



January 2021

# NEWS 'n VIEWS

from the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist Church

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## Recap of 2020

### Births

Mar 6 George Delmer Wagner  
Apr 7 Jordan Chandler Nelson

### Dedications

Mar 7 Darina Baydala

### Baptisms

Jul 4 Haley Frank  
Jul 4 TJ & Wendy Guidry  
Jul 11 Desiree Mourning  
Jul 11 Jordan Melugin  
Sep 26 Havilah Beasley  
Nov 21 Katharina Mosch

### Missionaries

Marissa Heidinger (India)

### Deaths

Jan 4 Enoch Swett  
Jan 22 Merle Tillotson  
Jan 15 Steve Kightlinger  
Jan 22 Beverly Cummings  
(Alta's mom)  
Mar 17 Ken Casper  
Mar 18 Linda Wagner's father  
Apr 9 Grace Mathiesen's father  
May 11 Pastor Glenn Chinn  
May 18 Ed Sanders  
Jun 6 Paul Aguilar's mother  
Jul 7 Jim Dunham  
Jul 17 Evan Gregory  
(Kerri Dobbins' son)  
Aug 8 Ken Breyer's mother  
Sep 27 Larry Day  
Oct 17 Rosie Ann Elder  
Oct 23 Bonnie Dolinsky  
(Karen Byrd's mother)  
Oct 24 Bob Napoletano  
Nov 8 Gary Jones  
Nov 10 Bill Peterson

### Graduates

#### Grants Pass Kindergarten:

Max Grove  
Isaiah Wells

#### Grants Pass 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Kayla Cousland  
Peyton Oliver  
Hosanna Roth-Bone  
Tyler Strong

#### Milo Academy:

Elijah Baez (CJ)

#### Cascade Christian Academy:

Noella Blech

#### Hidden Valley High School:

Colin Schultz

#### Walla Walla University:

Stephen Ermsar  
Michael Kainer  
Stacy Kainer

*"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;  
though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Is. 1:18*



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**Your health and well-being are much more than just the condition of your body.**

When diagnosed by a conventional medical doctor, ailments and diseases are generally treated with drugs or surgery with little regard for the underlying causes. Americans consume nearly half the pharmaceuticals produced in the world, yet with all the advances in medicine, the United States ranks around 38 for medical treatment satisfaction.

There are changes happening as doctors and patients look toward other disciplines and healing systems that offer freedom from pain, and the healing of disease. Integrative medicine is a new bridge between conventional and alternative medicine that is opening up other options to drug therapy and surgery.

The main difference between holistic and conventional (or Western) medicine lies in the approach to and treatment of disease and ailments. In acute conditions and trauma, both traditions address the immediate symptoms, or threat, with appropriate remedies to abate the suffering or crisis. Treating the symptoms may bring relief, but may not bring resolution to the underlying causes, and the condition is likely to repeat. An example: frequent infections such as colds and flu. A doctor will prescribe antibiotics for the infection; a naturopath will give Echinacea Goldenseal for the same. Both address the symptoms of an infection. But what predisposes people to develop symptoms and disease?

**Emergency medicine has advanced to a high degree and many victims get to live through the trauma. The healing process would be enhanced by using holistic healing principles and remedies.**

When chronic diseases and conditions are treated, the differences widen. The treatment of heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, arthritis, inflammatory diseases and cancer are treated with medication, appropriate surgery if needed, some nutritional and lifestyle counseling. It's better than it used to be, but still short of the healing mark. Many of the chronic diseases come about by the suppression of acute conditions, such as by using prescription and over the counter pain killers. Pain is a red flag for injury or disfunction in an organ or tissue, and the cause should be dealt with along with remedial principles. Driving acute (of sudden onset) conditions back into the body is like putting a plug on a volcano. Eventually the thing will blow or the "molten lava" will find another way out, the heat or inflammation (condition) will be worse than the first malady, taking longer to

remedy the situation.

**The Holistic Approach:** To determine the causes, why disease has manifested, and to support the bodies innate healing capacity using holistic principles

Each and every person has a health status or degree of wellness based on age, life-style, sex, climate, race, standard of living, occupation, coping skills, outlook on life, resiliency, diet, environmental stress, air and water quality, parents health, past physical, mental and emotional trauma . . . the list goes on. The holistic view is of a person with an ailment or disease that requires the necessary adjustments in areas that will firstly remove the causing offense, and secondly, support the body systems involved in the healing process. The progression of disease may manifest differently in each individual, (though some signs and symptoms may follow common patterns) meaning that some conditions are predictable, and others are not, the diagnosis and treatment will vary depending on causes and the addressing of each issue. This may be a holistic practitioner treating a patient, or any informed individual looking within themselves for the answers and solutions to their condition.

**The precepts of holistic health and healing...**

#### **1 - Personal responsibility**

Unless a minor, or incapacitated, we are responsible for ourselves, regardless of what happens to us. When we value and care about life, time, people, property, health, truth, love, peace, etc, we would do well to guard against the things that negatively affect them, and make wise and informed choices, changing for the better, the areas we have control over.

#### **2 - Disease takes hold in a viable soil**

"The curse causeless shall not come!" Our bodies are fearfully and wonderfully made. All of our body systems function together under the control of the brain to maintain order, homeostasis, defense, growth, repair, and adaptability to change (within limits). Substances, stress, extremes of environment, lack of essentials such as air, water and nutrition, trauma, excesses, deficiencies, emotional, mental and physical dysregulation, pollution, and the lack of human affection and self worth, can hinder normal functions and possibly lead to the break down in health and vitality.

#### **3 - We are connected to our environment**

It is no chance that we find ourselves dependent on our environment for sustenance. God created

the earth's geological structures containing all the mineral elements that his creation would need to flourish, along with fresh air, the water cycle, the oxygen and CO2 cycles, the sun that drives plant life for food and fiber, and gives heat and light, the seasons, day and night; the moon for tidal movement, lightning storms that pulse the electromagnetic fields that energize our cells and fix nitrogen for plant growth. Life on earth is an amazing orchestrated design that has sustained itself for six thousand years. We would do well to take better care of it! A disconnection from the natural elements can have an adverse effect on our being.

#### **4 - Nutrition, digestion and elimination**

Holistic nutrition encourages the consumption of unprocessed whole foods, especially organic, free of chemical pesticides, herbicides and GMO's, to supply the building elements for growth, maintenance and repair. Important plant fibers such as cellulose add bulk to move things along the GI tract and pectin draws toxic waste from the gut lining. A varied diet of complete unprocessed food is a requirement for health and disease reversal. Nature provides a basic guide to the proportions to eat of. God said we would eat the herb of the field, so green leafy vegetables are a must. A salad a day keeps the surgeon away!

The magnesium-rich chlorophyll is cleansing, removing acidic waste from the cells and tissues. Magnesium allows calcium to do its job more efficiently. If magnesium is low, calcium will be pulled from tissues and bones to counteract acidity, and this may cause cramping, and chronically lead to bone spurs, kidney stones or osteoporosis. A plate full of vegetables including salad, broccoli and other crucifers, beets, carrot, radish, asparagus, etc leaves less room for heavier foods that in excess can become a problem. Starch and protein-rich foods, the grains, beans, nuts, seeds, tubers and roots— eat smaller portions than vegetables. They are energy foods (high calorie) and tax the digestion in excess, and are stored as fat. Nuts and seeds are the highest energy foods, so consume them in small quantities as sprinkles on salads. Herbs and spices add flavor to a meal and have beneficial actions on the body. Fruit is better consumed as a meal alone. Limit free fats and oils, sugar intake, caffeine, alcohol, ice cream, cakes and candies, even the good ones! (Now I'm meddling). Good digestion requires eating simply by not combining more than three food groups together in one meal. Do

*continued on page 10*



# Prayer Ministry

## Ten Days of Prayer & Anointing Service

I can hardly believe that we have been participating in the Ten Days of Prayer at our church since 2007. Every one of those years has had its blessings and importance but this year is different. The United States is facing unprecedented internal pressures and the world has never been in a global lockdown situation as it is today due to the pandemic. Prophecy appears to be fast fulfilling and as each day passes we never know what will happen next. The anxiety level is running high even among church members. But the Word of God is like a healing balm over the soul and praying together has power. So we are again joining the world church and participating in the Ten Days of Prayer 2021, beginning Wednesday, January 6th and continuing nightly through January 15th. This year will be different as it will be on Zoom from 6:30 to 7:30 pm each night. The link to those meetings, which will always be the same, will be e-mailed nightly. This year's theme is "Seeking Revival through the Power of the Holy Spirit". God wants to do incredible things in our lives and church today, and only with a constant prayer connection, praying for the baptism

of the Holy Spirit, can make that happen. So please plan on joining us each night as we ask God for this most precious gift to prepare us for the soon coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

On Sabbath, January 16, at the conclusion of the church service there will be an anointing service in the Sanctuary. This will bring a close to the Ten Days of Prayer. Whether your sickness is in body, mind or spirit, whether you are seeking deliverance from a physical malady or a spiritual oppression you are invited to participate in this sacred service. To make sure you are spiritually prepared, please read the chapter "Prayer for the Sick" in the book **Ministry of Healing** by Ellen White. Also, if you plan on being anointed, make sure you sign up online to attend the church service that Sabbath. May God guide you as you consider participating in this sacred service.

Well friends, the signs are thickening all around us that Jesus is at the door. I pray we are all preparing by keeping our eyes focused on Jesus. God bless you.

~Donna Griffith, Prayer Ministry



## 2021 Reading Program

Beginning January 1, 2021, the Prayer Ministry will be encouraging all members to again participate in the one year Bible / Spirit of Prophecy reading program. For 2021, we will be reading Prophets and Kings along with the Bible. To participate, all you will need is the outline provided and a **Prophets and Kings** book or App, which begins on page 15 with the title "The Vineyard of the Lord". If you struggle with understanding the Bible, participating in this program will give you unparalleled understanding and will deepen your relationship with our Lord. Copies of the outline will be available in the church foyer on Sabbath and also during the week from the church office.

## from the Editor...

As we enter 2021, we have much to be grateful for! Time is short and Jesus is coming back very soon. Let us pray that He will use us in every way to minister to those that need a revelation of Him. He could do this work without us, but for us to share in His work now will make us able to share in His joy in the earth made new - the joy of seeing our families, friends, and neighbors redeemed. I want to see them in heaven! We may have to go through some tough times before it's over, but God has promised to be with us! Hope you will enjoy the inspiring dream Darla has shared with us on page 4. And there is also a lot in this issue about health. As we prepare for the end, let's do everything we can to keep in optimum health so we can be happy and well. God bless you all...

~Melissa

2021 BIBLE READING PROGRAM		
January	February	March
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PK 15-17</li> <li>2. PK 18-20</li> <li>3. PK 21-22</li> <li>4. 1 Kings 1, 2</li> <li>5. 2 Chron. 1</li> <li>6. PK 25-28</li> <li>7. PK 29-31</li> <li>8. PK 32-34</li> <li>9. Proverbs 1-4</li> <li>10. PK 37-41</li> <li>11. Proverbs 5-8</li> <li>12. Proverbs 9-12</li> <li>13. Proverbs 13-15</li> <li>14. Proverbs 16-18</li> <li>15. Proverbs 19-21</li> <li>16. Proverbs 22-24</li> <li>17. Proverbs 25-28</li> <li>18. 1 Kings 5-9</li> <li>19. 2 Chronicles 3-6</li> <li>20. PK 35-37</li> <li>21. PK 38-40</li> <li>22. PK 41-42</li> <li>23. PK 43-47</li> <li>24. PK 48-50</li> <li>25. 1 Kings 10; 11; 2 Chron. 2, 7-9</li> <li>26. PK 51-53</li> <li>27. PK 54-56</li> <li>28. PK 57-59</li> <li>29. PK 60-62</li> <li>30. PK 63-67</li> <li>31. PK 68-71</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ecclesiastes 1-4</li> <li>2. Ecclesiastes 5-8</li> <li>3. Ecclesiastes 9-12</li> <li>4. PK 72-74</li> <li>5. PK 75-77</li> <li>6. PK 78-80</li> <li>7. PK 81-83</li> <li>8. PK 84-86</li> <li>9. 1 Kings 12</li> <li>10. PK 87-91</li> <li>11. PK 92-94</li> <li>12. PK 95-98</li> <li>13. 1 Kings 13; 14</li> <li>14. PK 99-101</li> <li>15. PK 102-105</li> <li>16. PK 106-108</li> <li>17. 1 Kings 15; 16</li> <li>18. 2 Chron. 14-16</li> <li>19. PK 109-112</li> <li>20. PK 113-116</li> <li>21. PK 117-121</li> <li>22. 1 Kings 17; 18</li> <li>23. 1 Kings 19</li> <li>24. PK 122-124</li> <li>25. PK 125-128</li> <li>26. 1 Kings 17-24</li> <li>27. 1 Kings 25</li> <li>28. PK 129-130</li> <li>29. PK 131-133</li> <li>30. PK 134-136</li> <li>31. PK 137-139</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 1 Kings 18-20:40</li> <li>2. PK 143</li> <li>3. PK 144-148</li> <li>4. PK 149-151</li> <li>5. PK 152-154</li> <li>6. 1 Kings 18:41-46</li> <li>7. Job 1-3</li> <li>8. Job 4-8</li> <li>9. Job 9-13</li> <li>10. Job 14-19</li> <li>11. Job 20-24</li> <li>12. Job 25-31</li> <li>13. Job 32-36</li> <li>14. Job 37-42</li> <li>15. PK 155-157</li> <li>16. PK 158-160</li> <li>17. PK 161-163</li> <li>18. PK 164-166</li> <li>19. 1 Kings 19:18</li> <li>20. PK 167-168</li> <li>21. PK 169-171</li> <li>22. PK 172-174</li> <li>23. PK 175-176</li> <li>24. Ezekiel 20, 22</li> <li>25. PK 177-179</li> <li>26. PK 180-182</li> <li>27. PK 183-185</li> <li>28. PK 186-189</li> <li>29. 1 Kings 20; 22</li> <li>30. 2 Chron. 17-20</li> <li>31. PK 190-192</li> </ol>

# Darla's Dream

I had a dream... a very vivid dream. One so real that I was for certain it was true-life. It was a dream so lifelike that I could not forget and shall never forget. For several days I did not talk much of this vision, as I wasn't sure if I was to share it with others. But God made it clear that He had "given" me this dream and now I know I must share it with you.

I sat in a small area, no larger than my living room. The space was vacant of windows and only with a single door (very close to where I sat). I distinctly remember the walls, which were made of beautiful wood, almost like panels and which reminded me of somewhere I had been or seen in the past.

It was peculiar to me as I noticed people all around the edges of the room, each of us wearing white. We were careful to remain perfectly silent. I instinctively knew that this was quite a frightening predicament I was trapped in, yet I experienced a sense of peace and an indescribable feeling of calmness.

As I observed my surroundings, it soon became clear that I was to become a martyr, yet I continued to remain perfectly calm, perhaps even joyful. There were no friends, family or acquaintances there that I recognized, however there was a lady nearby that I felt a

strange kinship with. Of her, I can tell you little about, other than she was a short Spanish woman and I was quite certain she was to be martyred also.

I sat there basking in the tranquility and blessedness I was feeling – a feeling more unusual than any I have experienced in my life and even to this day, one I am unable to accurately put it into words. All the while I considered my current

also knew for certain I was next. I shuddered to think, but blessed be, I did not have to experience this certain death, as thankfully I was not called upon before awaking from the dream.

As I emerged from my slumber in my dreamlike state, I became aware of my current surroundings and lay in my bed contemplating this surreal vision. I still felt the same degree of

peacefulness, but wondered, "Was this a vision? What was I to do with it? Who was I to tell? Or was I not to tell?"

I immediately began processing the dream, and continued to do so for several days thereafter, even as early as my prayer session that very morning.



situation, which was a little unusual to say the least, as I was being held captive in a nondescript room – save for the beautiful wood panels – with a group of people I didn't even know. I seemed to drift off for a moment, then one of the nameless people came by and handed me a thick bunch of branches with leaves on them. I touched them and pondered over what they were to be used for and also noticed the little Spanish lady was handed a smaller bunch.

It wasn't long before my little friend was taken out and there was no doubt in my mind – I knew exactly why she was being removed. I

As I bowed my head, a photograph I had on my cellphone raced across my mind and I immediately knew I needed to find it. I picked up my phone, searching and searching until finally, low and behold, there it was! I couldn't believe it – the image was the exact replica of the prison in which I was held in my dream.

Later I called my friend Donna to share the details with her and also sent the picture from my phone. As I was doing so, I realized and was absolutely flabbergasted when I saw paneled walls that were exactly the same as the room in my dream. In addition, there was a family in the



middle amongst the angels who surrounded the room. The deep meaning became more and more clear as I realized God was conveying a message to me through this dream. The message that He, the Lord, our One and Only, sends His angels to watch over us. Assurance, that in real time – the end times – when we think we may even die because we choose Him, He can and WILL send His heavenly angels to watch over us.

On Thanksgiving Day, I was still thinking and praying about my very remarkable dream and had been in deep contemplation regarding the meaning of the branches that were furnished to me. I was filled with amazement and a deep reverence knowing that the Holy Spirit had impressed upon me that they were olive branches. I inherently knew they were significant, but I searched further for the Biblical meaning of “olive branches” and was pleased when Google confirmed that early Christians, often “allegorized peace on their sepulchers by the figure of a dove bearing an olive branch in its beak”. In good-old fashioned, plain English, the meaning was “PEACE”. How powerful, true, and exactly what I experienced throughout the entire dream!

Praise the Lord that I was shown and experienced, first hand, the peace and joy that God will give us when it is needed most. When we are like Stephen (and others), being martyred, at the very last minute, He will give us the power and strength we need, knowing that even if we are to lose our life, we can rest assured that God sends a host of heavenly beings to stand beside us, even when WE don’t see a way out. Even then, we can be “perfectly at peace” knowing everything will be okay.

A few days later, driving home after a full day of taking food to the homeless in the park (where we gave away gloves and 16 hot meals, 10 cups of soup and crackers), it dawned on me how thankful I was for the vision I was shown and the many details the Lord has provided to me regarding this very unusual and prophetic dream. I knew then that I needed to share it with others and that I needed to share it with you!

~ by Carrie Hise as told to her by Darla Day

## Thoughts & Prayers

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

Joney & Dahnn  
Haning  
Harry Hansen  
Butch & Pam Helwig  
Fran Holder  
Virginia Hume  
Dr. Frank & Rosalie  
Hurd  
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 Napoletano  
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



Christ-centered education continues at the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist School.

The mission remains the same: “Soaring to new heights in education by preparing the whole person for a life of service to God and the world.” On Christmas Eve, it was announced that the school will open on January 4, 2021, to full-day, in-person learning for all grades (K-8). Teachers will continue their tireless work to guide students toward the mission (within COVID-19 guidelines).

As students prepared for their winter break, Amy Whitchurch and Sheryl Shewmake took time from their schedules to discuss the school. Students (and teachers) have pivoted between in-person instruction and Comprehensive Distance Learning since March. The changes have been frequent and abrupt.

How have the students handled these ever-changing guidelines and mandates? Whitchurch says, “We talk about flexibility.” Both expressed the importance of “making a positive” out of a negative situation. Students are appreciative to be physically present in school for two hours, rather than not at all. Overwhelmingly, students have missed the in-person, full-time school day.

It is the small and not-so-small life experiences that change in these times. How different the “common” event of losing a tooth is when happening behind a mask! Shewmake says, “My example makes a difference in attitude.” Within the moment is the small celebration of growing up by acknowledging the tooth loss. What follows is the gentle reminder to keep the mask on and wash those hands.

Whitchurch and Shewmake agree, regarding the students, “They need to be here.” When there is face-to-face contact, a connection is made. Eye contact is different in-person than in a Zoom meeting. The human connection is essential to help kids grow emotionally and to see how real God is.

Online education “does not meet diverse learning styles.” Through resilience and hard work by all, students are “where they need to be right now” academically. Due to the challenges imposed by the pandemic, enrollment is down.

The Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist School is God’s school. It is a place where children feel safe. Financial help is needed to ensure the school continues to educate students for this world and eternity. Please prayerfully consider a donation to support the school in this difficult time. Please send your pledges and contributions directly to the school, 2250 NW Heidi Ln, Grants Pass, 97526. You may email the school office, [office@gpsdaschool.org](mailto:office@gpsdaschool.org), or call (541) 479-2293. ~Jennifer Burkes

**Note:** Divergent views are presented in interest of fairness. we encourage you to do your own prayerful research and

# Should You Get the

## is it Safe? Effective? Necessary?

### argument in favor

### notes from inspiration

That you may be in good health:

They are here. COVID-19 Pandemic has taken a year of our collective lives. It seems life has forever changed. What hope of returning to "Normal" do we have?

I have come to believe that God has worked though discoveries in science to bring to humanity many great gifts to ease the suffering that the Enemy has wrought.

Consider the introduction and circumstances in discovery of the Telescope by Hans Lippershey, c. 1608 perfected by Galileo, c. 1611. And the Microscope by Hans and Zacharias Janssen, c. 1590 and Anton Van Leeuwenhoek, c. 1666.

Since that time, the world of creation of the very large and the very small were opened to scientists. These perfected to the Hubble Space Telescope and the Scanning Electron Microscope. There has been no excuse even in our present times to doubt the existence of The Creator.

Another example, I am convinced, is the discovery of vaccines or inoculation. As early as BCE 290 there are descriptions of inoculation, but this was not scientifically given validity till 1794 by Dr. Edward Jenner. The age of modern Immunology was born. We quickly learned to program our immune system to repel many lethal infectious diseases.

Without vaccination, a population of 7 billion people would expect annual incidence of the following illnesses:

- Diphtheria about 699,000 per year
- Varicella about 14,000,000 per year
- Measles about 38,500,000 per year:
- Paralytic Polio about 1,200,000 per year
- Smallpox death about 140,000,000 / year

Each of these diseases is now nearly completely eradicated and Smallpox is extinct. No single medical remedy has been more effective than immunization at reducing morbidity and mortality. I think God saw that our planet would be overburdened with humanity and He wanted to save as many as He could. What grace!

So, they are here, Safe and Effective! Get your COVID-19 vaccines - see them as a gift from the Creator to His children.

~Dr. Jon Ermshar

#### How have we been warned about these pestilences?

"And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places." Luke 24:7

"Perilous times are before us. The whole world will be involved in perplexity and distress, **disease of every kind will be upon the human family**, and such ignorance as now prevails concerning the laws of health would result in great suffering and the loss of many lives that might be saved." CH 503.

#### Who is behind this?

"While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he [Satan] will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation... In every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power... He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. **These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous.**" GC 589-590

#### What kind of remedies has God given us to use?

"There are simple herbs and roots that every family may use for themselves and need not call a physician any sooner than they would call a lawyer." 2SM 279

"Pure air, sunlight, abstemiousness, rest, exercise, proper diet, the use of water, trust

in divine power—these are the true remedies. Every person should have a knowledge of nature's remedial agencies and how to apply them." MH 128

#### How can we help others stay healthy?

"I saw that it was a sacred duty to attend to our health, and arouse others to their duty, and yet not take the burden of their

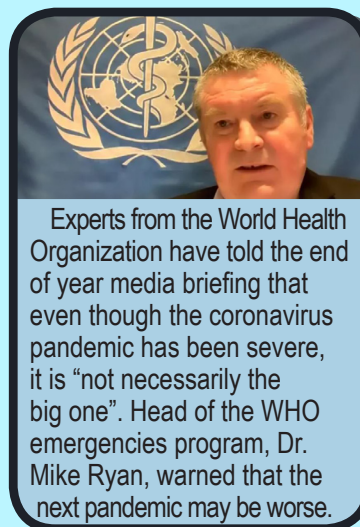
case upon us. Yet we have a duty to speak, to come out against intemperance of every kind,—intemperance in working, in eating, in drinking and in drugging—and then point them to God's great medicine, water, pure soft water, for diseases, for health, for cleanliness, and for a luxury." 3SM 280

#### What message do Adventists have to share?

"Keep the work of health reform to the front, is the message I am instructed to bear. Show so plainly its value that a widespread need for it will be felt. Abstinence from all hurtful food and drink is the fruit of true religion. He who is thoroughly converted will abandon every injurious habit and appetite. By total abstinence, he will overcome his desire for health-destroying indulgences." EV 263

#### How is this part of the Third Angel's message?

"Men and women cannot violate natural law by indulging depraved appetite and lustful passions, and not violate the law of God... To make plain natural law, and urge the obedience of it, is the work that accompanies the third angel's message to prepare a people for the coming of the Lord." 3T 160



Experts from the World Health Organization have told the end of year media briefing that even though the coronavirus pandemic has been severe, it is "not necessarily the big one". Head of the WHO emergencies program, Dr. Mike Ryan, warned that the next pandemic may be worse.



Rather than endorse either,  
draw your own conclusions.

# Covid-19 Vaccine?

Everyone has to make their own choice.

## arguments in opposition



### Short Excerpt From Letter Written by 32 German Doctors To Chancellor Merkel:

“...the healthy, immune competent population does not need protection beyond the general hygiene and health measures that have been known and proven for generations. Children and adolescents in particular need contacts with viruses to “format” your immune system. Coronavirus has always existed and will continue to exist. **Natural immunity is the weapon against it.** On the other hand the mouth-nose cover demanded by politicians does not have a solid scientific foundation.” ~Signed by thirty-two German doctors.,

Here's the link to the entire document:  
<https://www.marktaliano.net/german-doctors-write-letter-to-chancellor-merkel/>

### Excerpts From Lengthy, Open Letter from Medical Doctors and Health Professionals to all Belgian Authorities and all Belgian Media:

“We, doctors and health professionals, wish to express our serious concern about the evolution of the situation in the recent months surrounding the outbreak of the SARS-CoV-2 virus... After the initial panic surrounding Covid-19, the objective facts now show a completely different picture – there is no medical justification for any emergency policy anymore...”

“The course of Covid-19 followed the course of a normal wave of infection similar to a flu season. As every year, we see a mix of flu viruses following the curve: first the rhinoviruses, then the

influenza A and B viruses, followed by the coronaviruses. There is nothing different from what we normally see...”

“The use of the non-specific PCR test, which **produces many false positives**, showed an exponential picture. This test was rushed through with an emergency procedure and was never seriously self-tested... It appears that most people already have a congenital or general immunity to e.g. influenza and other viruses...”

“Most people who test positive (PCR) have no complaints. Their immune system is strong enough. Strengthening natural immunity is a much more logical approach. **Prevention is an important, insufficiently highlighted pillar: healthy, full-fledged nutrition, exercise in fresh air, without a mask, stress reduction and nourishing emotional and social contacts...**

“Mortality turned out to be many times lower than expected and close to that of a normal seasonal flu (0.1-0.5%)... There is a difference between death by corona and death with corona... The vast majority of deceased patients were 80 years of age or older. The majority (70%) of the deceased, younger than 70 years, had an underlying disorder, such as cardiovascular suffering, diabetes mellitus, chronic lung disease or obesity. The vast majority of infected persons (>98%) did not or hardly became ill or recovered spontaneously...”

“Spreading occurs by drip infection (only for patients who cough or sneeze) and aerosols in closed, unventilated rooms. Contamination is therefore not possible in the open air. Contact tracing and epidemiological studies show that healthy

people (or positively tested asymptomatic carriers) are virtually unable to transmit the virus. **Healthy people therefore do not put each other at risk...**

### Vaccine

“Due to the continuous natural mutation of viruses, as we also see every year in the case of the influenza virus, a vaccine is at most a temporary solution, which requires new vaccines each time afterwards. **An untested vaccine, which is implemented by emergency procedure and for which the manufacturers have already obtained legal immunity from possible harm, raises serious questions.** We do not wish to use our patients as guinea pigs.

“On a global scale, 700,000 cases of damage or death are expected as a result of the vaccine...”

**“If 95% of people experience Covid-19 virtually symptom-free, the risk of exposure to an untested vaccine is irresponsible...”**

“Covid-19 is not a killervirus, but a well treatable condition with a mortality rate comparable to the seasonal flu. In other words, there is no longer an insurmountable obstacle to public health. There is no state of emergency.”

Read the entire document at:  
<https://docs4opendebate.be/en/open-letter/>

### Dec. 2020 Statement by World Health Organization Chief Scientist Soumya Swaminathan:

“I don't believe we have the evidence on any of the vaccines to be confident that it's going to prevent people from actually getting the infection and therefore being able to pass it on”.

# FAMILY PORTRAITS:

## RON & MARTA DAVIS

BY GINNY FROST



Marta Oertle was born into a family with an older brother and sister in Bell, CA. They grew up in the adjacent city of Bell Gardens (so named due to the Japanese growing vegetable gardens there. It is also home to the oldest building in Los Angeles County). Her parents divorced when she was quite young, and she and her siblings lived with various relatives, and were in and out of foster care during their early years.

Ron was born in St. Louis, MO, but due to his father's work, the family moved often and Ron lived in Kentucky, Ohio, and Illinois, all before the age of 12. At that time the family moved to Buena Park, CA, and Ron remembers spending a considerable amount of time with his friends at Knott's Berry Farm (before they charged for admission).

When Ron was 14 years old, his parents divorced, and his mother took the five children back to Missouri. But after two years there, Ron came back to California to live with his dad and step mom, this time in Bell Gardens. Due to his parents' multiple marriages, he has ended up as one of 11 siblings, half and step, and has found and kept in touch with all but one of them over the years, though they have never been in the same place all at the same time. He started school at Bell Gardens High his junior year, and found a job at Paul Munroe Hydraulics. He also began taking courses at a local business college, graduating from the program just a few days before he graduated from high school.

When Marta began high school, she attended Bell Gardens High while working at Paul Munroe Hydraulics in the office. It was in her junior year that a new boy,

named

Ron, showed up in her English class. She was surprised to notice him at work also.

Ron began dating Marta's best friend, and Marta was dating at the time also. The two couples often double dated. Somehow the couples ended up switching their dates one time, and they continued that way until they all graduated from high school, with both couples marrying a few months after graduation.

Since Ron and Marta were both from broken homes, they were determined that they did not want that for themselves or their future children. They made a promise to each other that they would never talk about divorce as an option if things weren't going smoothly.

Ron had a job in computer software, and Marta worked as an executive secretary.

Neither Ron nor Marta had any religion in their homes when they were growing up, but when they began their family, they thought that maybe they should join some church. Since some of Marta's family belonged to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, they studied briefly with them and decided to become Mormons. That only lasted about six months, and at that point they quit going to church and became atheists.

They made a move to Simi Valley, CA, in 1971, where Ron was employed by Litton Industries. There the young family (by then they had two children) met several other young families with kids about the same age as theirs. They bought a boat, and for the next several years they lived for the weekends, camping, boating and water skiing, with anywhere from 12-15 families at a time.

One thing that had always bothered Ron was, what happened to a person when they died? One day, on his way home from work, the driver of the car in front of him got into a terrible wreck and died.

Ron was afraid of death, as he thought it was the end of everything. Close to this time, a friend of Ron's experienced a miracle in his life and became a Christian. Ron purchased a Living Bible and began reading. As he read, he became aware that the Bible was the word of God and was the truth. He also discovered the "Late Great Planet Earth" by Hal Lindsey. That is how he found out about the "rapture" and he knew that he did not want to be "left behind".

Another job change to Continental Airlines found Ron carpooling to work. One of the men was a Christian, and he invited Ron and his family to go with his family to an Easter sunrise service. Ron, thinking that might be interesting, took his family and they went to the large service at Devonshire Downs in the San Fernando Valley of California.

At the end of the service, the speaker asked all to bow their heads and close their eyes. He said, "Anyone who wants to give their life to Christ, please raise your hand." Ron raised his hand. After the prayer, the speaker asked all who raised their hands to come down to the infield for special prayer. As Ron and his family were leaving the stadium, most of the people were headed to the infield. Ron headed that way also. During this time Marta, who didn't know that Ron had raised his hand, thought that they were just exiting the stadium. She didn't know how they ended up in the infield, but thought it was just the way to get to the exit. So when they left after the special prayer, Ron thought that his whole

continued on page 9



family had accepted Christ together and he was thrilled. Marta didn't have those same thoughts, and didn't realize that's what Ron was thinking. By the time Marta was convicted, some months later, she knew that she needed to confess to Ron that she was just now making the decision on her own, and that it hadn't happened for her at the stadium.

After Marta's conversion, the family joined and became very active in the Four Square Church for almost 20 years. By that time Ron had started his own business in computer software consulting. Soon after his conversion, he had told the Lord that he wanted to work in some kind of ministry, but he also wanted to grow his business. He felt that he could do both and be successful. As he was praying, he saw train tracks in his mind's eye. He could imagine himself walking with one foot on each track. Then he saw the tracks starting to get farther apart and he realized that he would soon fall between them. That was his epiphany: that he had to make a choice—he couldn't do both. God blessed Ron's business as Ron followed His will for his life.

At 4:30 a.m., January 17, 1994, Ron and Marta were jolted awake by the Northridge earthquake. With peak ground acceleration the highest ever instrumentally recorded, and peak ground velocity the fastest ever recorded, property damage was estimated to be between \$13 and \$50 billion, making it one of the costliest natural disasters in U.S. history. Their home was one of the building casualties, and they felt fortunate to come out alive. They lived in an RV in their backyard during the 11 months that it took to rebuild their home. Their daughter's and her husband's real estate business was devastated by the event, so they decided to move to Merlin, OR, where her husband's family lived.

By the time Ron and Marta's house was finished, they had decided to move. So they sold their home and Ron's business and came up to the Grants Pass area to be closer to their only grandchild (at that time). They lived here during the summers and in the winter they went to Florida or Mexico, as they chose.

In 1996, they "happened" across BLTV and caught a sermon with Doug Batchelor, called "Is the Devil in Charge of Hell?" Ron sent off for the study material offered at the end of the broadcast, and through the lessons he learned about the Sabbath. Still active in the Four Square Church, Ron was in a men's Bible study class, and he began sharing with them what he was learning from his studies. Of course, he was warned about "straying"

from the Bible on that teaching, so he decided to write out all the Scripture texts that explained about the Sabbath. Doing this convinced him even further of the truth of his discovery.

Ron has enjoyed golfing for many years, and after settling into Grants Pass he began to volunteer as a course marshal for the Dutcher Creek Golf Course in Grants Pass, so he could play some free golf. It was there that he met Ben Gibson, another volunteer, who told Ron that he was a former Seventh-day Adventist. He also admitted to Ron that he would be willing to go back to the SDA church except that his wife, Susan, was a Catholic.

By this time, Ron and Marta had learned enough about Adventists through watching BLTV, that Marta decided to visit the North Valley SDA church just to see what it was all about. Marta was also a "quilter" and enjoyed attending quilting shows. At one show, she saw some quilted vests that she really liked. Later she wished that she had gotten some contact information for the woman who made them as she was interested in getting the pattern. Marta began praying about how she could find her.

One day Ben invited Ron to bring Marta over to their home for lunch so that their wives could meet. Imagine Marta's surprise when she saw that Ben's wife Susan was the woman who made the quilted vests! As the two couples spent more time together and became good friends they knew that God had arranged their meeting.

In 1997, Ron and Marta visited our church for the first time. They felt so welcomed that they have stayed ever since. They quickly became involved as volunteers for BLTV, helping with camera operation, program dubbing, and delivering Bible studies to interested contacts, then going back to pick them up and deliver the next ones. One year later, they became members of the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist Church by profession of faith. Ben and Susan became members shortly thereafter.

In 2000, the manager of BLTV left, and people started approaching Ron and Marta separately about becoming the managers of the station. Since they had no background in television, they were not interested. But as more and more people talked to them about it, they finally decided that they would accept the position for a short term, while the board continued to look for a permanent replacement.

Ron expected to be there for 6-8 months tops, and there were certain things that he determined that he would not do. For instance, he knew enough

about business to realize that he did not want to deal with the FCC and all their regulations and the hassle that entailed. Since he and Marta had worked together many years previously, they were used to sharing responsibilities where they were best suited. After several months, Ron was just not happy in this work. He prayed about it and told the Lord he wasn't happy, and he didn't think this was the place he should be ministering. The Lord spoke to his heart and said, "You're not all in." As Ron pondered that impression, he realized that God was right; he wasn't "all in". So then and there he told the Lord, "From this point on I am all in. There is nothing that I won't do for you"—even if it meant working with the FCC.

He became happy with his work again, and every day became a new opportunity to see what the Lord would do that day. During the 15 years that Ron and Marta were with BLTV, Ron never drew a pay check. They watched the staff go from 3 to 12 full-time workers, and saw the station through three facilities expansions. They saw this small local station become a full-power station in five counties, and their coverage expand from our area to that of Southern Washington all the way down to the San Francisco Bay Area, Sacramento, and into Reno, Nevada. When they retired in 2015, 84% of the population of Oregon was able to receive the broadcast.

During that time, they watched God perform miracle after miracle. The opportunities that came to BLTV are too numerous to count. Broadcast stations would come to them asking for them to buy their station because they were impressed with the program content and the way the station operated. During this time they were able to buy stations far below their value, that could have been sold to others for much more. Time after time they were down to the wire on a deadline to complete a project before God would step in and provide just what was needed. They used to quip humorously but only partly in jest that, "God was moving forward, dragging us along with Him." There was never money just sitting in their bank account that they didn't know what to do with, but as God made His plan clear, He provided as they went along: from meeting payroll to purchasing stations and equipment, they never lacked for funds.

Ron and Marta know that if you want to follow the Lord you must be "all in". When the Lord makes His will known to us, He will provide whatever is needed at just the right time. It is a lesson that we would all do well to heed. ~Ginny Frost

# KIDS CORNER

## Healthy Food Word Search Puzzle



B C J B K M J H C C T W M C S S W S Q T  
L D R M O A R H Y O A B D A N E A U N R  
U S F A S X E H M T Q L G R O L T Y T U  
E D E Z N E M A E E C W X R M P E X W G  
B S C A S B T R T D E H H O E P R P O O  
E Z I E W O E J F O A S K T L A M S J Y  
R W R I E V M R B F E K S S K V E I T L  
R K N S R P B A R G O C Q D D B L B T A  
I Y W I L K N A N I K L Y X N I O G Z E  
E V O W X A J A V M E L B B J O N J S M  
S C R F N C R A Z P B S T Z E U M O B T  
T D B A S O W H O L E G R A I N S L F A  
R E S D K U Y W M C O L L E T Z Z N A O  
S P I N A C H H Z F G C X T C G N Z Q K  
X K R M M R Z K I K G E M T N G Q B T K  
Z T J I Y W I Y E K G I M C F N F J F D  
W B M Q U M A U Z G T N L U L L A I J I  
R Q V J Q S X I S O E F L H V S X D P V  
M U U Z D B P Z G P Q S W E H S A C E Y  
W B L Q L S R V O N G I T H C I A Q V H

ALMONDS  
BANANAS  
BROWN RICE  
CASHEWS  
CRANBERRIES  
LEMONS  
ORANGES  
TOMATOES  
WATERMELON  
APPLES  
BLUEBERRIES  
CARROTS  
OATMEAL  
SPINACH  
WATER  
WHOLEGRAINS

### Holistic Health & Healing, cont. from page 2

not eat between meals, or when stomach is still full, and allow four to six hours between meals. Drinking water two or more hours after eating will ensure good elimination. Constipation is often caused by dehydration, the number one contributor of many illnesses!

### 5 - Stress - Emotional, Mental & Physical

Our beings are designed to deal with challenges, but an onslaught of excess through choice or circumstance will eventually lead to a breakdown in health. Do not take on more than you can handle, because you need reserves to deal with the unexpected. Moving toward a simpler lifestyle and away from environmental and community/ social stress adds to a more peaceful existence and brings healing to the soul and body. Unreasonable goals and expectations often drive a person into a place of tension, and affect personal relationships that generate more stress. Move away from the stressor as best one can. In a moment of acute stress, pray, breath deeply by inhaling for five seconds, hold for two, and exhale for five seconds, hold for two, repeat for 5 minutes or more, drawing in the air deeply by pushing out the abdominals.

Many diseases come about through stress, so deal with it early on. Basically what happens is that the fight or flight response, driven by adrenaline and other hormones, prepares the body for getting out of immediate danger. During a crisis, this overrides the parasympathetic nervous system responsible for physiological processes like digestion. The problem is that in a false state of emergency (stressed) the bodily functions are overridden, blood vessels are constricted to organs where they should be open, digestion is inhibited, heart rate is higher, and the removal of toxic waste is on hold, whilst directing blood to muscles for action. This state of emergency may also be induced by the emotions like grief, guilt, anger, anxiety, fear, etc, and also by drug abuse and caffeine excess. Natural approaches to dealing with stress-induced symptoms include faith-based prayer and forgiveness, deep breathing, conflict resolution, talking with a wise friend or counselor, reading uplifting and

encouraging material (Bible verses), playing a musical instrument, engaging in a creative pursuit, helping others, taking a time out, asking for help, and prioritizing the issues of life. Be careful in choosing remedies for this condition, as it may lead to not addressing the causes; yet a little help may come from mild relaxing herbs like chamomile and catnip tea, valerian and melatonin for sleep, and adaptogenic herbs like astragalus and ginseng for general support.

### 6 - Preventing inflammatory Disease

Inflammation is part of wound healing and the immune response. Allergies, heart disease, arthritis, and "itis" ending conditions, are seen as abnormal, and it is very important to address the causes. Avoid these foods for optimal health: sugar (in its various forms), dairy products, foods containing gluten, foods preserved by smoking, rancid fats and oils, shellfish, fatty foods, and food additives and preservatives. It is important to eat plenty of antioxidants, which are present in vegetables and fruits.

Additional foods high in Omega 3 are flaxseed, hempseed, turmeric and ginger. Rosemary and holy basil help protect against inflammation. Dehydration is often a key factor in inflammatory disease. If the tissues do not receive sufficient water, toxic cellular wastes cannot be disposed of and will accumulate and be stored until it's available. This may mimic an immune disorder, as histamine is often released in this crisis. Overlooked, it may look like an allergy or autoimmune disease, and severe medicine may be given when simple water would have been the remedy.

### 7 - Rest and Exercise

Adequate sleep, rest and exercise should be a part of our existence. Make quality time for each. Rest and sleep allow the body to grow, repair and fight infection. Exercise increases oxygen/CO2 transfer through the circulation to burn fuel more efficiently and to remove wastes by tissue flushing. The lymphatic fluids are pumped and flushed by muscle contractions. This rich oxygenated circulation vitalizes the tissues and organs, enhancing immunity, brain function, bone and muscle strength, and waste elimination through the skin.

### 8 - Herbal Remedies, Nutraceuticals, Vitamins, etc.

This is a big subject, yet in the scheme of holistic healing, it one of the least important! Once the causative factors of disease have been addressed, the use of these substances are to support the healing process, not to replace it. In our culture we have been taught that medicine is the cure for our ills. No - we are the cure for our own ills!

The natural health market place is no different than the pharmaceutical industry. It's still about money! Using herbs to treat the symptoms is still practicing conventional medicine, so do not think that using natural products over drugs is the answer. There may be times when conventional medicine is needed, but if you will not make the needed holistic life changes for health, I would say to you, stick close to your MD because you will need him or her!

There are many healing traditions that claim to be holistic: Naturopathic Medicine; Ayurvedic medicine and Yoga from India; Traditional Chinese Medicine, Acupuncture; the energetic healing systems of Reiki, Chi Gong, Therapeutic Touch, and others that have been used to treat and to cure disease within their own realms. Other options for health include Massage, Aerobics, stretching, Tai Chi, hydrotherapy, electro medicine such as PEMF, and Chiropractic and holistic counseling. The list of practitioners is increasing, but be aware that many of these systems have connections to the "New Age" philosophy of disease and healing, which denies the existence of a creator God. Remember that the enemy can cause disease as well as appear to heal it. Don't give him license to make you ill!

### 9 - A Clear Conscience, Love, Forgiveness, Gratefulness & a Positive Attitude

This is addressing our spirituality, which is inseparable from our thoughts and emotions which make up our moral character. What we embrace and believe determines what we value, and what we value determines the outcome of our choices, actions and destiny. Thinking on and doing good things, being thankful, loving, kind and generous, forgiving and turning from anger; yes - these are sometimes difficult things asked of us, yet they will set us free in His strength. The church has a mission to heal the sick. Ask the church elders to pray over you and anoint you with oil. The foundation of happiness is a clear conscience, and a merry heart is like a good medicine! This brings us back to the very first precept of holism: responsibility. Now is a good time to give the ultimate precept of holistic healing.

**The Perfect Remedy** already exists in Christ, His sacrifice and plan of redemption. He took the responsibility for our sins upon His shoulders, paid the price that we deserved, forgave us, and said "Follow Me". What a King! In His new kingdom, there will be no more pain, suffering, sorrow, disease and death. That is a covenant promise to His redeemed. He created all things, knows all things, has all power to make things right, and wants us there with Him to experience what we could not because of sin. Our existence here is difficult to bear sometimes, so in faith, let's patiently and hopefully wait for the appointed time in the joy of knowing His kingdom is nigh! ~Tony Bigginton





# Grants Pass Dorcas: Past and Present

Adventist Community Services (ACS) has more than 1,250 localities, and upholds the beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist World Church organization.

In 1879, the Seventh-day Adventist Church officially named the "Dorcas Society" as its community outreach program. It was named after Dorcas, a believer with a passion to serve others. Her story is found in Acts 9:32, 36, 39 in the New Testament.

"There was a believer in Joppa named Tabitha (which in Greek is Dorcas). She was always doing kind things for others and helping the poor." Acts 9:36 NLT

The Dorcas Society consisted of groups of women who met frequently to provide clothes, food, and/or money for families in the church or the immediate community who had temporary needs. Later, several churches wanted to involve men and started the idea of a co-ed Good Samaritan Society (General Conference Sabbath School, 2008). By 1953, the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church broadened the concept of service to address an increasingly urbanized society. This new organization was named "Health and Welfare Services by Seventh-day Adventists."

In 1956, with the purpose to strengthen Adventist church relief efforts, it became the Seventh-day Adventist Welfare Service (SAWS). As a result, SAWS expanded into a domestic and international Adventist church-organized community program. By 1972, Adventist Community Services became the official humanitarian agency of the Adventist church in North America. In 1973, SAWS program was renamed the Seventh-day Adventist World Service. Ten years later in 1983, it became Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA), expanding its services beyond the United States and Bermuda. Upon review in 2005, ACS International was reinstalled under the General Conference Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department to focus on Adventists in community services and outreach ministries program (General Conference Sabbath School, 2008). Ref. [communityservices.org](http://communityservices.org)

The Adventist Community Service Center here in Grants Pass is very busy with all

those coming and going, including volunteers and those needing assistance with food, clothing or household items. The people arriving at the doors are those needing a helping hand up in life. They may have been victims of the fires, or a single parent trying to survive and take care of their children, or they may be older. They may need help with food, clothing, and/or a meal from the Soup Kitchen.

Talking with people when they are there and finding out their story lets us learn even the littlest of the needs they may have.

Through our services, relationships with people have been built, creating trust and creating friendships. As a result, some have come to our church, studied the Bible and been baptized.

We have many dedicated volunteers. Some volunteers have been at the ACS, Dorcas, Soup Kitchen, and the Food Pantry for over twenty years. They can tell stories of how the quilting department used to make quilts, which were sold in Gladstone for the benefit of outreach in the Oregon Conference. Quilts were also gifted to newlyweds, mothers with newborns, new pastors, and others as needed, blessing many. The quilting was discontinued in 2007-2008.

Volunteers come in and prepare the food boxes for those in need of food for their families. They can choose from a list of foods such as eggs, milk, cheese, fruits, veggies, flour, and canned goods. If you are in need and come to our doors you will be helped. Volunteers have even gone back to get food for those that have shown up when the gates are being locked and they are getting in their cars. This is God's ministry, and we want to continue to help all that come to the door. No one gets turned away!

The children's department assists with layettes, diapers, and clothing from newborn to young teens. Women's clothing, men's clothing, shoes, coats, bedding, towels, toiletries, household items, and gently used toys are among the items available for those coming to Dorcas, and are also items accepted as donations.

Dorcas is always in need of more volunteers. When I moved here a few short months ago and learned there was a Dorcas

at Grants Pass SDA church, I was excited! I knew that I wanted to volunteer.

I remember when I was a child, going with my mom while she volunteered at the Soquel Church Dorcas. There were four or five women, who I thought were really old, that would come in each week. The quilts would come down from the ceiling from the pullies that held them up. The women would each have a quilt to work on. They would make the quilts, of all sizes, and distribute food and clothing as people came in. I would sneak outside and play, running around the church and getting into trouble when they couldn't find me. Just a fun memory to share!

One of the gifts that God has given me as a volunteer at the Dorcas was meeting a woman who came in a short time after the fires, having been displaced. She lost her home and everything she owned. I was told ahead of time she could have anything she asked for. Another volunteer assisted her husband in getting clothing he needed. She was so lost; so out of sorts. I asked her what she needed, what kind of things she liked: pants, shirts, sweaters, dresses and other personal items of clothing. She was upset about some expensive clothing she had lost in the fire. She turned and looked at me, paused and said, "I shouldn't be complaining about lost clothing." I put my hand on her shoulder. Lost in thought, she turned and walked away without taking any items of clothing. At that moment I felt sad that she didn't take anything, but later, talked with a friend that reminded me God gave her exactly what she needed from someone there at Dorcas that day. She was given a sense of community that comes from the love of Who? God!

That's just one of many stories of the people who come and need help. It's winter, so please remember it's cold. There are also a lot of homeless people out there trying to keep warm.

The Thrift Store is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 am – 1:30 pm. Food Box hours are Tuesday only from 9 am – 11:30 am, closed for lunch 11:30 am–12:30 pm, reopens 12:30 pm–1:30 pm. If you are in need of need of clothing, household or personal items or have items to donate, contact the Dorcas Office at 541-476-2052. ~Shirleen Powell

## Living the Truth

Jesus said, "If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." John 7:17

Here is presented a profound truth. One we should take to heart. Let me break it down. FIRST, if God is God, if He truly is the Creator, then He has the right to rule, to ask of us anything, even if it doesn't make sense to us.

SECOND, if God is God, then we have an obligation to obey without question. We don't have to know why, God is not obligated to explain anything to us. It is true that He can, and it is often true that He does. But He doesn't have to.

Unfortunately, more often than not, we only obey when it makes sense to us. Which means, by default, that we are placing ourselves on the throne, taking the role of God to ourselves, making our wisdom the last word.

Here's a real example from the pen of inspiration.

*"The home missionary work will be farther advanced in every way when a more liberal, self-denying, self-sacrificing spirit is manifested for the prosperity of foreign missions; for the prosperity of the home work depends largely, under God, upon the reflex influence of the evangelical work done in countries afar off. It is in working actively to supply the necessities of the cause of God that we bring our souls in touch with the Source of all power."* 6 Testimonies 27

*"To show a liberal, self-denying spirit*

*for the success of foreign missions is a sure way to advance home missionary work."* Gospel Workers 465, 466

Do we choose to be sacrificially liberal, denying ourselves for the sake of foreign missions? Do we choose to worry more about advancing our own work in our own community? Do we make our church and our members our primary focus?

Currently we have chosen to answer that question by making world missions a significant focus of



Was that a good move? Ask the question this way, "Is obedience to God a good idea?" Jesus said, "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself." Our Grants Pass Church chose to obey and this is what was accomplished for His glory.

- We surpassed the goal of 250 Godpods for Papua New Guinea by sending 450!

- We surpassed the goal of \$10,000 for building and helping to furnish a school in India sending nearly \$13,000.

- Supporting the "I Met God" project has resulted in \$35,000 in donations, propelling forward the project of a video

Bible study series for the languages of the world.

And the results? Renewed passion for working in our own community. Stronger giving to our local church budget which ended the year ahead by nearly \$16,000!

As we head into 2021, let's live God's truth for another year shall we? Not just in giving, but in working for lost souls, in supporting our school, in improving our health, in civilizing our thoughts, attitudes, and words. Then the world will KNOW there is a living God (Isa 43:12) for they will see Him in us (Mat 5:16) and His name will be glorified. ~ Pastor Charles Byrd



our local church even in the midst of many COVID restrictions. It may seem less than prudent to think about raising large sums of money for work outside of our community when our attendance has been restricted. But thanks to the drive of Bob Kruger and his mission committee team we chose as a church to set for our goals to:

- Sponsor 250 Godpods at \$25 each for the people of Papua New Guinea.
- Raise \$10,000 for building and helping to furnish a school in India.
- Generally support the production of I Met God, a video Bible study series for the languages of the world.





# JANUARY

2021



## Happy Birthday

ROBERT WAGERLE	01
JENNIFER BURKES	02
SEBASTIAN BRYNER	02
LLOYD KIRK	03
CLAUDIA VELASCO	04
GINA LOVMARK	04
DENNIS GALLEGOS	05
WANDA DRIVER	05
JUDY SURROZ	06
MEL GRIFFITH	06
CHANDRA JORGENSEN	08
ELENA BUJOR	08
MICHAEL GATT	08
RENA NATIONS	08
AMY DENKE	09
DON BEAUDIN	09
BONNIE GERBER	11
LANDON DOYLE	11
TED POWELL	11
CODY NELSON	12
HARRY HANSEN	12
BEN DIXON	13
ED CEXTON	13
MARTHA EWERT	13
TJ GUIDRY	13
MICHAEL KAINER	17
DAYNA VANLOHUIZEN	20
PERRY KAINER	20
SHIRLEY O'REILLY	20
MARK O'DELL	22
LYDIA JOHNSON	23
MARY KAY GARCIA	23
JOSHUA KISTLER	24
KAY GRAY	24
LARRY SAMPLE	24
ANNA ERMSHAR	24
MARY ASHLEY	25
CYNTHIA O'DELL	26
JERRY SORESENSEN	27
JOY STEWART	27
ELIZABETH DURHAM	28
JACINDA RUSH	28
JOAN PETERSON	28
OLEN NATIONS	30

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH
<b>Events may have been changed or added; please check:</b> <a href="https://www.grantspasschurch.com/calendar/">https://www.grantspasschurch.com/calendar/</a>					<b>1</b> Happy New Year!  Sunset 4:51pm	<b>2</b> 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Donna Griffith) 9:30 am In-person SS classes 10:50 Pastor Byrd 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 4:52 pm
<b>3</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	<b>4</b> 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store	<b>5</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)	<b>6</b> 6:30 PM - TEN DAYS OF PRAYER	<b>7</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 2-5:00 pm Veggie Food Store	<b>8</b> Sunset 4:57 pm	<b>9</b> 9:15 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Donna Griffith) 9:30 am In-person SS classes 10:50 Pastor Tanner Communion 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 4:58 pm
<b>10</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	<b>11</b> 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC)	<b>12</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT 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	<b>13</b> 11:30 am Red Cross Blood Drive (MP room) 12:00 pm Single Ladies Lunch Bunch: Tarasco II	<b>14</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 2-5:00 pm Veggie Food Store	<b>15</b> Sunset 5:05 pm	<b>16</b> 9:15 am S.S. (Zoom) (Donna Griffith) 9:30 am In-person SS classes 10:50 Pastor Byrd 1:00 pm Anointing Sunset 5:06 pm
<b>17</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	<b>18</b> 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC)	<b>19</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT 9am-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)	<b>20</b> 7:00 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	<b>21</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 2-5:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	<b>22</b> Sunset 5:14 pm	<b>23</b> 9:15 am S.S. (Zoom) (Donna Griffith) 9:30 am In-person SS classes 10:50 Pastor Byrd 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 5:15 pm
<b>24</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	<b>25</b> 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 5:30-7:00 pm Pathfinders (BLC)	<b>26</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-1:30 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 2:00 pm Women's Study (MP Rm) 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 4:00 pm Romans Study (MP Rm)	<b>27</b> 7:00 pm Prayer Mtng (Zoom)	<b>28</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 2-5:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	<b>29</b> Sunset 5:22 pm	<b>30</b> 9:15 am S.S. (Zoom) (Donna Griffith) 9:30 am In-person SS classes 10:50 Robert Pierson 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children Sunset 5:24 pm
<b>31</b> 7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)						