

Colton SDA Newsletter

May 2011

Up Coming and On Going Activities

Pray For Children



Family Ministries has started a prayer group to pray for children on the 2nd and 4th Friday nights at 7:00 p.m. Come and pray for your small child, adult child, grandchildren or any child you have a burden to pray for. *The Power Of The Praying Parent* is our guide book and

is available at the meetings. If you would like to keep the book a \$7.00 donation would be appreciated. There is **child care provided**, by the Youth group, all donations for child care will go to the Youth group.

See Tammy Figueroa or Shirley Purucker for questions.

Remember These Dates

June is a busy month; please check these dates. Training seminars will be held followed by literature distribution on **June 4, July 16, August 27, and September 24**. On June 4 the literature distributed will be flyers for our VBS, come one and come all to help pass out these invitations.

June Potluck schedule will be modified this month. There will be a **potluck June 4, 18 and 25**. The 18th will be a celebration of Fathers and

Graduates, please sign up to bring food in the foyer. June 25 potluck will be the culmination of our VBS outreach, please bring extra food.



Shirley Purucker

Vacation Bible School



VBS begins June 20! The VBS crew is already preparing on Thursday nights at 6 o'clock. Volunteers are welcome, bring your talents and the joy of the Lord and be blessed!

Tell your friends, family and neighbors about this

fun and inspirational outreach. The kids will learn that God made them, He listens to them, He watches over them, God loves them no matter what, and He gives good gifts. All of this will be learned while having fun: playing games, listening to stories, singing songs, watching dramas and videos of everyone's favorite chipmunk "Chadder." And of course every evening ends with a tasty snack. This year VBS week will end on Sabbath with a open invitation potluck.

Mark Your Calendars



Jun 1 (Wed) 7:00 PM - Prayer Meeting: Carlos Lemos
Jun 1 (Wed) 8:00 PM - Board of Elders meeting
Jun 2 (Thu) 6:00 PM - VBS Preparation Meeting
Jun 10 (Fri) 7:00 PM - Prayer Group for Children
Jun 12 (Sun) 8:00 AM - Work Bee (change of date)

Jun 12 (Sun) 11:00 AM - Church Board meeting (change of date)
Jun 18 (Sat) 1:00 PM - Father's Day/Graduation Potluck
Jun 20-26 (Mon-Sat) - VBS 2011: "PandaMania"
Jun 29-31 (Fri-Sun) - Annual Campout: Table Mtn, Angeles NF

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Verse of the Month

I delight in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Isaiah 61:10, NIV

Community Services Corner

Upcoming event: Sunday, August 7th, MetroLink Train Round Trip from San Bernardino to Union Station, Los Angeles.

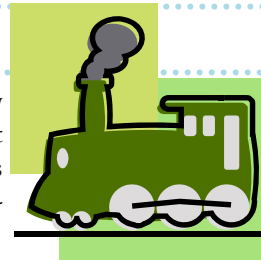
Tickets will cost \$7.25 per person this year. It must be paid in advance because we will have to purchase the tickets in advance in order to get that rate. All who are going need to pay in cash by July 30th. We will travel together in the same train car for the trip.

After we arrive at Union Station everyone is free to walk on Olvera Street, visit China Town, shop, have lunch, whatever you wish. The train we have usually taken leaves San Bernardino at 9:30 AM and the return train at 3:30 PM, getting us back to San Bernardino by 5:30 PM.

For those who do not wish to walk very far, you are welcome to “people watch” at Union Station, listen to the musicians across the street, or watch whatever is happening over there.

Plenty of places to eat, including a bagel shop within Union Station that has pretty good sandwiches, muffins, and scones.

Laura Bauchert



Inspiration Section

Pastor's Perspective

How To Survive Tough Times:

Most middle class families and those families who live below the poverty line are struggling financially as the result of our country's financial crisis. According to the Census Bureau 44 million Americans were living below the poverty line in 2009, or one in seven people – a rather remarkable statistic. The one-in-seven figure perfectly matches the one-in-seven Americans currently receiving food stamps. In other words, those 44 million Americans living in poverty accounted for 14.3 percent of the population – the highest level since 1994 – up from 13.2 percent in 2008.

According to 60 Minutes correspondent Scott Pelley in the article, *Homeless Children: The Hard Times Generation*, March 6, 2011, the government considers a family of four to be impoverished if they take in less than \$22,000 a year. Based on that standard, and government projections of unemployment, it is estimated that the poverty rate for kids in this country will soon hit 25 percent. Those children would be the largest American generation to be raised in hard times since the Great Depression.

Gas prices will continue to rise to close to \$5 a gallon before summer and coupled with the increasing cost of groceries, life for most American families is more difficult. I wonder as I look at the current report of the financial crisis of our country and I ask myself a question, how are the members of our local church family coping and surviving these difficult times?

I would like to share with you my plan of survival. I just started working on a vegetable garden this month. I invested one or two hours for a couple of evenings digging and cultivating the soil. I already prepared two vegetable beds for the sprouting nursery of lettuce and spinach for transplanting. My wife already planted some tomatoes and they are growing healthy. I planted a couple of squashes and cucumbers but the slugs ate them. I just found the recommended treatment to stop the slugs from eating the vegetables. That is to use the hottest pepper (habanero). Grind it well in the blender with water. Pour in a spray bottle and spray the vegetable with it and that will solve the problem. I hope to see my vegetable garden give good vegetables to provide for my family and also I

can share with some members of the church family. I know that I will save a few dollars, or maybe more, by planting a vegetable garden.

I remember sister Terresa Padilla sent out some tips of how to gain extra ounces of gasoline for your car when you go to the gas station. If I remember correctly according to the instructional information, the best time to go the gas station is in the early morning. The reason is because the gas will not vaporize or expand in the warm sunny day. You will get more gasoline when you go to the gas station in the early cool morning than in a later time of the day. Another tip from the same article was to fill your tank full. The advantage of filling your car full is that it forces all the air out of the tank which maximizes the tank with liquid gasoline. Also you need to have good tires and the right amount of air for your tires so that your car will not build drag resistance as you drive. You also need to drive at the normal speed to reduce the strain of the engine which burns more gas. I try to follow these tips and I can tell the difference. I also save some money if I don't drive as much to take unnecessary trips.

I would like to remind you that God is in the business of delivering his people; to survive difficult times.

Throughout the Scripture the theme of survival and deliverance is very prominent. Right from the beginning when the devil hijacked our primeval ancestors, Adam and Eve. They willfully surrendered to the devil after they had been deceived by the serpent. In spite of our ancestral distrust of God's word, the Creator God came to their rescue and promised them the birth of the seed of the woman, the prophetic promise of the coming of the Messiah, to redeem lost humanity as it is stated in Genesis 3:15. “And I will put enmity between you (devil) and the woman (symbolize the church), and between your offspring and hers; he (Messiah) will crush your head (the devil destruction at the end of time), and you will strike his heel (sacrificial death of Christ on the cross).” The book of Isaiah chapter 9 verse 6 states the certainty of the redemptive promises that came to pass. “⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he

will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” The survival plan and rescue mission of God for humanity was fulfilled when Jesus Christ died and was resurrected over 2000 years ago.

God called Noah and gave him the mission plan to save the faithful believers that trusted the word of God. Noah endured ridicule and criticism for 120 years as he was building and calling people to join him to build the ark to survive the flood. Only Noah and his wife and three sons and their wives survived the flood together with the load of animals of different species.

Joseph endured challenges such as physical abuse from his brothers, false accusations of force adultery, and imprisonment. He survived all these trials of life to save his family.

Throughout the Scripture are many stories about god-fearing people who have been saved from difficult times throughout history. Whatever simple steps that God impresses on your mind to take in order to provide and support your family, you must remember that God is faithful to his promise and He will sustain his faithful children, those who put their faith in the hands of God. Regardless of what situation you find yourself you must believe that God is on your side. He will give you courage, wisdom, strength, and the inspiration to move forward in faith. He will open doors of opportunities and close options that may pose challenges to your personal spiritual well being and also for the sake of your family. I pray that God will bless you and your family throughout this month.

Pastor Mataafa

Activities Report

Men’s Ministry Service Project

The men of the Colton church gathered on the morning of Sunday, May 22 to help Pastor and Mrs. Bell with some projects around their home. The Bells have given years of dedicated service to the Colton church, and this was the Men's Ministry team's way of saying "thank you" to them. The projects included: weather-painting the roof of their mobile home; replacing the outdoor carpeting on their front porch; painting the trim around their garage; and various yard work and tree service projects. The Bells treated

the men to a lunch of haystacks after the work was done. Men's Ministry extends its thanks to the volunteers who showed up that day: Ramon Castellanos, Donnie Cristales, Armand Domingo, Nestor Domingo, Leo Galvan, David Gomez, Keith Hong, Jerry Johnson, Carlos Lemos, Oliver Moura, Gary Nieman, Remens Reponhehi, Tony Rivera, and Abner Zelaya; also, thank you to Shirley Purucker for assisting the Bells with lunch preparations.

Jerry Johnson



Fellowship Game Winner

Thank-you for playing the fellowship game last month. The first prize winner was Nilah Mataafa, she won a bouquet of flowers and 4 chocolate chip cookies. The other players received a single flower and 2 chocolate chip cookies.

For the completed list of names for the game see the bulletin board outside the fellowship hall.

Be sure and play next time!

Kristi Cruise

Nilah Mataafa was the big winner in the fellowship game.



Women's Ministries Tea

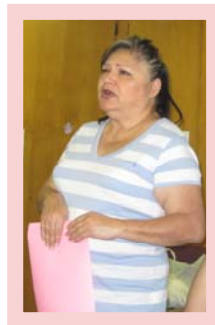
What an event we had for the Mother's Tea Party on May 1st! 43 in attendance consisted of ladies, young girls, and specially invited guest were all welcomed.

We started off the party with prayer and asked everyone, including guests to introduce themselves. We also wanted to know who in the group did our guests know and how they were acquainted. Many were related and many were friends.

As you walked into the Multi-Purpose room you could smell the aroma of all the dishes that were brought for our eating enjoyment. Our taste buds rejoiced! The delicious meal was complimented with many desserts and fruit. And of course let us not forget to mention the many hot and cold teas and juices that were "sipped" by all.

All the tables were covered with lovely white lace tablecloths and when you took your seat at a table you found markers and a picture of a plain printed teapot. Everyone had such fun coloring and decorating their teapot and it really showed off their talents. The pictures were judged and the winning teapot had a small lady bug on the handle.

Along with the winning teapot competition, we also gave the eldest (93 years old) and youngest Mother (27 years old) a gift, and if you were lucky and found a sticker on the bottom of your food plate you won a prize



too. There were other prizes awarded as well.

We finished the day with some testimonies and there were some tears shed and some laughter too.

Many formed new friendships, former friendships were rekindled and old and young had a great time together! In the end we all became blessed friends!

But most importantly we invited our guest to come back to Colton SDA Church at anytime. They will be welcomed with a smile and a hug!!!!

Special Thanks to all of you who helped make this a success....God Bless You!

Teresa Padilla

Easter Cantata

On April 23 an courageous group of our members recreated scenes from the resurrection and sang songs of praise. At the beginning of the program the faces of the singers looked strained and a bit nervous, but as the songs progressed from the sacrifice of Christ to the joy of His resurrection the faces relaxed and soon smiles began to appear. With songs like *The King Is Coming*, *Rejoice the Lord Is King*, *Crown Him with Many Crowns* and *Amazing Grace*, it was impossible to not feel the joy of our hope in Jesus Christ. The choir was comprised of only 14 people, but as Nestor said in the introduction "The angels sang along".

James provided the story behind the songs by acting as narrator. He painted the scene with words, helping us to remember that Jesus endured all the suffering for us and that the resurrection is

still our hope for both life today and for eternity.

Nestor and Netanya sang solos in the song *The Day He Wore My Crown* with solemnity befitting the substitution Jesus freely gave to us.

Easter is not only about remembering what Jesus did for us but to remember His promises of His triumphant return. Thank-you Anthony for presenting a joy-filled Jesus in a humble manner.

Some day you and I will see Jesus face to face and feel the joy and love He has for us in a more tangible way. I can't wait!

Kristi Cruise



James Bauchert as the narrator.



The Women of the Choir

From L>R Netanya Domingo, Ellie Moura, Diana Moura, Theresa Padilla, Eunita Mataafa, Carmi Frias, Sandra Kebbas, Leanna Galvan



The Men of the Choir

From L>R Donnie Cristales, Pastor Mataafa, Nestor Domingo, Jerry Johnson, Ollie Moura, Art Bell.



Keith portraying the angel rolling the stone away for Christ's resurrection.



Little angels



Anthony Parsons portraying Jesus at the second coming with his angels.

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Here

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Increasing member
communication

We're On the Web!
colton.adventistfaith.org

This newsletter was sent to you by a member of the Colton SDA Church.

Church Mission Statement

To provide a grace-filled environment where a diversity of worshipers may experience the healing love of Jesus through the ministry of the Word, the community of prayer, the fellowship of God's family, and the opportunity to serve.

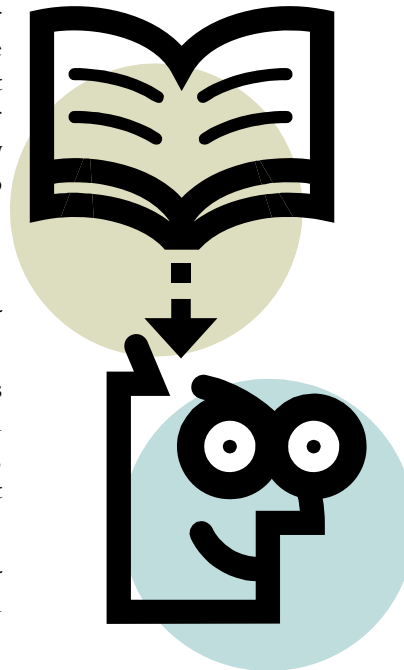
Contribution Instructions

The mission of this newsletter is to provide communication and inspiration for our church members. If you would like to contribute, please contact Kristi Cruise at jrkljccruise@sbcglobal.net or home phone (909) 872-0394. The next Newsletter will be distributed June 18. Please turn in your articles or photos by Tuesday, June 14 before 5:00 pm.

Where Do You Find It?

Below are some familiar Bible passages that people often quote. They aren't necessarily trivial, but their references aren't as easily recognized. So, where do you find them, anyway?

1. Jesus wept.
2. There is no one righteous, not even one.
3. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.
4. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.



5. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
6. A man reaps what he sows.
7. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.
8. There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.
9. Let my people go, so that they may worship me.
10. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

Answers to last month's quiz:

Elijah/Elisha

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Elijah 1 Kings 17:5 | 6. Elijah 1 Kings 18:27 |
| 2. Elisha 2 Kings 4:38-41 | 7. Elisha 2 Kings 6:1-7 |
| 3. Elisha 2 Kings 4:44 | 8. Elisha 2 Kings 6:18 |
| 4. Elisha 2 Kings 2:23 | 9. Elisha 2 Kings 4:1-7 |
| 5. Elijah 1 Kings 17:17-23 | 10. Elijah 1 Kings 17:1 |