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KNOWING THE BEGINNING FROM THE END

Only One truly knows the beginning and the end. When you read this issue of the View, the team going to Guatemala will have just returned, but as I sit to write the lead article I am getting ready to go to Guatemala.

Based on previous mission trips, I have some anticipation about what will happen:

- 1) It will “mean more to those of us who go help than to those whom we help.” Placed in quotes because it sounds a bit cliché, but that doesn’t make it untrue. No one who is going on the trip has a clue what any day will hold, or what lives will be touched or how. Just ask any mission group in Port-au-Prince this week. But after any trip I’ve ever been privileged to join, the main themes rotate around what God was able to do in the hearts of those who served.
- 2) Participants will find themselves able to do things they never imagined, or would ever even try if it were not for going on the trip. A hero is an ordinary person doing extraordinary things, and I have seen it happen. When getting ready to go, we all have a tendency to judge whether an individual will be good to have along or not, and honestly, I am rarely right! Over and over, I am amazed at the miracles of strength, tenacity, adaptation, care, hidden skills and much more that only come out when the “going gets tough.”
- 3) The most important moments won’t seem important until later. Ever notice how it is only in looking back that we get to see what God is up to? A conversation, an emergency, a let-down, some little step of faith – you would never know it at the time, but it becomes the hinge upon which eternal change swings.
- 4) Nonexistent or surface friendships will take a turn for the deeper. There is no way to stop it – deeply forged connections happen under the strain, tension, fun and challenge of a trip like this. People with whom you would not expect to connect become friends with whom you share the deepest stuff. Unless there is a conscious plan to keep it that way, the relationships tend to go “back to normal” until another trip (unless we are talking about “that time in Ixcán...”)
- 5) There will be no way to share the power, depth, profundity, super natural nature of the trip with the rest of you. Some who may have gone on similar adventures of faith will make some connections. All of a sudden, visiting career missionaries will make more sense to us, the world will seem way smaller and way more personal, the next adventure will seem way more possible. But we’ll never be able to explain it to you.

So when you see one of us who are going to (or, now have gone to) Guatemala, ask about what happened and we’ll see how close I got.

~ Pastor Gregg Borrer



The MPC offices and facilities
will be closed on
Monday, February 15
in observance of President's Day

February Events Calendar

Thursday, February 4

Awana, Sparks Drive in Movie Night,
6:30 PM, Gym

Saturday, February 6

Upward Basketball games
8 AM - 6 PM, Gym

Sunday, February 7

Awana T&T Bible Quizzing practice,
12:30 PM to 2 PM

Thursday, February 11

Awana, Heart for Others,
Awana in South Asia, 6:30 PM, Gym

Saturday, February 13

Upward Basketball games
8 AM - 6 PM, Gym

Sunday, February 14

Happy Valentine's Day!

Monday, February 15

Presidents' Day (Office closed)

Thursday, February 18

Awana, Store Night #2
Awana in Pacific Rim, 6:30 PM, Gym

Saturday, February 20

Upward Basketball games
8 AM - 6 PM, Gym

Sunday, February 21

Awana T&T Bible Quizzing practice,
12:30 PM to 2 PM

Thursday, February 25

Awana, Crazy Hat Night,
Awana in Europe, 6:30 PM, Gym

Friday, February 26

Awana, final T&T Bible Quizzing practice,
6:30 PM to 8 PM

Saturday, February 27

Awana T&T Bible Quizzing event,
6 PM, Lake Bible Church

Upward Basketball games
8 AM - 6 PM, Gym



AWANA AROUND THE WORLD

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel, teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you," Jesus said in Matthew 28: 19-20. Church leaders are being trained to bring the fun of Awana games and the joy of knowing Jesus to children in their neighborhoods.

Statistics:

Countries with Awana Clubs	103
Churches with Awana Clubs	7,307
Children in Awana outside the USA	436,527

Our Awana Club is focusing on a different region each night for the next 2 months. We hope that our children and youth will realize that Jesus can mean just as much to a child in India or Haiti as he means to them.

Exciting photos, videos and stories are on the website at www.awanainternational.org. Join with us in praying for a different Awana region each night.

- Feb. 11 South Asia – India alone has 169,000 kids in Awana!
- Feb. 18 Pacific Rim – South Korea has the most clubs.
- Feb. 25 Europe – the website shares testimonies of God's providence in bringing kids despite the flu epidemic or having to persist in finding suitable meeting sites.
- March 4 Latin America – Pastor Gregg Borrer will share his recent experiences on the Guatemala mission trip
- March 18 Celebration for meeting our \$240 goal for Awana in Kiev, Ukraine

Cynthia Kenyon,
Awana Commander

SONSHINE EXPRESS PRESCHOOL



Sunshine Express Preschool and Kindergarten will have open registration for the 2010-2011 school year, starting in February. Classes are available for 2-year olds through kindergarten. Call 503-635-3761 to schedule an appointment for a visit.



SPICE UP YOUR MARRIAGE

I've always had a special place in my heart for marriages. In my 25 years of private practice counseling, I saw countless couples, year after year; some with problems common to most relationships, others with off-the-chart problems too bizarre, too painful to recount. I was always looking for that magic bullet, that perfect technique or principle, a common denominator that, if applied, could help every couple unequivocally across the board. No such bullet would be found, though, because people and their experiences are so diverse that if a technique helped one week, it might not generalize into the next because something had changed.

Nonetheless, this conclusion I was able to confidently make: couples, people need Jesus and forgiveness, both received and extended, which ultimately results in the surrendering of the ego, or the self. This will give even the hardest, most calloused marriage a fighting chance. It is said that one of two things in the life of every person will eventually give way: Love, or the Ego. When love is abandoned, we make shipwreck of the soul. A terrible wound is received in us which is sometimes enough to impair us, and our capacity to love, for life. Conversely, when the ego is abandoned, we may feel like a real part of us is dying, (being sacrificed), even our very core, just to find that in the end - through the crucible of the pain of letting go of self - our soul is surprisingly preserved, and love begins to grow. This insight finds its inspiration from the writings of Mike Mason... a former monk!!!

On a more practical level, I also found that couples who simply stopped doing fun things together tended to stagnate. Now, whether or not you and your spouse have ceased the planning of creative dates is not necessarily my business. However, I do want to extend to every couple, regardless of how you might rate it on the "fun" meter, the opportunity to take part in a date that is already planned in full for you... with the end goal of growing closer with one another, with other couples from the Mountain Park Church body, and with Jesus. This will be accomplished starting Friday evening, February 12, at 6:00pm with a great dinner buffet at Hayden's Lakefront Grill in Tualatin, followed by an introduction of our guest speaker, Gregg Ramona from Rolling Hills, and a concert with awesome music provided by the band "3 Legs 2 Boise."

This will be topped off by spending the night in the luxurious Century Hotel, followed by breakfast Saturday morning, again at Hayden's. Then, from 9:00am to 12:00pm, Gregg Ramona, and special guest, will teach us some of their insights about marriage they have gained throughout the many years of their respective ministries. Finally, from 12:00pm on, you will be encouraged to continue the bonding experience by seeing a movie, doing some shopping, or grabbing a bite to eat in the area of Bridgeport Village. Many door prizes will be given away during the weekend... some of which will be able to be used at Bridgeport!

The entire weekend will cost only \$199 per couple. If you can only attend part of this grand event, please contact me (Pastor Steve) or Cindy at the church office. Special arrangements can be discussed. And for the younger couples with children, don't let the issue of childcare prohibit you from attending. We'll have childcare provided at the church Friday evening and Saturday morning through noon. Though you may not be able to spend the night, you can enjoy so much nonetheless. The whole point of this extraordinary weekend, however, is to spend a lot of focused quality time with your spouse, so I encourage everyone to try to make special arrangements so that the experience can be enjoyed as a whole. Sign-ups are in the church lobby for the next couple of weeks. Make your reservation today. Please call the church office if you have any special needs or requests. Spice up your marriage! See you there!

Steve West

Pastor of Adult Ministries & Worship

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

CONNECTIONS BUNCO

Tuesday, February 9, at 7:00-9:00 PM, in the Family Center Fireside Room, Women's Ministries will host another Bunco evening. This non-thinking game is packed with fun and laughter and is easy to learn. It is a great mixer and it is always fun to meet new women as you rotate through the tables. Bring a snack to share, a friend and join us. If you have any questions call, Gloria Bremner at 503 635-3319.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Mark your calendars for the annual Women's Ministries Retreat, April 23-25, at Cannon Beach Conference Center. Katrina Cummins will be our retreat speaker. Those of you who attended the Christmas Brunch this year will remember her. She is a dynamic, engaging and inspiring communicator, with a sense of Aussie humor which brings uniqueness to her teaching. She has a Masters in psychology, and is a transformational speaker touching upon real issues, inspiring the soul and encouraging real personal growth. Registration will begin March 28 and continue through April 18.

MEN'S MINISTRIES

TAKE ME (US) OUT TO THE BALL GAME...

Yes men, it's that time of year again – time to think about the smell of hot dogs, the crack of the bat and the umpire calling, "Play ball!" Spring training is coming in just a few weeks and tickets will be going on sale soon. I have had a few men ask when and what games we are going to see this year. So, I looked at the schedule and found some possible dates.

Monday, April 12	Oakland A's, 3:40 PM
Wednesday, May 26	Detroit Tigers, 12:40 PM
Saturday, June 5	California Angels, 1:10 PM
Friday/Saturday, June 18 or 19	Cincinnati Reds, 7:10 PM
Thursday, June 24	Chicago Cubs, 12:40 PM
Friday/Saturday, July 9 or 10	New York Yankees, 7:10 PM
Saturday, August 28	Minnesota Twins, 1:10 PM
Saturday, September 15	Boston Red Sox, 12:40 PM

We are looking good this year and might even make the playoffs. Don't miss out. The more who sign-up, the better chance we can get a group rate on tickets, left or center field bleachers. Tickets run from \$7 to \$15. The really good seats are \$60. Let's go have some fun! Let me know by email, garyg@mtnparkchurch.org, if you are interested in attending any games.

YOUTH SUPER BOWL PARTY

The 2010 Youth Super Bowl Party will be held in the youth room and gym from 3-7:30 PM on Sunday, February 7. Cost is \$5. There are many areas where help is needed:

- cook us a batch of your favorite game food
- volunteer to be kitchen staff for one half of the game
- fill your crock pot with bubbly, cheesy, beany goodness and drop it off (we'll even clean it for you)
- volunteer to supervise the gym or any of the rooms including those for board games, TV and video games
- parking lot escort (help students get to and from the building and the parking lots safely)

Please contact Carolyn or me at 503-635-3443 to let us know if you can help.

-Pastor Chris

MISSIONS



HCJB Global was called HCJB World Radio when I first joined the mission in 1992. It was known mostly for its giant radio station broadcasting the gospel message to 80% of the world's population from Quito, Ecuador.

78 years after its founding, it has shut down short wave broadcast from Quito, and moved short wave facilities to England, Gibraltar and Australia. But now we have planted and give technical support to over 400 local FM stations throughout the world, with local staff, utilizing four satellite networks.

The most exciting outreach we are doing today is providing immediate response to the world's catastrophes by medical and water and sanitary engineering people. We have a team in Haiti right now, having arrived on site 40 hours after the quake. They are limited by adequate diesel electrical power and medical supplies. Any help you can supply is greatly appreciated as well as needed! Send a check to: Haiti support, HCJB Global, PO Box 39800 Colorado Springs, CO 80949-9800

Back to Ecuador; we have the highly respected Hospital Vozandes in Quito, Ecuador, and an intriguing jungle hospital in the Amazon basin! Our hospital management team travels the world assisting in establishing local mission hospitals as well as training of water and sanitary engineers. These efforts are very evangelical, and have won many people for the Lord.

A large and important part of the mission in recent years is the HCJB Engineering center in Indiana, to support the planting of local radio stations throughout the world. MPC supports Charlie Jacobson who manages the engineering efforts there, building transmitters, installing local FM stations, and creating computer software for better management and higher quality of radio signals.

MPC also supports Yvonne Wingar, who administers the activities at our station in Gibraltar, the origination of satellite programming to the Middle East and Africa.

My role at HCJB is less now that we have closed shortwave broadcasting in Ecuador, but I am still active as an advisor for risk management issues and insurance for the mission. Just last month, the shipping company contracted to move two large short wave transmitters from Quito to Indiana was unable to arrange insurance for the shipment, so I was called on to solve the problem. Fortunately, I was able to arrange full, broad coverage with a premier insurance company. Thank you for your prayer support!

Jim Cole

FYI - Luis Palau states that he accepted Christ while listening to HCJB.

LIBRARY

LAKE OSWEGO READS

A discussion about *The Whistling Season* by Ivan Doig, will be held at the Mountain Perk Cafe, Thursday, Feb. 25 at 10 AM. Sign up for the discussion is necessary in the library or at www.ci.oswego.or.us/library/calendar/WhistlingSeason.html. Check with MPC librarian Patti Russell to see if copies of the book are still available for purchase.

MOVIE & PIZZA

On Sunday, February 21 at 12:30 PM in the Worship Center, the Mountain Park Church library will be sponsoring a showing of the documentary, "Lord Save Us from Your Followers," followed by a Q&A session with the film's producer, Dan Merchant. Pizza will be served in the Mountain Perk Café. Childcare is available if you call the church office in advance.

THANK YOU

Myrna Soule

I am so thankful for my church family. The bouquet of flowers was a constant reminder daily that you were there and I was loved. All the meals from not only my dear- to- my- heart Sojourners but also other church members were abundant and I was fed better than I feed myself. My hand is healing (a little too slowly to suit me) but I am learning again the lesson of patience. Thank you too for your prayers. Praise the Lord for the fruit of the spirit shown.

Kathy Snodgrass

Thank you for the beautiful flowers that arrived when my step-father passed away. The red and white carnations reminded me of Christ's blood that was shed so we, as believers, can stand before Him, pure and spotless. It gave me the assurance that I will see my step-father in heaven as well as other believers. I am grateful to you for your love and support during this time.

Phyllis Davis

Thank you for the beautiful bouquet of mixed flowers sent in memory of my mother, Helen Mead, who went to be with the Lord last month.

FOREVER YOUNG

Forever Young will hold their annual Valentine's Day Luncheon on Tuesday, February 9 at 12 noon, in the Family Center Fireside Room. Guest speaker is Steve DeHart, EMS Coordinator from the Lake Oswego Fire Dept. Cost is \$6. Sign up with Walt and Barb Gabler.



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LAKE OSWEGO, OR 97035



www.mtnparkchurch.org