

The 2009 sunset and Offering schedule is available online and will soon be available as a bookmark. You can find the bookmark PDF online at www.washingtonconference.org. The bookmarks are scheduled to be given to the pastors at their January mtg.

TODAY'S OFFERING:
Volunteer Park Church Budget

(Please prayerfully consider giving to our Local Church Budget. We have repeatedly had a shortage for our monthly budget. The church's ministry depends on each member faithfully giving!)

To designate your offering for **Tithe or Church Budget, or any other specific need at any time**, please use a Tithe envelope located on the hymnal rack on the pew. All loose offering goes to the offering of the day.

If you would prefer, you may place your offering in the box at each rear door of the Sanctuary at any time Sabbath.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Cancer: Patrick Dwyer (Young-Hee's husband), Stephen Bushley; Mickey Reddy (Pastor's brother-in-law); Francisca Conde; Kania Russell and Samantha Steenberg (Jeanette's nieces); Wilbur Howell

Health Issues: Bobara Tally; Eileen Neligan's sister Joyce; David Karpilow; Cindy; Rochelle Ybarra; Thelma McAdoo; Bob Milne Jones; Annie Hurd; Sara (Cindy's cousin)

Healing: Cindy; Becky & Stephanie; Sam Chetty; Isaac Ybarra

Work: Roger Ybarra; Cindy; Linda Renfroe

Prayer Requests – notify Sara Howell at 425-488-2467

The purpose of Christmas (continued)

When people think of spiritual salvation they often have a very narrow concept of it: they think that salvation is being saved from hell. But God had so much more in mind than just fire insurance when he sent Jesus to be our savior. God's gift of true salvation is freedom, purpose and life in three dimensions. It includes your past, your present and your future:

Jesus saves you from something.
(sin and self)

Jesus saves you for something.
(a purpose)

Jesus saves you by something.
(His Grace)

HOUSING NEEDED: Merita, a 17-year-old Christian girl from Albania, has been accepted at Puget Sound Adventist Academy. She needs a host family who can get her to school. She can contribute \$100 a month for transportation. Meri is a good student and wants to be a doctor. If you have a spare bed, can feed a teenager, and pass a background check, you can host. For more information about hosting, visit www.nw-services.com. If you can help make Meri's dream come true, please contact Nancy Roberts at 1-866-675-3977 or treez@tds.net

REMEMBER OUR FOOD BANK!

Canned food, with self-opening lids, are appreciated. Please place them in the box in the narthex

Volunteer Park Community Focus

Weekly Newsletter of Volunteer Park Seventh-day Adventist Church

Vol I

Issue i

January 3, 2009

Jeanette Mills, Editor

The Purpose of Christmas -II

Excerpt from book
by Rick Warren

Years ago I was sitting in my parked car on a hot summer day waiting... 3 year old Amy was strapped into a child's car seat in the back. Frustrated by having to wait in the heat and limited by her car seat, she hung her head out the window and yelled "Please, God! Get me out of this!" She was crying out for a savior. Because she couldn't free herself, my daughter needed someone bigger and more powerful to rescue her from her frustrating predicament. Ever felt like that? We all have. Maybe you're feeling that way this Christmas. You feel like yelling, "Please, God! Get me out of this!"

The second purpose of Christmas is salvation

Salvation is typically defined as deliverance from sin, self and hell. It definitely includes all that, but it also embraces much more. We are not only saved from something bad, we are saved for something good. The Bible says, "In Christ Jesus, God made us to do good works which God planned in advance for us to live our lives doing." Ephesians 2:10, NCV God has a great purpose and a good plan for your life. Salvation also means being given the freedom and power to fulfill God's purpose for your life.

The announcement of salvation for anyone in the world who'd accept it was the angel's second declaration of good news to the shepherds of Bethlehem at the first Christmas: "Today... there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11 NASB Notice that this savior is "for you"! He came for your benefit. Jesus is a personal savior. What does that mean? When someone says, "Jesus Christ is my personal savior," or when anyone asks, "Have you been saved?" what are they referring to?

...In my Christmas-shopper survey, I asked, "What do you need to be saved from?" and the answers I heard varied widely: "from worry" "from the cost of gas and my debt" "from people who've hurt me" "from my anger" "from my past – I can't seem to let it go" "from my bad habits" "from myself"

(continued on back page)

January Birthdays

01 Marina Corpus
08 Linda Renfroe
08 Daniel Conde
13 Paul Wright
18 Sara Howell
19 Jefry Hetharia
23 John Bassham
27 Dionicia Cabrales
27 Will Brown
28 Celia Menes
30 Roberta Cope

If your important date is missing or if you do not want your date published, please let Jeanette Mills know by e-mailing her at millje@vparksda.com

Cypress Scholarship -- Thank you so much for the contributions that have come in for the Cypress Scholarship Fund. Thanks to your generosity we are almost there! We still need to raise \$7,400.00!!

You can give in several ways --

- a single sum
- a designated monthly amount for 10 months
- Just mark your tithe envelope Cypress Scholarship

Beginning January 2009, a Worship Team will plan and execute our weekly worship services. Members of this planning Team are: Katie Steenberg (Leader)
Linda Renfroe
Hillary Schlehber
Roald Chetty
Richard Mills
Pastor Sam Chetty

Please see them to convey your Ideas, Suggestions, and to Volunteer

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Debt-Free living with Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University, What would your life look like if you had **NO DEBT and were really IN CONTROL of your money?** During this life-changing class you will learn how to: Get control of your money; Stop struggling to make ends meet; Change your family's future. You'll meet with your class for 13 weeks to watch DVD lessons and participate in small group discussions that will change your whole attitude about money! Come to the free **Information Class on 1/14/09 at Volunteer Park Church.** The classes will be on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm beginning January 28th.

Some partial scholarships are available so if you need assistance, please consult with Richard Mills. Anyone who would like to donate to FPU Scholarship, contact Richard at 425-483-2555 or rjmills3@comcast.net

ENCOUNTER GOD:

GODencounters is a movement of young adults who are wholeheartedly seeking a 24/7 experience with God. This January 23-24, 2009, 24-Seven Ministry Center will be hosting a free two-day GODencounters lecture series at the University of Washington in Seattle (Kane Hall, room 220). Speaker: Matthew Gamble, Musicians: Soufill and Garage Voice. Questions? Contact Stephanie Campbell at stemaca@gmail.com



YOUTH RALLY: Live Loud at the 2009 Washington Conference Youth Rally on January 16-17, 2009 on the campus of Auburn Adventist Academy. Be inspired by speaker Mike Yankowski and worship leader Kendall Payne plus hit the streets of Seattle for a hands-on service project. This event is free, but you must register in advance. Sabbath lunch and supper provided with registration. Optional Friday night housing is available for a fee. To register, call (253) 681-6008 or visit www.washingtonconference.org (click [Ministries / Youth](#)).

End of the year Social Event

Linda Renfroe

It was a dark and icy night when a small handful of courageous Volunteer Park Church members ventured out to Renton for the End of the year social event. The brave souls were rewarded for their efforts by friends, smiles, grilled kabobs and homemade cookies. There was a "heated" game of Cranium played with questions such as, spell the word, "leisure," backwards correctly the first time. It is harder than you might think. Hint: if you have to pick a team for this game, go for Richard, Robert or Katie they were really good. It was suggested the social committee cancel this party due to the snow, but to all of those who came we were glad we did. We had been held captivity for too long by the weather to miss a chance to get out and fellowship.

The next social event is planned for January 17 at 7:00 in the church fellowship hall. This will be a game night just to get things going. Please bring your favorite snacks or beverage to share with others. If you have some great games, bring them along too. I will look for you at our next event!

SDALINK: Network with your Adventist church community worldwide through SDALink, a trusted social networking site that combines MySpace and YouTube functionality. Watch Adventist video clips from BiggyTV plus learn how the Seventh-day Adventist Church is leading the way in trusted social networking and video evangelism. Visit SDALink at www.sdalink.com.

2009 COMMUNITY GROUPS

Please check out the following Small Group Ministries...

Tuesday: Bible Study Group open to anyone – especially to those who are visiting or looking for God in their lives.. Leader – Pastor Sam Chetty 8pm in room 102. Contact Pastor Sam at samchetty@comcast.net with questions, or call 425-697-5616

Wednesday: Financial Peace University.

Gain control over your money and eliminate debt from your life. (see article) Introduction Class at 7pm - January 14
13 Week Series begins January 28 at 7 pm at the church. Cost is \$100 per family unit. Limited Scholarship help is available. Contact Richard Mills with any questions - 425-483-2555 or rjmills3@comcast.net

Thursday: Book and Social Club: Every first and third Thursday, at 8 pm, this group meets at Victrola Coffee and Art on 15th Avenue E. across from QFC. Watch this publication for the announcement of the next group read. If you would like email notification, contact Hillary Schlehuder at hsclehuder@gmail.com

Thursday: “Purls”... Every second and fourth Thursday at 7 pm, a new group will meet at the church in room 102. Bring your knitting or crochet project or come to learn. An opportunity will be presented to make projects for outreach. Skill level is not an issue – come one and come all! Contact Jeanette Mills at rjmills3@comcast.net with any questions.

Friday: Praise and Worship Vespers program led by Katie Steenberg. 8 pm in room 102. Katie is accepting offers of help... to volunteer contact Katie at 206-387-6750 or kjsteenber@gmail.com

Sabbath: Primary/Junior Sabbath School Class for ages 7-12 begins on January 3 in room 117. It will be a fun class for our middle-aged children. If you know of children in this age-group who are not attending Sabbath School, please pass on the information! Contact Jeanette Mills rjmills3@comcast.net or Katie Steenberg kjsteenber@gmail.com

Sabbath: 8 Weeks to Wellness Class begins February 7 at 1:30. Contact Molly Chetty at mollychetty@comcast.net or call 425-697-5616

More New Groups??? Get the word out – contact Jeanette with the information and to get it onto the calendar.

JANUARY 2009 Calendar of Events

- 1/3 **Prayer Group 9:00 am**
Bible Study Groups 10:00 am
Worship Service 11:15 am
Social Committee Mtg 1:00 pm
- 1/6 Bible Study Group 8 pm in room 102
- 1/8 “Purls” knitting and Crochet group meets in room 102 at 7pm. Bring your current project. All levels of experience encouraged to come. First meeting.
- 1/9 Vespers at 8:00 pm in room 102
- 1/10 **Prayer Group 9:00 am**
Bible Study Groups 10:00 am
Worship Service 11:15 am
- 1/12 Church Board Meeting 6:30 pm in room 110
- 1/13 Bible Study Group 8 pm in room 102
- 1/14 Financial Peace University - Introduction Class 7 pm
- 1/15 Book and Social Club 8pm at Victrola Coffee & Art
- 1/16 Vespers at 8pm in room 102
- 1/17 **Prayer Group 9:00 am**
Bible Study Groups 10:00 am
Worship Service 11:15 am
- 1/17 Social – Board Game Night at 7pm in Fellowship Hall
- 1/19 Martin Luther King’s Birthday observed
- 1/20 Bible Study Group 8 pm in room 102
- 1/22 “Purls” Knitting and Crochet Group 7pm in room 102
- 1/23 Vespers at 8pm in room 102
- 1/24 **Prayer Group 9:00 am**
Bible Study Groups 10:00 am
Worship Service 11:15 am presented by Puget Sound Academy Impact Choir.
Potluck Lunch – 1pm in the Fellowship Hall
- 1/27 Bible Study Group 8pm in room 102
- 1/28 Financial Peace University 7pm
- 1/29 Book and Social Club 8 pm at Victrola Coffee & Art
- 1/30 Vespers at 8pm in room 102
- 1/31 **Prayer Group 9:00 am**
Bible Study Groups 10:00 am
Worship Service 11:15 am
Fellowship Lunch provided by the Ethiopian Group
Music Forum re Syncopated Music in 115