Tulia De  
Carvalho  
Sylvia Cray  
Patty Esquivel  
Todd & Connie Frye  
Tom Fuller  
Dennis Gallegos  
Beth Greer  
Ingrid Gruenheid  
Betty Hamblin  
David Hamblin

Ruth Hamblin  
Joney & Dahnn Haning  
Harry Hansen  
Butch & Pam Helwig  
Fran Holder  
Virginia Hume  
Dr. Frank & Rosalie Hurd  
Gary Jones  
Dennis Kamberg  
Sharon Karen  
Steve King  
Delbert & Alice Lewis  
Jerry & Zola Lewis  
Darlene Loewen  
Henry Martin  
Cathy McGinnis  
Marvin McKillip

Rita McMullen  
Molly Mourning  
Our School  
Chuck Painter  
Melvin Partin  
Jessica Rae  
Ron Rau  
Israel Rush  
Lance Schmidt  
Mel Smith  
Joy Stewart  
Yvonne Tooley  
Rinann Uteg  
Ethel Watts  
Don Wills  
BLBN



*"The present is a time of overwhelming interest to all living...Thinking men and women of all classes...recognize that something great and decisive is about to take place - that the world is **on the verge of a stupendous crisis.**" PK 537 "Christians should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an **overwhelming surprise**, and this preparation they should make by diligently studying the word of God and striving to conform their lives to its precepts." ibid 626*

# COVID-19: Dry-Run for the Final Crisis

As we survey the impact of COVID-19 on basic civil liberties, constitutional rights and religious freedom in the USA, it is evident that when a state of emergency is declared, whether at the state or national level, nothing is sacred. No rights are inalienable, including freedom of conscience.

Despite the best of intentions on the part of legislatures and governors nationwide in their battle against coronavirus, the lockdowns also caused (to varying degrees) the suspension of supposedly inalienable freedoms contained in the U.S. Bill of Rights, e.g. our First Amendment rights. The COVID-19 pandemic has merely highlighted that all of the tools of oppression of God's end-time people are already in place.

1. A corrupt national media pushes a narrative and agenda whereby our civil liberties, constitutional rights and religious freedoms are indefinitely suspended during a state of emergency.

2. Social media giants restrict and de-platform anyone questioning the dominant narrative.

3. Dissenters to the dominant narrative are demonized in the media, and political leaders ascribe the worst possible motives to them.

4. Gatherings for worship and evangelism are banned on pain of fines or arrest, even drive-in services.

5. Americans are encouraged to call hotlines and report neighbors they suspect of failing to comply with orders.

6. "Track and Trace" apps monitor the movements of entire populations, giving authorities unprecedented intrusion into privacy.

7. Smart tools such as Siri, Alexa, and

Google Assistant, used in millions of home and phones across the U.S., have the ability to record nearly every word spoken.

8. The full force of the state is used to destroy the families and livelihoods of dissenters, including the very real threat of removing children from the home.

9. States' Attorneys General arbitrarily revoke business licenses and registrations, denying individuals their ability to buy, sell, bank, or make a living

10. International travel is brought to a shuddering halt at the stroke of a pen.

11. Almost all U.S. colleges and churches are ordered to close indefinitely.

12. Truth is declared "hate speech" and is driven from the public square.

In the COVID-19 pandemic, people are responding to the lockdowns in a wide spectrum of ways. Some enthusiastically endorse it and report their neighbors' violations. Others hunker down with gritted teeth. Still others speak up in opposition or even march against it. The only thing that remains is a political excuse to turn these tools on those who are faithful to the Creator God.

Historically, Adventists have rarely shown a united response to persecution. German Adventists split in WWI over how to respond to conscription and bearing arms for the Kaiser. In response to the totalitarian demands of communist rulers, Adventists fractured along national fault lines. In many countries, the church divided into an official body and

an underground body. These fault lines hardened and still exist today.

So, what are the key takeaways? All the tools needed to oppress God's end-time people are in place. In the end-time persecution, our civil and religious liberties will be revoked. All of our church buildings, colleges, conferences, unions, divisions and other Adventist entities will be closed down. Our ability to buy, sell, bank, and travel will be suspended. We will be demonized across the political spectrum and in all media. As Jesus said, "You will be hated by all men for my name's sake." (Mark 13:13). Perhaps most tragically in the coming end-time persecution, I anticipate that Adventism will fracture. Some will excuse persecution and even participate in it. Others will accommodate it. Others yet will reject it, hunker down and await the Second Coming.

COVID-19 is a wake-up call. Are we ready for the end-time persecution? Are we laying up treasures on earth, or in heaven above? Is anything holding us to this earth and overriding our fidelity to our Father? In Stalin's prison camps, the guards knew if a person was allowed to keep just one personal item, e.g. a comb, the threat of confiscating that item would guarantee the prisoners' compliance. One measly item!

"Dear Father, I confess that false gods have infiltrated and captivated my soul. My heart, like that of Lot's wife, is chained to this world. Please remove these false gods from me today and may my whole being be captive to You and Your Word alone. Amen!"

~ Conrad Vine, *Adventist Frontiers*, August 2020 (thank you to Chuck Austin for submitting this article suggestion).



# FAMILY PORTRAITS:

## RON & GRACE MATHIESEN

BY GINNY FROST



Graziella (later called Grace) Scherer was born in Munich, Germany and lived there until about two years of age. At that time her parents booked passage on a ship and the family came to the U.S., landing in New York Harbor. From there they made their way to New Mexico, but after living there for a time they decided to move to Los Angeles, CA. Grace's father was a trained welder and worked as a machinist to provide for his family. They lived in the U.S. for about three years, and during that time they traveled as often as they could to see as much of this country as possible. When Grace was five years old they decided to move back to Germany, but less than a year later her parents, once again, packed up to move. It was back to Los Angeles where they still owned a home that they had been renting out. This time the move was permanent. Grace was joined by a younger brother a year or so later.

Grace's father was from Germany and he met a young, Italian woman on a beach in Venice, Italy, while they were both on a camping trip. They soon married, and while Grace's

mother

was not an Adventist she always attended church with her Seventh-day Adventist husband. When Grace and her brother came along they joined their parents in going to Sabbath School and church. Her mother was baptized when Grace was 13 years old. Grace started going to Adventist schools when she was in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, later attending Monterey Bay Academy and graduating from there.

Ron (Mathiesen—it's Danish) was born in Anaheim, CA, joining an older brother, and lived there for the first year of his life. His parents then moved to Turlock, CA, where they lived until Ron was about ten years old; then they got divorced. Ron and his brother moved with their mother to Lodi, CA, where she found a nursing position. Ron went to the Adventist school there until graduation from Lodi Academy.

Ron's educational goal eventually took him to Loma Linda University where he received a degree in Medical Radiography. After working in the Southern California area for a while, he came back to Northern California, married and had a family. Sometimes the company that he worked for would ask him to work temporarily in another area or maybe another 8 state. That is

how the family ended up, after a few years, moving to the Seattle, WA, area. Unfortunately Ron's marriage ended and his job was not as satisfying as it had once been. He started cutting firewood for people, which turned into a full-scale tree--service business. That lasted for several years, but when that ended he became a truck driver.

When Grace was young her family spoke German in their home. As she grew older she began speaking English with her friends and more at home. After graduating from academy she decided to go to school in Bogenhofen, Austria for a year to further her knowledge of German. Since she had an aunt living in Munich, which was only a few hours from the school, she would visit her when she was able. Later, deciding that she also wanted to learn Italian, she spent a year in Florence, Italy. After that she finished a degree in Health Science at La Sierra College (now La Sierra University). After graduation she worked for a while waiting tables in a restaurant.

*continued on page 9*




Deciding that her degree would not lead to a job that she would have a great interest in, she went back to school to get her K-12 teaching credential. She also married and had one son.

Grace taught in Seventh-day Adventist schools for three years, and then did some substitute teaching in public schools for a while. She chose to go back to waiting tables for a time to sort some things out. Grace credits the years that she waited on tables with teaching her some valuable life-lessons about service. She also took this time to update her teaching credentials and began teaching in the public school system.

Now, both single, Ron and Grace (her marriage had ended some years before) each joined the same Adventist online singles site. Though they had a mutual friend who they were both quite close to, they did not know each other and had never met. Ron was still living in the Seattle area and Grace was in Southern California. They corresponded online sporadically while they both dated others. Their relationship was limited to the realm of "friendship" as far as Ron was concerned. Grace had wondered if there could be more, but decided to pray and be patient and see where God was leading with this. After about two and a half years of a long distance friendship they finally met in person.


Ron had completed a four-month program with AFCOE (Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism), at Weimar College in California and had gone on a mission trip to Mexico. Grace asked if he would like to meet her over a weekend at her parent's home. She had decided that if this was the Lord's will for their lives that they needed to find out now, or let it go and move on. It was soon apparent to both of them that the Lord was leading in this meeting as He had answered prayers for each of them that they had not told the other about. Three weeks later they were married in a simple ceremony in Las Vegas.

Ron moved to Southern California where Grace was teaching and began working for some friends. Shortly after they were married, Grace began noticing some early signs in Ron of a health condition that she recognized, and



## Three in the Fire Crossword Puzzle

"When you walk through the fire, I will be with you." -Jesus

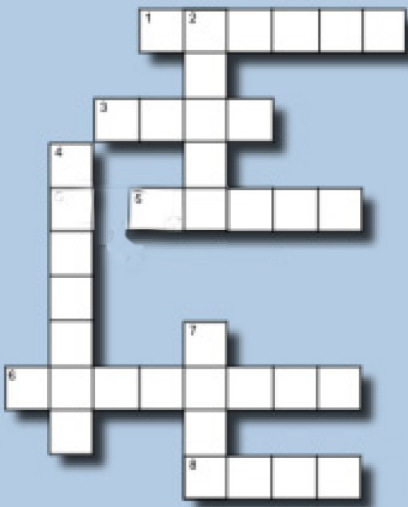


**ACROSS**

1. Another name for sculpture, carving or art figure
3. A match can start this.
5. Who was the fourth being in with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?
6. Another name for army persons
8. Not silver but \_\_\_\_\_

**DOWN**

2. Number after two and before four
4. Country where the story takes place
7. Not a queen but a \_\_\_\_\_



less than one year later he was diagnosed with MS (multiple sclerosis).

After spending several years living in Southern California, Ron was longing for green mountains again and Grace was tiring of city life. They decided to head north and in looking around for a place that they might want to live, Grace came upon a job opening in the Glendale, OR, public school district.

The devil worked very hard to discourage Ron and Grace with any opportunity he could find, from a very difficult first teaching year

in Glendale for Grace, a failed property purchase, and through Ron's progressing illness, among other challenges. They felt that they were under attack but they put their trust in the Lord and He has seen them through. They have had their marriage vows tested by various circumstances over these last ten years and have fully realized what their promises of "for better or worse, richer or poorer, and in sickness and in health" truly mean. The Lord continues to sustain them daily with His promises, and as Grace's favorite Bible verse says, "The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm." Exodus 14:14 (NLT). We would all do well to live by that verse.

~Ginny Frost



# Because You Prayed - Miracles #2 and #3



Miracle #2 - BECAUSE YOU PRAYED, God has been touching the hearts of many members to contribute to the Papua, New Guinea, Godpod Project. God has granted our request mightily. We started this project in March and WE HAVE ALREADY EXCEEDED OUR GOAL for the Godpods. We still have 4 months left to work on this project. Praise the Lord!!! \$3,000 more, and we can double the number of Godpods we are sending. The need is so great because of the mountainous terrain and the many languages. Another group has sent 10,000 Godpods but the cry is for another 10,000. By prayer and sacrifice, I know we can raise another \$3,000 and we will have sent a total of 500 Godpods. By the grace of God, we will have donated \$12,500 to cover the cost of the 500 Godpods instead of our original goal of 250.

Miracle #3 - Even the India

School project is going forward mightily. We only need \$3,000 to reach our goal of sending money to not only finish the school, but to also furnish desks and books. How privileged we are to be able to help in time of need. Every penny, dime, dollar or more donated is valued greatly in the books of heaven. Did you know that the angels record every cent we give in the cause of missions and evangelism, and when we get to heaven we will get to meet the ones who are there as a result of our offerings? By pooling our money together, we are able to

accomplish great things because God blesses our offerings the same as He did the five loaves and two fishes. This only happens because of sincere, earnest, fervent prayer and the abiding of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Just think of the many who will be saved for eternity because of the donations God has enabled us to give. God's timing is impeccable, as usual. The COVID-19 virus has the whole world scared to death, and they need hope. The Godpods will bring hope to the PNG people, and the India project will bring hope to each of the students and their families. They will learn there is a God who cares about them and who plans to rescue them from this planet very soon. And they will know that WE CARE.

PRAYER IS THE KEY IN THE HAND OF FAITH TO UNLOCK HEAVEN'S STOREHOUSE WHERE ARE TREASURED BOUNDLESS RESOURCES OF OMNIPOTENCE. *Steps to Christ* pg 94.2 Believe it. It's true.

*~Gloria Wilson, Stewardship Secretary*





## Pastor's Page



One of the most powerful promises that God has given is the promise of the Holy Spirit. Jesus explained this promise in John 14, describing the Holy Spirit as "Another Helper... the Spirit of truth." (John 14:16,17) In our Christian life, we need all the help we can get and we all should seek this gift.

In studying the Holy Spirit recently, I discovered a fascinating passage about how the Holy Spirit was involved in the Exodus.

In Isaiah 63, the prophet recounts how God chose the children of Israel and delivered them from oppression: "For He said, 'Surely they *are* My people, children *who* will not lie.' So He became their Savior. In all their affliction, He was afflicted, and the Angel of His Presence saved them..." (Is. 63:8,9) These beautiful words reveal the depth of God's tender love for His people.

Unfortunately, Isaiah then shares the bad news: "But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit..." (Is. 63:10) Grieving the Holy Spirit is one of the worst things that a person can do. God had given His people the Holy Spirit, for He was the One "...who put His Holy Spirit within them." (Is. 63:11) But by ignoring the laws God had given them and defying the leader that He had set over them, the people rebelled against God and

*"In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of His Presence saved them."* **Isaiah 63:9**

grieved the Holy Spirit. The result was that the people became enemies of God, and spent forty years wandering in the wilderness until they were replaced by a new generation who were faithful to God.

This is a sad story but it serves as a sobering reminder that we cannot become independent in our journey with God. Rebellion

is deeply damaging to our relationship with God but, as long as we allow God to lead us, He will give us the Holy Spirit as our guide. I especially love how the ESV translates Isaiah 63:14, describing how the Holy Spirit led His people: "Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest. So You led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name." Just as a shepherd leads his flock to a safe hollow where they are watered and secure, so the Holy Spirit will lead anyone who faithfully worships God.

I do not want to repeat the mistake of Israel in the wilderness; yet how often do we — I, myself, included — express a spirit of rebellion? We must be so guarded against this. When Jesus gave us the precious promise of the Holy Spirit, He prefaced it with the condition of our

love and obedience to God: "If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper..." (John 14:15,16) Let us purpose in our hearts to be faithful disciples, who love Jesus and obey Him, and prayerfully seek and receive His promise of the Holy Spirit.

~Pastor Tanner Martin







*Happy Birthday*

Jeff Dale	1	Ronald Rau	8
Bonnie Day	2	Mitt Dietrich	9
Ruth Driggers	2	Marvin McKillip	9
Xavier Alarid	2	Rosemarie Gaio	9
Bill Herndon	3	Sean O'Reilly	10
Melissa Derfler	3	Charise Crary	10
Cyndi Gatt	5	Sue Betz	10
Ed Ermshar	5	Ken Johnson	11
Freddie Smith	5	Margaret Crow	11
		Cael Hackett	12
		Jerry Lewis	12
		Hannah Kistler	12
		Rebecca Schmidt	14
		Bill Pirelli	14
		Paula Wilson	14
		Michael Covrig	15
		Phyllis Pierson	16
		Zoey Durham	17
		Emma Grove	18
		Marta Davis	19
		Cassidy Sharp	20
		Desiree Mourning	20
		Lee Spencer	20
		Jordyn Davila	20
		Bobby Werner	22
		Eric Wytcherley	22
		Hushai Cothran	22
		Paul Baydala	22
		Sofia Baydala	22
		Aaliyah Affleck	23
		Abe Gaio	23
		Cleo Allen	23
		Charles Werner	24
		Marianne McFeeters	24
		Andrew Romero	26
		Karen Breyer	26
		Richard Davis	26
		Shelly Beaudin	26
		Krysta Heidinger	28
		Micah Cothran	28
		Michael Shenk	28
		Stacy Kainer	28
		Carmen Bartow	29
		Bridget Simmons	29
		Henry Martin	30

## SUNDAY

## MONDAY

## TUESDAY

## WEDNESDAY

## THURSDAY

## FRIDAY

## SABBATH

Events may have been changed or added; please check: <a href="https://www.grants-passchurch.com/calendar/">https://www.grants-passchurch.com/calendar/</a> and ANNOUNCEMENT PAGE		<b>1</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-1:30 pm Dorcas 9:00 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 2:00 pm Women's Study (MP rm) 4:00 pm Romans Study (MP rm)	<b>2</b> 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	<b>3</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 3-6:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	<b>4</b> 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 7:43 pm 🌅	<b>5</b> 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Pastor Byrd 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 7:41 pm 🌅
<b>6</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 10:00 am Walking & Hiking Club (Reinhart Park)	<b>7</b> LABOR DAY 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 10:00 am Vets Helping Vets 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom)	<b>8</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-1:30 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 2:00 pm Women's Study (MP rm) 4:00 pm Romans Study (MP rm) 6:30 pm Elders' Board (Zoom)	<b>9</b> 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	<b>10</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 3-6:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	<b>11</b> 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 7:31 pm 🌅	<b>12</b> 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Chuck Austin 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children 4:00 pm Video Series (BLC) 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest Sunset 7:29 pm 🌅
<b>13</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	<b>14</b> 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC/MP) 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom)	<b>15</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-1:30 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 2:00 pm Women's Study (MP Rm) 4:00 pm Romans Study (MP) 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest 6:00 pm Finance Com. (Zoom) 7:00 pm Church Board (Zoom)	<b>16</b> 12:00 pm Single Ladies Lunch Bunch: Sweet Tea Express, NE Beacon by DMV 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	<b>17</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 3-6:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	<b>18</b> 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 7:18 pm 🌅	<b>19</b> 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Pastor Tanner 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest Sunset 7:17 pm 🌅
<b>20</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 10:00 am Walking & Hiking Club (Reinhart Park)	<b>21</b> 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC/MP) 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom)	<b>22</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 2:00 pm Women's Study (MP Rm) 4:00 pm Romans Study (MP) 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest	<b>23</b> 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	<b>24</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 3-6:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	<b>25</b> 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 7:06 pm 🌅	<b>26</b> 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Pastor Byrd 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children 4:00 pm Video Series (BLC) 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest Sunset 7:04 pm 🌅
<b>27</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	<b>28</b> 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC/MP) 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom)	<b>29</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-1:30 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 2:00 pm Women's Study MP Rm) 4:00 pm Romans Study (MP) 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest	<b>30</b> 4:00 & 7:00 pm MaxHarvest 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)			<b>Havilah Beasley</b> 5 <b>James Bigginton</b> 6 <b>Julie Bohlman</b> 6 <b>Becky Kruger</b> 6 <b>Heidi Romero</b> 8 <b>Lou Karen</b> 8 © BlankCalendarPages.com