

Celebration of New Life: Baptism in the Rogue River



Many church members, friends, and relatives gathered on the bridge at the All Sports Park to witness the beautiful baptism of Havilah Beasley in the Rogue River on September 26.

"A young heart is a precious offering, the most valuable gift that can be presented to God." MYP 407

Havilah was a serious student of the Word as we went through the various teachings of the Bible. She made observations, asked questions, and displayed a genuine love for Jesus and a hungering to know Him. Her heartfelt desire to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus was truly a blessing to behold. What a joy it was as family and friends were on hand to witness her being buried in the watery grave and rising to newness in Christ. Praise God for your decision, Havilah, and welcome to the family of God.

~ Chuck Austin



In this issue...

- 1** Celebration of New Life
- 2** Idle Hands Lead to Idle Minds
- 3** Can You Give An Answer?
- 4, 5** Current Events & What Do We Do Now?
- 6** Faith and Tarzan
- 7** The Great Controversy: Bible Study
- 8, 9** Family Portraits: Jon & Anna Ermshar
- 10** Kid's Corner
- 11** October 2020 Church Calendar
- 12** Pastor's Page: Journey of Grace



The following article was printed in the newsletter several years ago. Now with the COVID-19 pandemic and the isolation and idle time it brings, I think it is worth introducing it again. Being idle is harmful to physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing, and the Lord would have us always using both mind and body to maintain optimum health. During unemployment or retirement, a hobby or pastime that requires the simultaneous use of both physical and mental abilities has been found to be most beneficial in developing and preserving cognitive and motor skills.

Working with one's hands is becoming increasingly rare in today's society. This is not only true for adults but for children as well. Studies have found that, in terms of cognitive and conceptual development, an 11-year-old today is performing at the level an 8-9-year-old was performing at 30 years ago. It has been proposed that the most likely reasons are the lack of experiential play in primary schools, and the growth of a video game, TV culture. Both take away the kind of hands-on play that allows kids to experience how the world works in practice and to make informed judgments about abstract concepts.

Psychologist and biologist, Dr. Aric Sigman notes that "working with one's own hands in a real world three dimensional environment is imperative for full cognitive and intellectual development."

It has been found that the cortical thickness of the frontal lobe in young adult brains is thinner in those who had toys that taught

them about colors, numbers or letters, and thicker in those who played with real or toy musical instruments.

The left brain hemisphere is sometimes referred to as the digital brain. It controls reading and writing, calculation, and logical thinking. The right brain hemisphere is referred to as the analog brain. It controls three-dimensional sense, creativity, and artistic senses. When one is working with the hands on real three-dimensional objects, both hemispheres are intricately involved.

Senior engineers and car mechanics have noted a recent and noticeable decline in the ability of junior engineers and apprentice mechanics to conceptualize straightforward mechanical problems. The young people concerned had more than enough intelligence but they seemed to have missed certain areas of cognitive development because "they hadn't held a wrench or tinkered with a simple engine".

Research from unrelated diverse disciplines clearly indicates that craft activities cultivate precisely the cognitive and physical experiences

necessary for full intellectual development. For example, making pottery, knitting, wood-working and gardening all involve practical hand-craft and aesthetic skills, along with knowledge of the physical properties of the material been worked.

Gardening, as one example, is a wonderful way to get plenty of exercise while using the mind to plan, arrange, cultivate and feed a variety of flowers, fruits and vegetables. An extra bonus, if done skillfully, is that one gets to reap what one sows.

Interesting findings from related studies have shown that even cursive (long hand) writing skill is a process that needs an integration of visual, motor, as well as cognitive or perceptive parts. The perception allows one to remember the shape of the letters that are written while sight and motor skills of the hand enable the writing. Just sitting and writing a letter in long hand is an exercise that helps keeps the brain in shape. Typing does not activate the brain in such a beneficial way. You will find your hands a little shaky and unsure in writing out a letter in longhand, if you have been typing exclusively for a while.

As we age, working with the hands seems to become less common. But to maintain mental and physical health, it would be good from time to time to put down the crossword puzzle or the remote and go work in the garden, or pick up the knitting needles, or play a musical instrument, or tinker in the garage or shop.

It is noteworthy that Jesus' youth was spent as a



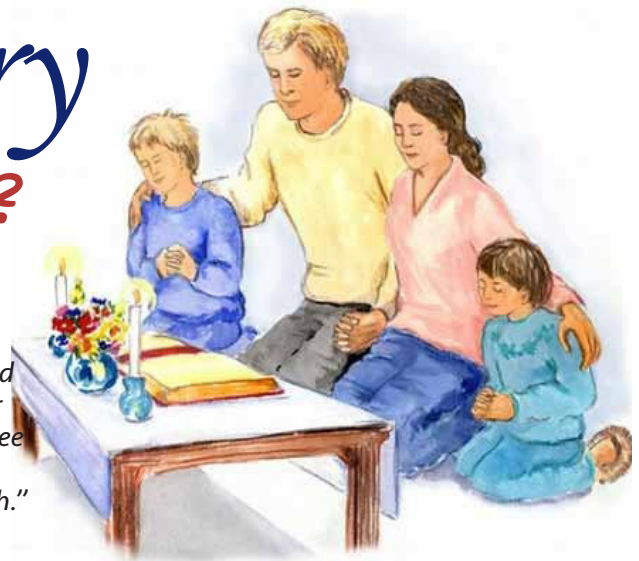
continued on next page

Prayer Ministry

CAN YOU GIVE AN ANSWER?

Here is an interesting quote: "When the time of trial shall come there are men now preaching to others who will find, upon examining the positions they hold, that there are many things for which they can give no satisfactory reason. Until thus tested, they knew not their great ignorance. There are many in the church who take it for granted that they understand what they believe but,

until controversy arises, they do not know their own weakness. When separated from those of like faith and compelled to stand singly and alone to explain their belief, they will be surprised to see how confused are their ideas of what they had accepted as truth." LDE p. 70. So my question to you my church friends is,



But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.

1 Peter 3:15 KJV

"Can You Give an Answer" to the pillars we believe as a church? Those five pillars are: **1) The Second Coming, 2) The State of the Dead, 3) The Sanctuary 4) The Spirit of Prophecy 5) The Sabbath.** Those are the pillars, but then there is also the 2300 Day Prophecy, 1844, the Investigative Judgment and most importantly the Three Angels Messages. If I were to ask you to explain to me from the Bible why you hold these beliefs to be true, could you? I am challenging you, church family, because very soon you

may have to answer for the faith you believe in and if you cannot from the Bible defend your faith the enemy will defeat you. This is serious! What I would like to see in our church is small groups gathering every week in homes to study together, learning the truths we hold dear as Seventh-day Adventist Christians so we can "be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you" 1 Peter 3:15. So call your church friends, get serious and get together. (CHECK OUT THE RESOURCES IN BOX BELOW & ON PAGE 7)! Time is short and this is the most important mission you can do in order to prepare you to go to the world and proclaim the Three Angel's Messages of Revelation 14. May God be with you as we prepare for the soon coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. ~Donna Griffith, Prayer Ministry

Health Corner, continued from previous page

carpenter, and that Paul was a tent maker by trade.

"Learning is experiencing. Everything else is just information." Albert Einstein

Good advice for young parents: "When you send your children to school, don't tell them you don't want them to do any manual labor. The physical labor is just what they need. [Tell them] that they will not only develop the mind, but that they will have physical power as well as mental, that they will not have a one-sided education. . . " 11 MR 179.3

While the hands are engaged in the most common labor, the mind may be elevated and ennobled by pure and holy thoughts. CG 348.1 ~ John Mauro

RESOURCES FOR YOUR BIBLE STUDIES

1. Thunder in the Holy Land, 26 part DVD series - talk to Kii at the church office, or Pastor Byrd
2. It is Written (John Bradshaw) online Bible Study guides, set of 25 - <https://itiswritten.study/lessons-information>
3. NEW - AVAILABLE NOW!! 2nd Advent Revival Ministry Set of 24 Bible Studies by Lance Schmidt (see page 7) Concise, complete 1-page lessons for group study or personal enrichment
4. Earth's Final Conflict: Three Cosmic Messages by Mark Finley & 3ABN (13 session/study guides - <https://3abn.org/3cosmicmessages/>)
5. Revelation Now! by Amazing Facts (Doug Batchelor) online seminar COMING OCTOBER 23 - www.revelationnow.com
6. Discover, Focus on Prophecy, or Kidzone series from Voice of Prophecy (Shaw Boonstra) - <https://www.voiceofprophecy.com/bible-studies>
7. White Horse Media (Steve Wohlberg) offers free Bible Studies by e-mail (online coming soon) <https://www.whitehorsemedia.com/bible-studies/>
8. Lifting Up Jesus and More About Jesus Bible Studies from All About Jesus seminars (Lee Venden) <https://www.allaboutjesusseminars.org/resource-3/bible-studies>



Current Events and What do we do Now?

Melissa Derfler

Much has happened in the last month. Anarchy in cities, fires, hurricanes, and signs all around us show that Jesus is coming soon!

*"In recent events we can sense His approaching footsteps. We are living in the time of the end...The days in which we live are solemn and important. The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth. Plagues and judgments are already falling upon the despisers of the grace of God. The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude. The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and **the final movements will be rapid ones.**"* 9T 11

An active hurricane season is underway in the south, while wildfires have waged unprecedented destruction across the western US, tearing through idyllic mountain towns, forcing more than 40,000 Oregon evacuations, reducing neighborhoods to ash, and spewing smoke that has lowered air quality levels to "worst in the world" ratings (i.e. Portland). Phoenix and Talent are substantially destroyed. In spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, evacuees crowd into shelters.

As I write this, the Glass fire is raging in St. Helena, California, near Pacific Union College, the St. Helena Sanitarium, and Ellen White's Elmhaven home, which prompted Pastor Ted Wilson to request special prayer from our members to avert destruction of these areas.

Firefighters struggle to contain blazes that have consumed nearly five million acres of the Pacific Northwest, in a record-setting made worse, scientists say, by the climate change caused by the burning of fossil fuels like coal and oil.

Alongside ominous photographs of orange skies, the front page of the Sunday Los Angeles Times blared: "California's Climate Apocalypse." Gov. Gavin Newsom of California concurred, claiming that serious droughts and record-breaking heat waves were undeniable evidence that many of the most dire predictions about climate change had already arrived. Anyone who thinks differently, he insists, is in denial.

4

Bjorn Lomborg, whose article "Sorry, Solar Panels

Won't Stop California's Fires" appeared in the New York Post Sept. 14, 2020, disagrees with the current narrative. He authored the New York Times bestselling, compelling and "superbly argued" book **"False Alarm: How Climate-Change Panic Costs Us Trillions, Hurts the Poor, and Fails to Fix the Planet,"** in it stating that *"the rhetoric on climate change has become ever more extreme and less moored to the actual science"*, with the media becoming increasingly irrational. He argues that *"even if the entire United States were to cut all its emissions tomorrow and for the rest of the century – an incredibly fanciful and enormously expensive assumption – temperatures would still climb, just 0.3 degrees F less. Fires would still get worse, only slightly less."* The obsession with climate change, he says, blaming everything from pandemics and food shortages to political strife and conflicts on climate change, is making us increasingly ignore other challenges which need to be addressed. He says we need *"to dial back on the panic, look at the science, face the economics, and address the issue rationally."* Not what's happening on the world front!

With a "new sense of urgency, the Vatican launched a year-long program of Laudato Si' activities and put in place a new, seven-year call to action." The encyclical 'Laudato Si' motivated many people to take action on global warming, but governments, the Pope said, have lagged far behind. "The encyclical broadly accepts the scientific consensus that climate change is principally a man-made phenomenon. Without prompt global action to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and slow the planet's warming, it says, there will be profound environmental, social, political, and economic consequences." (*Inside Climate News*, Aug 7, 2020). Apparently, the Pope plans to save the planet by introducing Sunday laws. He claims that Catholics are fully committed to saving our common home.

"In some ways, the current pandemic has led us to rediscover simpler and sustainable lifestyles," Pope Francis said in a written message. "Already we can see how the Earth can recover if we allow it to rest. The air becomes cleaner, the waters clearer, and animals have returned to many places from where they had previously disappeared."

"The pandemic has brought us to a crossroads," he wrote, issuing his appeal to mark the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. (Doug Batchelor, *"How the Pope Plans to Save the Planet"*, Sept. 4, 2020)

A growing chorus of voices are calling for Sunday laws. For example, Mayor Cam Guthrie, politician from Guelph, Ontario, Canada, tweeted on March 21: "Just putting this out there for consideration: Once we kick Covid-19's butt, I'd suggest that everything be closed on Sundays again so that we can appreciate the importance of what taking a pause in our busy lives really means. I think our body, mind and soul would thank us."

"The truth about the claim that 'the Pope is about to enforce Sunday Law' is that the seat of Papacy is indeed trying to implement Sunday law because Sunday is her supposed "mark" of authority/power over divine times and laws in order to reestablish UNIVERSAL Papal Supremacy under the leadership of the Jesuit Order (Pope Francis is a Jesuit who kept his silver cross).

*"Therefore, also in the particular circumstances of our own time, Christians will naturally strive to ensure that civil legislation respects their duty to **keep Sunday holy**."* (John Paul II, *Dies Domini*, 1998)

*"In respecting **religious liberty** and the common good of all, Christians should seek recognition of **Sundays** and the Church's holy days as **legal holidays**."* (Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2188) -Martin White, theology writer on Quora, 9-1-20

The line between church and state is getting increasingly blurry. Attorney General William Barr recently stated that "secularists have attempted to drive religion from the public square and to exclude religious people from bringing a religious perspective to bear on conversations about the common good... Separation of church and state", said Barr, "does not mean – and never did mean – separation of religion and civics." He went on to say that he is "witnessing small, but significant steps" towards the restoration of religion to its proper role in America. William Barr, a Roman Catholic, was honored at the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast, lauded as a "Catholic Public Servant", and chosen to receive the Christifidelis Laici Award, which honors lay Catholics who promote the New

Evangelization and **the Church's mission** in their life **and work**. What is William Barr's work? He is the Attorney General of our country.

"The Roman Catholic Church, with all its ramifications throughout the world, forms one vast organization under the control, and designed to serve the interests, of the papal see. Its millions of communicants, in every country on the globe, are instructed to hold themselves as bound in allegiance to the pope. Whatever their nationality or their government, they are to regard the authority of the church as above all other. Though they may take the oath pledging their loyalty to the state, yet back of this lies the vow of obedience to Rome, absolving them from every pledge inimical to her interests." GC 580



Interestingly, "Roman Catholics account for a bit more than 20% of the U.S. population, yet they are on track to hold six of the Supreme Court's nine seats now that President Donald Trump has nominated Amy Coney Barrett to fill its vacancy." (Associated Press Sep 26, 2020)

"That the State must be separated from the Church," said Pope Pius in *Vehementer Nos*, "is a thesis absolutely false, a most pernicious error."

In his historic speech of Sep 12, 1960, presidential candidate John F. Kennedy had stated, *"I believe in an America where the separation of church and state is absolute, where no Catholic prelate would tell the president (should he be Catholic) how to act, and no Protestant minister would tell his parishioners for whom to vote; where no church or church school is granted any public funds or political preference; and where no man is denied public office merely because his religion differs from the president who might appoint him or the people who might elect him.*

"I believe in an America that is officially neither Catholic, Protestant nor Jewish; where no public official either requests or accepts instructions on public policy from the Pope, the National Council of Churches or any other ecclesiastical source; where no religious body seeks to impose its will directly or indirectly upon the general populace or the public acts of its officials; and where religious liberty is so indivisible that an act against one church is treated as an act against all."



Are we ready for Jesus to come? Do we know His voice when He speaks to us through the Holy Spirit? Is our faith strong so that we will be able to stand the trials that are ahead?

I thought about how important it is to know God's voice, now and in the future. Satan is going about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour, destroying our safety net. He is trying at this very moment to break our connection with our Heavenly Father so that we cannot survive the onslaught that is before us. He is after us individually and corporately as a church.

He feeds on our anger, sadness and discouragement, and uses our emotions against us. He and his demonic angels study us carefully and kick us when we are down and lay traps for us. "If we would labor to repress sinful thoughts and feelings, giving them no expression in words or actions, Satan would be defeated...but how often do professed Christians open the door to the adversary of souls!... As soon as an alienation of feeling arises, the matter is spread before Satan for his inspection. (No wonder we fail so often!) There is great loss in every dissension. A house divided against itself cannot stand." RH 3/22/1887

"The church (and each person) must rouse to action. The Spirit of God can never come in until she prepares the way. There should be earnest searching of heart. There should be united, persevering prayer, and through faith a claiming of the promises of God. We must work fast and go steadily forward." (ibid)

But without faith, we are toast.

Without faith it is impossible to please Him, but with faith, we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

As I contemplated the importance of faith, I thought of Ellen White's vision. In it she saw people on a path to heaven, but near the end, the path disappeared. There was only a cord hanging down, and each person had to hang onto the cord to get to heaven.

Thinking about this, I remember movies I saw on TV as a child about Tarzan, and how he would swing through the trees by hanging onto a rope. He made it look so easy. He would even jump to the rope, hang on and swing to where he wanted to go. I wondered how much practice it took to be able to do that. How long did it take to develop the muscles to hang on? Did he fall sometimes and hurt himself? Did he ever get rope burns? Did he worry about if the rope would break?

To have faith, we must practice using it, and that's no fun. We might fall and get hurt or get burned emotionally. It is easy to have faith when we don't need it, but when life doesn't make sense, and it appears that God isn't with us, then faith is really tested. If we have learned to recognize His voice, we will not be discouraged. We will believe that He is by our side and has allowed things to happen for a reason. We will verbalize our faith in God, as we hear Him speaking to our hearts, "Never give up! This is the way. Walk ye in it." Then we will build spiritual muscle and confidence in Him. Then we can take the leap of faith, grab hold of God's rope and swing our full weight on it. Then we are ready for Jesus to come. ~Gloria Wilson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DORCAS IS ASKING FOR VOLUNTEERS, ESPECIALLY FOR MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS.

Grants Pass Adventist School has an opening for a part-time custodian. Work two hours/day Mon-Fri during the school year and weekly during the summer. Please contact the school office at 541-479-2293 to apply.

Each Tuesday at 2:00 pm a group of women get together to study and fellowship together at the church. Currently we are doing an End Times Study put together by Pastor Marvin Clark for prayer meeting several years ago at our church. This study is challenging us to go deeper into Bible study and also is very relevant for the times we are living in. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Donna Griffith so she can have a copy of the study for you.

Thoughts & Prayers

Catherine Bell
Stan Bishop
Cathy Bovee
Joyce Casper
Mildred Chaney
Bonnie Day
Artur & Tulia De Carvalho
Sylvia Crary
Patty Esquivel
Todd & Connie Frye
Tom Fuller
Dennis Gallegos
Beth Greer
Ingrid Gruenheid
Betty Hamblin
David Hamblin
Ruth Hamblin
Joney & Dahn Hanning
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
Shirley Napolitano
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

NEW!! 2ND ADVENT REVIVAL MINISTRY Bible Study Series, 24 topics, each on 1 page! For the complete set, contact *Lance Schmidt, Grants Pass, 408-509-2288 or email lanceschmidt100@yahoo.com* Below is a SAMPLE page that you can print and start using in your personal or group Bible Studies!

THE GREAT CONTROVERSY

THE CONTROVERSY STARTS



"So Satan answered the Lord and said, 'Does Job fear God for nothing?'"
(Job 1:9)

The book of Job tells how Satan questions God's decisions. Who is that Satan who dares to criticize God? Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:12-16.

Inexplicably, a perfect being was filled with pride about his perfection. His vanity was so great that he pretended God's place. Paul calls that "the mystery of lawlessness." (2 Thessalonians 2:7).

We must avoid pride and vanity with great care. That way we'll avoid falling "into the same condemnation as the devil" by scorning the Law of God like Satan did (1 Timothy 3:6).

God is love. (Read in *1 John 4:8*).

God doesn't have a "dark side". (Read in *1 John 1:5*). In the beginning God made everything good. (Read in *Genesis 1:31*). Sin originated with the devil. (Read in *Matthew 13:36-40*). The devil rebelled against God's law. (Read in *1 John 3:4-8*). The devil was a murderer from the beginning of his rebellion. (Read in *John 8:44*). War in heaven broke out as a result of the devil's rebellion. He was cast out with his evil angels. (Read in *Revelation 12:7-9; Luke 10:18*).

The devil was not created sinful. (Read in *Ezekiel 28:15*). Satan was once perfect and was in harmony with all of God's creation until he chose to lead an open rebellion against God. Satan's downfall was pride and self-exaltation. He wanted to be exalted to the highest position. (Read in *Isaiah 14:12-14*). The devil wants worship more than anything else. (Read in *Matthew 4:9*). Look at Matthew 4:1-11. One of

the ways we show worship is by obedience as it says in Romans 6:16. The devil tried to get Jesus to show his allegiance by obeying him instead of God the Father. What character traits did Jesus manifest in contrast to Satan? (Read in *Philippians 2:6-8*). Christ made himself of no reputation and took on the form of a servant and humbled himself.

The war Satan started in heaven continues on planet earth. (Read in *Revelation 12:12,17*). Satan tempted Adam and Eve to mistrust God and openly disobey by eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. (Read in *Genesis 3:1-8*). Sin is what separates us from God. (Read in *Isaiah 59:1-2*). Notice Adam and Eve hid themselves from God once they had disobeyed. (Read in *Genesis 3:6-8*). Sin is transgression of God's law. (Read in *1 John 3:4*). Simply defined, sin is disobeying or disregarding God's rules for living. Death is the result of sin entering into the world. (Read in *Romans 5:12,19; 1 Corinthians 15:22*). God gave His Son as a remedy for the sin problem. (Read in *John 3:16*). Christ came to deliver us from the power of sin and death. (Read in *Luke 4:17-19*). Christ was tempted in all points like us, yet without sin. (Read in *Hebrews 4:15*). God's gift of salvation is free and cannot be earned or bought. (Read in *Ephesians 2:8-9*). Receiving God's gift of salvation begins with repenting of our sins and confessing them before God. (Read in *Acts 3:19; 1 John 1:9; Acts 2:38*). True repentance includes forsaking our sins. (Read in *Proverbs 28:13; Isaiah 55:7*). Sin and Satan will be completely destroyed by fire in the end. (Read in *Ezekiel 28:17-18; Revelation 21:4*). Tribulation, distress or adversity will never raise their heads again. (Read in *Nahum 1:9*). Amen and amen! ~Lance Schmidt

"Then the dragon was angry with the woman, and he went to wage war with the remnant of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Revelation 12:17, MEV)



FAMILY PORTRAITS:

JON & ANNA ERMSHAR

BY GINNY FROST



Suanna Rochester was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; the second of four children born to a Catholic mother and a Baptist father. Due to the kindness of Mr. Rex Callicott, who took Anna and her older sister, along with his granddaughters, to Cradle Roll each Sabbath, her parents joined the Adventist church when Anna was about three years old. Anna had the privilege of Adventist education at Ozark Academy in Gentry, Arkansas, and later at Southwestern Adventist College (now Southwestern Adventist University) in Keene, Texas, thanks to financial aid from Mr. Callicott. After graduation from SWAC, she continued on to Walla Walla College to work on her Master's degree in Biology.

Jon made his entrance into the world at the White Memorial Adventist Hospital in Los Angeles, California. The oldest of four boys, he lived for his first seven years in California before moving to Michigan. His father was a hospital administrator and after seven years there the family returned to Fort Bragg, California, and his father became the administrator of the Mendocino Coast Hospital. Jon attended four years and graduated from Rio Lindo Academy in Healdsburg, CA. Rio Lindo has become a family tradition as all his brothers attended there as well as all three of Jon and Anna's children. Next it was on to Pacific Union College in Angwin, California, for his undergraduate

studies

and then to medical school at Loma Linda University. After graduating with his MD degree on his birthday, he completed internship and residency programs at Riverside General Hospital.

In the meanwhile, Anna had decided to go to Loma Linda for a doctoral degree in Biology, however, a change of plans led to her getting an MA in Education instead. Rather than student teaching she was able to teach biology at La Sierra Academy for a year while finishing her degree. After she and Jon married she returned to Walla Walla to finish her MS in Biology.

While working on her education degree, Anna attended a gathering of some friends and during the course of the evening she met Jon, who was a mutual friend of the hosts. They hit it off and started dating shortly thereafter. They continued dating for the next couple of years while Jon did his internship and residency in Family Practice and Anna finished her MA degree.

In May of 1991, Jon and Anna began a whirlwind of activity. In the two months following their engagement, they each graduated (Jon from his residency program and Anna with her MA in Education); they planned their wedding and got married; they moved to Grants Pass and then flew back down to Los Angeles so Jon could take his boards; took a slightly delayed honeymoon; moved again; and Jon started his medical practice (now known as WellSpring Family Practice) which covers a wide spectrum of services to all ages.

Anna helps Jon in his office by doing the bookkeeping. She finished up her Master's project in biology while

teaching Anatomy and Physiology for Rogue Community College, and then continued to teach there for the next six years. She has done substitute teaching for the Grants Pass SDA School and in addition she taught a general biology class there for one year. She also homeschooled their three children through their elementary years and the two older ones through their first two years of high school.

Jon and Anna have been involved in several areas of ministry for our church; including music ministry, greeting, Sabbath School teacher for youth and adults, church elder, and deaconess.

There is another ministry that has become very dear to their hearts over the years called Pregnancy Care Center of Grants Pass. It was started over 30 years ago by a group of people concerned about teen pregnancy and those facing challenging pregnancy decisions.

Jon volunteered to work with this organization over 10 years ago and within a few months he was asked to join them as their medical director. This faith-based pro-life outreach provides free services to over 3,000 people annually. They offer hope and options to those facing crucial decisions during a stressful time in their lives. Their services cover a wide range from basic ultrasounds

continued on page 9

to abortion recovery (a program called "Journey"). "Epic" is a program provided to middle school and high school students about abstinence and making wise choices about sex and healthy relationships. Their mission is to offer information and support to help each person make the best decision for themselves, and those who are close to them.

They never charge for any of their services. The Pregnancy Care Center operates on donations through the generosity of corporate and private sponsors, and people like you and me. While not everyone is able to give a monetary donation, there are many other ways to get involved, From volunteering one's time for needed tasks to being on their prayer team. Jon and Anna feel that helping with this much needed service is a great opportunity for them to show other Christians that Adventists are not exclusive and we care about those who are in need.

The annual Gala is the center's primary fund raiser and this year COVID-19 has drastically changed the way that they will do that. But that is not a bad thing! In normal years, the Gala is held over three evenings and is limited by the venue to a total of approximately 750 benefactors. Since this year's Gala will be held virtually there is no limit to the number of people who can "attend". There is no charge to sign up or watch the presentation and it will still be held over a three evening span (Oct. 8, 9, 10). This is a great way to find out more about the different programs that the Pregnancy Care Center offers and see if it's something that you feel led to become involved with. For more information, see the flyer in the church bulletin or go online to: www.gppregnancy.com/gala

Jon and Anna are honorary chairpersons for this year's event and they are inviting each one of us to take the opportunity to participate in this much-needed community service. Over the years that they have been involved, they have seen miracles abound and have been able to witness God's hand in this important work. He has provided just what was needed, over and over again, at the time that it was needed most. Jon and Anna have hearts for service and this is one way that they have chosen to serve.

~Ginny Frost

Fifty-two years later, on ABC, Feb 26, 2012, Republican candidate Rick Santorum said, "I don't believe in an America where the separation of church and state is absolute." Referring to the above speech by JFK on religion and governance, he said it made him want to "throw up".

What happened to the First Amendment of our Constitution... "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."?

Ellen White predicted that every principle of the Constitution would be repudiated: *"When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its constitution as a Protestant and Republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan, and that the end is near."* 5T 451

Is this happening now? In an article in *The Week* called "America is the Holy Roman Empire of the 21st century", (Sept. 24, 2020) Ryan Cooper wrote, "The United States today bears an uncomfortable similarity to that doomed empire. The American Constitution is the oldest in the world still operating,

and has been obviously out of date for well over a century...Countries that fail to maintain themselves to this degree often do not survive."

The writing is on the wall. *"Church and State are now making preparations for the future conflict. Protestants are working in disguise to bring Sunday to the front, as did the Papacy."* 5T 449

"To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday law. By the decree enforcing the institution of the papacy in violation of the law of God, our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness." LDE 132 Things are already in place to bring this about.

SO WHAT DO WE DO NOW? We have a window of time - **time for aggressive, effective, personal evangelism!** People want to know what is going on. They are fearful, confused. They realize something big is about to happen and they are interested in the answers found in the Bible. We have our mission!

"(God) commands His servants to present the last invitation of mercy to the world. They cannot remain silent, except at the peril of their souls. Christ's ambassadors have nothing to do with consequences. They must perform their duty and leave results with God." GC 609-610. We don't have to do it alone!

"Angels are waiting with longing desire to cooperate with you in working for the salvation of souls." 2SM 136. Not just one or two

continued on page 10



angels. "Thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand angels are waiting to cooperate with members of our churches in communicating the light that God has generously given, that a people may be prepared for the coming of Christ. 'Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.' Let every family seek the Lord in earnest prayer for help to do the work of God". 9T 129

God has promised to help us in understanding and presenting truth! "To fit us to do this work, He will strengthen our mental faculties as verily as He did the mind of Daniel. As we teach those in darkness to understand the truths that have enlightened us, God will teach us to understand these truths still better ourselves. He will give us apt words to speak, communicating to us through the angel standing by our side." EV 172


Small groups are the key! "The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort is a plan that has been presented before me by One who cannot err. If there is a large number in the church, let the members be formed into small companies, to work not only for the church members but for unbelievers also." EV 115. **USE THE RESOURCES ON PAGES 3 & 7!**

"Take your Bible, and open before them its great truths. Your success will not depend so much upon your knowledge and accomplishments, as upon your ability to find your way to the heart. By being social and coming close to the people, you may turn the current of their thoughts more readily than by the most able discourse. The presentation of Christ in the family, by the fireside, and in small gatherings in private houses, is often more successful in winning souls to Jesus than are sermons delivered in the open air, to the moving throng, or even in halls or churches". GW 193

I will end with a favorite quote: "Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place


KIDS

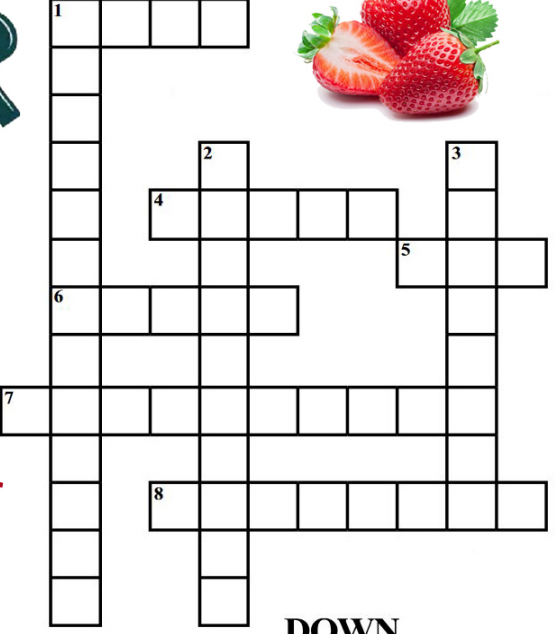
CORNER



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." Galatians 5:22, 23 KJV








ACROSS

- 1 Defined in I Corinthians 13
- 4 Rest, quietness
- 5 Delight, cheerfulness
- 6 The substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ~Heb 11:1
- 7 Self control
- 8 Humility

DOWN

- 1 Patient
- 2 Moral excellence of character; kindness
- 3 The quality of being beneficial; kindness

to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers. Satan also works, with lying wonders, even bringing down fire from heaven in the sight of men. Revelation 13:13. Thus the inhabitants of the earth will be brought to take their stand.

"The message will be carried not so much by argument as by the deep conviction of the Spirit of God. The arguments have been presented. The seed has been sown, and now it will spring up and bear fruit. The publications distributed by missionary workers have exerted their influence, yet many whose

minds were impressed have been prevented from fully comprehending the truth or from yielding obedience. Now the rays of light penetrate everywhere, the truth is seen in its clearness, and the honest children of God sever the bands which have held them. Family connections, church relations, are powerless to stay them now. Truth is more precious than all besides. Notwithstanding the agencies combined against the truth, a large number take their stand upon the Lord's side." GC 612

What a beautiful picture! Let us pray for the anointing of the Holy Spirit that He will help us to take hold of this work!

Pastor's Page

ON A JOURNEY OF GRACE

I'm on a journey. That journey is to discover the true nature of grace. What is grace according to the Bible? Where does it come from? How do I get God's grace? What part do I play in grace? In my last sermon of September, I not only talked about some of my findings but also left on my Pastor's Blog the link to my worksheet of initial findings.

After reading through the 159 verses in the Bible containing the word grace, and reading the devotional book written by Ellen White entitled **Amazing Grace**, I have come to realize I've been somewhat ignorant about what grace is and what grace can be in my life as well as the lives of my church family.

My computer dictionary states: (under "Christian belief") grace is the free and unmerited favor of God, as manifested in the salvation of sinners and the bestowal of blessings. This is completely true. Grace is unmerited or undeserved favor. We see that clearly in verses like these.

- **"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."** Rom 5:8 NIV

- **"Even when we were dead through our trespasses, [God] made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)."** Eph 2:5 RSV

- **"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God..."** Eph 2:8 KJV

From my exhaustive reading of the texts on grace, I can say the second part of the dictionary quote is also true. "...the bestowal of blessings." EVERY gift that comes from God is a gift of grace. His mercy, His kindness, His goodness that leads us to repentance, and yes even repentance itself is a grace bestowed on us. That truth is made evident in verses like these.

- **"According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that**



- **"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work."** 2 Cor 9:8

One important thing I've come to see and understand from this time in the Word, studying grace inductively is this, grace is no grace

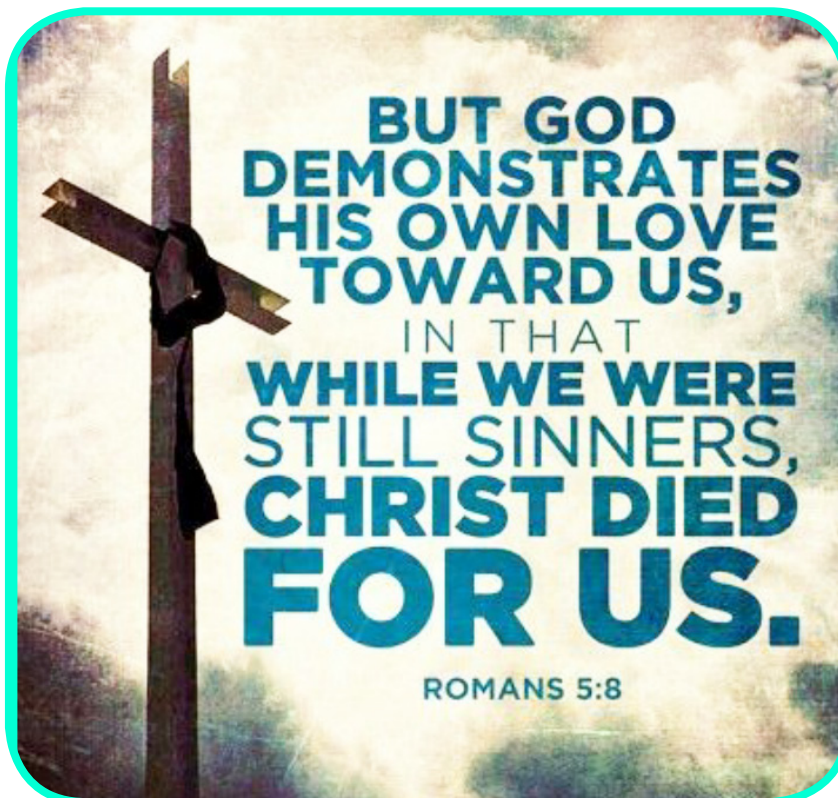
if not experienced, if not received, if not lived out in the life. Grace must be embraced, internalized, breathed. Grace is like a glass of water; refreshing, vitalizing, and even life sustaining, but of no value or blessing if not placed upon the lips and drunk.

I'm calling upon my church family to understand grace, not just doctrinally, but experientially. For His grace will transform us, and this change will be evident in the living

out of His blessings in our lives, in the bearing of fruit for His kingdom.

"Every soul who would be saved must have a genuine, personal experience in the things of God."

Acts of the Apostles 388.2
~ Pastor Charles Byrd

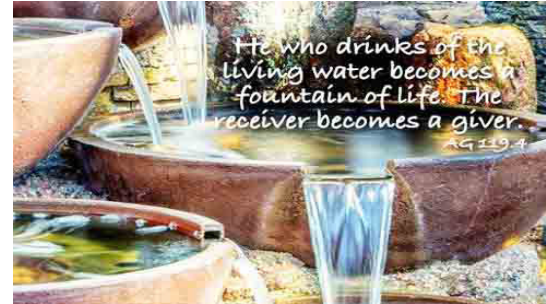


pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue." 2 Pet 1:3 KJV

- **"And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful."** Rev 21:5 KJV



2020 October



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SABBATH

Events may have been changed or added; please check:
<https://www.grants-passchurch.com/calendar/>
 and ANNOUNCEMENT PAGE

4 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 10:00 am Walking & Hiking Club (Reinhart Park)	5 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC) 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom)	6 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)	7 10:00 am Vets Helping Vets (Taprock) 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	1 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)	2 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 6:54 pm	3 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Pastor Tanner 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 6:52 pm
11 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	12 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC) 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom)	13 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) 6:30 pm Elders' Board (Zoom)	14 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	8 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)	9 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 6:42 pm	10 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Pastor Byrd 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 6:40 pm
18 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 10:00 am Walking & Hiking Club (Reinhart Park)	19 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC) 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom)	20 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) 6:00 pm Finance Board (Zoom) 7:00 pm Church Board (Zoom)	21 12:00 pm Single Ladies Lunch Bunch: Sweet Tea Express, NE Beacon by DMV 12:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	15 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)	16 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 6:30 pm	17 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Pastor Byrd 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 6:29 pm
25 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	26 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC)	27 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)	28 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	22 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)	23 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 6:19 pm	24 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Pastor Byrd 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 6:18 pm
				29 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)	30 7:00 pm AT REST (Zoom) 	31 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Victor de la Vega 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 6:08 pm

© BlankCalendarPages.com

Happy Birthday

Therese Carrigan	1
Teresa Pratt	2
Myrik Baydala	3
Clinton Johnson	4
Sandy Puntney	5
Nathaniel Sharp	6
Wendell Driver	6
Rosario Putnam	7
Melvin Smith	7
Edsen Donato	8
Miven Donato	8
James Burkes	9
Tyler Durham	9
Maizy De Forrest	10
Matthew Strauch	11
Stevan Crary	11
Amy Donato	12
Mary Ross	14
Albert Bentley	15
Donna Hansen	16
Sharen Hardy	16
Dan Benson	17
Tom Fuller	17
Amy Pellengahr	17
Willie Pellengahr	17
David Johnson	18
Dustin Holcomb	18
Chris Cline	21
Kathy Jo Wistert	21
Zoe Belovitch	21
Zola Lewis	21
Andrew Kainer	22
Roger Blank	22
Darina Baydala	23
Myra Bentley	23
Peter Cousland	23
Karen Pierce	24
Lucas Durham	24
Artur de Carvalho	25
Kevin Greer	25
Beth McCall	25
Lon McKellar	27
Betty Woolley	28
Tyler Pratt	28
Ken Breyer	30
Maria Rodriguez	31