

Offerings for January

Budget	6377.00
Received	2032.50
Rental	1500.00
To Go:	2844.50

TODAY'S OFFERING:

Volunteer Park Church Budget
Next Week: Religious Liberty

(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

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

(Don't Give Up! Continued)

It was only through this struggle that I became aware of the fact that I had gotten rid of the heavy weights of narcissism choking the life out of my world, but the little tender shoots of selfishness had burrowed deep into my soul. Thank God that through the ministry of healing of our beloved Savior, I no longer struggle with that shoot of sin. I have moved on to other areas that even now the Holy Spirit, by grace is helping me to excise.

IMPROV IN ACTION: Clean Slate Improv performance at Green Lake Adventist Church on January 17 from 8-10 pm. Questions? Contact Brenda Ferguson. brendaferg@gmail.com

COME AWAY: Need to come away and be inspired? Attend a one-day retreat at Sunset Lake Camp. You'll hear testimonies about what God is doing, pray individually and collectively, and be inspired to impact your world for God. The retreat is designed for people involved in prayer ministries, for lay Bible workers, and for anyone who is serious about serving Jesus in whatever capacity He has called you. The retreat is Saturday, January 24, from 10 am to 4 pm. For more details, email Gayle Lasher at gayle@btcsac.com.

INTERNATIONAL DINNER: You are invited to join Kirkland Adventist School and Puget Sound Adventist Academy on January 31 for the school's annual International Dinner Celebration. You'll enjoy a night of food from around the world plus some great entertainment. All proceeds benefit the student scholarship fund. For more information, contact Erin Decker at info@pssaa.org or (425) 822-7554.

Volunteer Park Community Focus

Weekly Newsletter of Volunteer Park Seventh-day Adventist Church

Vol I

Issue iii

January 17, 2009

Jeanette Mills, Editor

Don't Give Up!

Comments on Hebrews 12:1-2
Excerpt from Anticipation
by Hvveth Williams

When the ancient athletes practiced for the Olympiad, they did not have Nike and Air Jordan brand sneakers. They actually ran barefooted, and sometimes the weeds and little thorns would become imbedded between their toes and in the soles of their feet. If those little thorns were not carefully removed, they would remain and become infected, impeding the runners' ability to sprint as fast as they were able. There is nothing harder to bear than that little shred of a thorn that is often so imperceptible until it festers and causes pain not only in the location where it is imbedded, but also in the entire body. Many athletes who suffered from this problem either had to drop out of the race or limp through to the end out of sheer determination not to quit.

The author of Hebrews used this illustration from the annals of sports in ancient Rome to make a significant appeal to believers. We must make careful self-examination to ensure that there are no hidden thorns of selfishness, deceit, jealousy and so on, imbedded deep in our hearts and lives to fester and cause us to fail in our goals to see Jesus Christ's face when He comes again. All of us wrestle with the small stuff, while sweating the big ones. We are all vulnerable to spurts of bad temper, greed, materialism, religiosity, and selfishness, to name a few.

A few years after I was converted, if I had been accused of being selfish, I would have been highly offended, until the Lord revealed a thorn of selfishness that could have festered into a major problem without His radical surgery. One weekend I was home by myself. As I was relishing my Sunday afternoon freedom, the doorbell rang. There stood one of my friends, whom I quickly invited in to supper. As I opened the freezer, I found that my son had eaten three of the four burgers that I had supposed were in the box! I had only one burger for the two of us. I had no problem sharing, but when I cut that burger, the knife, almost on its own whim, cut one side larger than the other. I cannot tell you the difficulty I had making up my mind as to who should inherit the bigger piece of that burger. The internal conflict was overwhelming. I argued with myself that the burger belonged to me and I therefore deserved the larger "half", while my conscience kept urging me to do what is right and give it unselfishly to my friend. (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

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 Schlehuber
Roald Chetty
Richard Mills
Pastor Sam Chetty

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

YEAR OF EVANGELISM:

Beginning in 2009, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is launching a year and a half emphasis on outreach across the globe which will be called the Year of Evangelism. Everyone is invited to spend one year working toward one goal - baptizing 100,000 in the North American Division. Visit www.yearofevangelism.com to learn what you can do.

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!

The classes will be on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm beginning January 28th. **You must pre-register so materials can be ordered for you.**

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

JANUARY 2009 Calendar of Events

- 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 7pm 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.
Training on Deskaway with Ben
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 7pm 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



Purls: Hillary too on the challenge of teaching her friend Steph how to knit left handed! Everything had to be done backwards. They were up to the task, however, and by the end of the evening Steph had several inches scarf successfully knitted. Way to Go!

Social Event

Linda Renfroe

The next social event is planned for TONIGHT 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.

NEW FORMAT: The Voice of Prophecy is beginning 2009 with a new format and new speakers. Listen to daily conversations about the Bible with Pastors Mike Tucker and Elizabeth Talbot. Tune in for a half-hour weekend broadcast with speaker Fred Kinsey and co-host Connie Vandeman Jeffery as the hosts look at recent news stories through spiritual eyes, interview ministry trendsetters, and provide commentary on a significant passage of Scripture. Ways to listen: check the station list at www.vop.com or call 800-732-PLUS; listen online at www.vop.com or subscribe to podcasts; or order CDs of most VOP radio broadcasts.

DAILY VIDEO: 24-Seven Ministry Center wants to help you get closer to God and build your relationship with Him. Their website—www.24-Seven.org—now has a daily devotional video to help you strengthen your spiritual relationship with God. >If you have a YouTube account, subscribe to SteveLedy247's show and you'll be notified when a new video is posted. If you'd like to receive e-mail notification of new video devotionals, email steve@24-seven.org.