



The Connection

Volume 8, Issue 7, July 2010

Going the distance at VBS 2010

by Shannon Naftzger

When I read that we were hosting a VBS this summer, I was excited!! One full week where I wouldn't have to completely occupy my kids?? I was in!! Coming off a nice long school year with just Elijah our youngest at home, week one with three kids ALL DAY seemed a rather daunting proposition.

I then learned our VBS paired their 3 hours of Christian growth with ACTUAL EXERCISE, which was sure to leave them spiritually lifted and physically drained, I knew without a doubt, that God was not only a parent but he had a Son. Wanting to do my part to support my home church I signed up to help. When I told Eric, I was pleasantly surprised to find he had signed up too!! A family VBS vacation.

Months ago a marriage retreat was planned for our church and we really wanted to attend, but lack of sitters for us and then a canceling of the event all together left us out in the cold. God was giving us our retreat. Eric took the week off and as a family we had breakfast each morning where we practiced our memory verse and headed out.

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Men's Retreat 2010

By Jeff Goodso

The Men's retreat at the Double K Christian Retreat Center is located 40 miles west of Ellensburg in Easton, WA. The Double K sets on 175 acre in a beautiful area with lots of Pine trees, open spaces, hiking trails, mountain bike trails, a small amphitheater with a large fire pit and a large man made swimming pond with fish and a floating trampoline (the fish love it) and a whole lot more activities. The accommodations are comfortable and well maintained. As you enter the Double K you go across a beautiful days gone by covered bridge built 10 years ago by a volunteer group - the labor, materials and costs were all donated. The director of the Retreat Center is Charlie Brown not the real Charlie Brown but he does joke about that. The Double K is a year round Retreat Center. Ten men started off Friday, 11th on a sunny afternoon. We began with prayer and God answered. We arrived safely and with out trouble. The conversation was light hearted, the humor wonderful and the laughter even better. The 3 ½ hour ride went by quickly. The speaker was Dr. Jay Barber,

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Connecting to Life Stories

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The Shepherd's Sheepdog

by Bret Larreau

Habakkuk 2:3 in my NLT reads: "But these things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed."

Throughout scripture we see OVER AND OVER how God provides. In this short book we see again how God delivers on His never-ended promise to provide. While this book is specific to the Babylonians rise to power, its truths are 100% applicable to our situation...who are our "Babylonians"???

I have to ask...ARE WE AWAKE? DO WE BELIEVE? CAN WE OBEY? Or do we continue in our apathy? For a reminder, go to our website and watch the "droopiness" sermon from 5/2.

It was only a few weeks ago that Jerry returned to his home in AZ. As part of his work here, he produced many pieces through which we have been deeply blessed. In fact this is from him:

Dear precious friend:

Blue Mountain Community Church is potentially able to make a serious spiritual difference in the community, perhaps in the world. I saw the ability of the congregation. I know Satan hates what the church could do for the Kingdom of God. I also know the Lord revealed to me he would send a very strong leader to BMCC.

I want to share something else from Jerry that's worth writing down and memorizing. I guarantee that it can change your attitude and life...IF YOU ALLOW IT:

"I am a son (daughter) of Jesus Christ. I refuse to get in a hurry. Never doubt. Never worry. Never speak or think negatively. Operate my entire life in Joy. Never, never give in to the feelings, the doubts, or the misgivings I have so obsessively complied with."

Make this part of YOUR personal revival. Imagine for a moment, what actually following these truths would result in?

Every concept here is scripture backed. In fact, the first part refers to the truth of Isaiah 30:15... in part; "...only in returning to me and waiting for me will you be saved. In quietness and confidence is your strength..." And I would like to stop there, but it continues, "...But you would have none of it. You said, No, we will get our help from _____ (Egypt) because..."

My point in all this is to serve the Lord first, as a leader in this body of His – Jesus is still the head of our church – the Shepherd. And second, as a good friend recently put it, to act as the Shepherd's sheepdog, ...you are the sheep. DO NOT GO BACK TO DOUBT, FEAR, GOSSIPING, OR ANY OTHER NEGATIVE THING. LET GO OF THAT WHICH YOU OBSESSIVELY COMPLIED WITH. This is only achievable by calling out in the name of the almighty Jesus Christ.



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formerly the President of Warner Pacific College. The topic was “What Men Need to Know about Men.” The first session was on being salt, light and participating in your community, knowing what makes you sick and being willing to do what you need to do to be healed. The second session was about temptation. God is in control, break the cycle and stand firm in the full armor of God. The last session was about the 10 things Dr. Barber has learned in his life and these 10 things he lives by:

1. Listen more
2. Do what you do best and drop the rest
3. Work with people you like, life is too short to
work with jerks
4. Many times you learn from the most unlikely
places or people
5. Let others tell you their story first, then share
your story (testimony)
6. Lower your expectation of people and
increase your expectation of God
(God never disappoints)
7. Learn to take chances
8. Know when to say no
9. Choose a life partner carefully
10. Learn to forgive

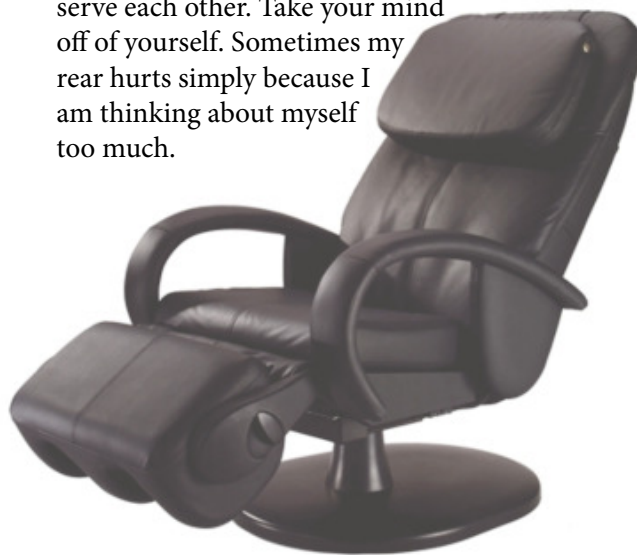
*Men's Ministry – Our Mission is to Lead Men into a
Growing Relationship with Jesus Christ*

Too Much Comfort

by Pastor Ike

I do a lot of sitting when I am making plans for youth, or studying for a lesson. My office chair starts to really hurt my rear end after a while. I also have this really sweet recliner in my office that is plugged into the wall and if you hit a lever on the side it reclines WAY back. To the point where your feet are higher than your head, it is great. It also is stuffed with that special space foam that forms to your body. And it also hurts my caboose after a while.

From time to time it is good for me, and probably good for you to get off of your toosh and do something different for the Kingdom. Take time to bear each others burdons (Galatians 6:2). In our culture there is never a shortage of need. We all have some need that we could use a hand from a friend. Just as we all have friends who could use a hand from us. Pray for each other, love each other, serve each other. Take your mind off of yourself. Sometimes my rear hurts simply because I am thinking about myself too much.



Connecting to Ministries



Everyone is invited! Meet Friday nights at 7:00 PM to share in support and encouragement to conquer your hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Dinner provided the fourth Friday each month at 6:00 PM for a small donation.

home groups
FIND A PLACE RIGHT WHERE YOU FIT AND START GROWING TODAY.

We have 12 home groups that meet weekly. Grow close to others in relationships centered on our faith in Jesus. For more info on joining a home group, contact the church office at 529-1212.



All men are invited
Saturday Morning, July 10
8:00 AM

Senior Adult Ministries meets July 8th at 10 AM in Baker Hall. They have a speaker or movie, then potluck lunch. Anyone 55 years or older is welcome to come and see what they're all about. Laughter is the best medicine. Come join in the fun and fellowship.

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Connecting to the next Generation

Continued from Page 1

Working the sign in table I saw some serious trepidation in the “non-church-goers,” but every day we greeted everyone with smiles and encouragement as the kids sprinted up the sidewalk. There was not one tear shed as moms and dads left them in the care of complete strangers. Comfort, acceptance and genuine love enveloped the grounds. You could feel the tingling electricity of the Holy Spirit at work.

Watching all the kids learn the songs and dance moves along side all the church volunteers, amazing! Hearing older brothers help their younger siblings through the hand movements to 2 Timothy 4:6-8 while walk-



story, words cannot give justice. Like the Grinch discovering the meaning of Christmas, my heart swelled with love for what God has done in our lives. This is what we were meant to do, not just love God but SHARE that love

with others!! In telling others of this awesome Father and His unending adoration for us, our adoration for each other grew! If a marriage retreat is scheduled for next year will we go? Hopefully. When we do this Sports Camp VBS next year will we volunteer?? Without a doubt.

ing down the hall to snack, amazing! Seeing the kids that sunk back in the beginning, up front showing off the memorization of our weeks verse at the end, amazing! And listening to all the little voices asking our Lord into their hearts, well, more than amazing.

But only one thing left me completely speechless and that was the men. Our men. They sang, they danced, they praised, shared, taught, encouraged, and reprimanded all with love. Seeing my husband, the leader of our house, share his



Connecting to One Another

Celebrating July Birthdays and Anniversaries

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Penny Baslee | 1 Mike & Danna Jones | 16 Larry & Felicia Wachtel |
| 2 Danica Freiberg | Ron & Penny Knight | 17 Bob & Julianne Hoppen |
| Norm Stlosed | 4 Tom & Jeanne Fox | 18 Bill & Tammie Herron |
| 3 Katie Krivoshein | 6 Dan & Ellen Kilmer | 19 Patrick & Jamie Nachtigall |
| 4 Kim Burns | Dan & Julie Wooton | 20 Ken & Judy Jurgensen |
| Jacob Cobb | Kenneth & Brenda Hobbs | 21 Seth & Adrienne Harris |
| Donavan Skifstad | 8 Jerry & Betty Eyestone | 23 Humberto & Maggie Miranda |
| Cole Woelfle | 12 Ernest & Sue LaFont | 24 Dale & Kelly Hutcherson |
| 6 Laura Bowe | Ken & Joyce Paine | 26 Tony & Dora Gonzalez |
| 7 Judy Jurgensen | 14 Larry & Robin Harris | Burl & Evelyn Wallace |
| Bob Loar | 15 Terry & Bettie Freiberg | |
| 8 Mike Bowe | | |
| Gene Daniels | | |
| Paulette Goodwin | | |
| Gary Hobbs | | |
| 9 Mark Agrellas | | |
| Raegan Figgins | | |
| 10 Carrie Knudson | | |
| Gloria Wilson | | |
| 13 Talen Alexander | 21 Terry Freiberg | |
| Bridget Blom | 23 Tyler Goodwin | |
| 14 Scott Krivoshein | 24 Kalista Knudson | |
| Karen Schroeder | Bret Larreau | |
| 15 Chandra Newbill | Eloise Phillips | |
| 16 Anthony Cannone | 28 Kim Agrellas | |
| Donny Snider | Jeremy Pellicer | |
| Florene VanDonge | 29 Tyler Baslee | |
| Ruby Wachtel | Romona Moss | |
| 17 Zane Adkins | Scott Woelfle | |
| 18 Zachary Cobb | 30 Steven Irwin | |
| Jared Cowles | 31 Laurie Klicker | |
| Robin Ermacoff | Glenn Vogt | |
| 19 Penny Hood | | |
| Betty Johnson | | |

July

At a Glance

- 5 Building & Grounds Commission 6:45 PM
- 8 Senior Adult Ministries 10:00 AM
- Board of Elders Meeting 6:30 PM
- 10 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
- 12 EOD Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- Worship Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- The Ark Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 13 Quilter's Guild 6:30 PM
- 17 - 23 High School Camp**
- 19 CE Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 20 Missions Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 27- August 1 Junior Camp**

Mission Possible

Updates from El Refugio in Guatemala

by Kim Agrellas

We had a new experience and great blessing on Good Friday when Olga, one of the moms currently living at El Refugio, gave birth to a beautiful baby girl! Olga named her new bundle of joy Deysi Pamela after El Refugio's house manager (Deysi) and program director (Pamela).



Although Deysi Pamela started out not feeding well, with the help of a volunteer nurse/midwife, she is now doing wonderfully.

Olga continues to work on literacy and parenting skills. This week she will be going to the dentist for additional work. Olga is missing her two front teeth as well as a number of rotten molars that were pulled during her pregnancy. Olga is enjoying the new skills she has learned with the coffee bean jewelry as well!



Hilda and her three sons entered the shelter in April. They came from a squatter's village known as La Limonada, considered to be the largest slum in Central America and an area so violent that the police do not enter. La Limonada is ruled by gangs who control the people through violence. Hilda's oldest boy, age 8, was being taught by his father how to be a gang member. Now Hilda's two older boys, age 8 and 5, have been enrolled in the public school near the shelter. We are very thankful for the financial gifts that came in for the shelter recently, which allowed us to purchase the necessary school supplies and clothing for the boys.

Karla arrived at El Refugio in early May. Unlike most of the women we receive who are young mothers, Karla's children are grown. With a restraining order against her abuser she has been able to maintain her employment as a secretary.

Quick Connect



Summer Camps

Take the time off to enjoy nature and relationships.

Junior Camp (4th-6th grade)

July 27- Aug 1

Middle School Aug 8-12

High School July 17-23

Senior Adult Camp July 18-20

PNA Family Camp July 20-25

For more information on these camps, contact the church office.

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