

Colton SDA Newsletter

November 2011

Up Coming and On Going Activities

Gary Smalley Video Presentations—Kick-off

On November 5 the husband and wife team of Pastor and Juanita Singh kicked off the current series of presentations on improving relationships. With degrees in counseling, the Singh's discussed some of the issues that arise in marriages and families and how to best handle them. Pastor Singh promoted the Gary Smalley presentations,



by mentioning that he uses these videos in pre-marriage counseling including his own daughter.

For the health of your family make it a priority to see these entertaining and informative videos on the first potluck Sabbath of each month.

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Community Service Corner



Hello everyone,
Thankyou once again for the donations that came

in regarding the Thanksgiving Baskets. We greatly appreciate your kindness and generosity. The 'Baskets' will be put together this Sunday, the 20th of November and distributed to those in need this year. New food slips will be put in the baskets in the foyer to get ready for the Christmas Baskets. Feel free to take as many as you like to help get the items listed on them. This Church tries to make sure that everyone has a good Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner and that no-one goes hungry at any other time of the year as well. Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Laura Bauchert

Riverside Concert Band

The Riverside Concert Band is coming to our church December 3 at 6 p.m. We are so privileged to have this talented volunteer group come and open our Christmas Season. It is a great time to sit back and enjoy the sounds of the season with friends and loved ones. Following the music our



church treats the musicians, their families, and other visitors with a potluck and warm fellowship. Be sure to invite others to come!

Verse of the Month

I will
praise
God's
name in
song and
glorify him
with thanks
-giving.

Psalm 69:30

Pastor's Perspective

Thanksgiving and the Word of Prophecy

There have been differing opinions of where the first Thanksgiving was celebrated in the United States of America. When the Pilgrims from the European countries migrated to the United States after the voyage of the Christopher Columbus in 1492, most of them settled on the east coast of the US from the late 1500 through the 1700. (Boyer, Paul S., 2001; The Oxford Companion to United States History). Historian William Bradford in the book, History of Plymouth Plantation (Boston, 1912), mentions that the modern Thanksgiving holiday tradition in the United States traced its origins to a 1621 celebration at Plymouth, in present-day Massachusetts. He also said that there is evidence for an earlier harvest celebration on the continent by Spanish explorers in Florida during 1565, as well as thanksgiving feasts in the Virginia Colony. The initial thanksgiving observance at Virginia in 1619 was prompted by the colonists' leaders on the anniversary of the settlement. The 1621 Plymouth feast and thanksgiving was prompted by a good harvest. In later years, the tradition was continued by civil leaders, such as Governor Bradford, who planned a thanksgiving celebration and fast in 1623. While initially, the Plymouth colony did not have enough food to feed half of the 102 colonists, the Wampanoag Native Americans helped the Pilgrims by providing seeds and teaching them to fish. The practice of holding an annual harvest festival like this did not become a regular affair in New England until the late 1660s.

I would like to point out from the book of Revelation 12 the one very important reason why all Christians, especially the Adventist Christians, should be very thankful during the Thanksgiving season. The celebration of Thanksgiving, according to the US history, is not only the celebration of the first harvest for the Pilgrims since their new arrival to the US soil; but also the historical evidence of God's fulfilled promise in prophesy. Revelation 12: 1-6 speaks about the righteous woman that symbolizes the pure Christian church. The early Christian church had been persecuted or sabotaged by the beastly power, or the dragon, of which symbolized a pagan political and religious power that ruled the ancient world during the 100 AD and throughout the Middle Age period around 500 AD - 1700AD.

Revelation 12: 1-6 says, "A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. 2 She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. 3 Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads. 4 Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born. 5 She gave birth to a

son, a male child, who "will rule all the nations with an iron scepter." And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. 6 The woman fled into the wilderness to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.

The Bible scholars that takes the historicist position of Bible prophesy interpretation believe that 1,260 days prophesy is interpreted based on a "day equal a year" principle according to Numbers 14:33, 34 and Ezekiel 4:4-6. The prophetic time period of 1,260 days in Revelation 12 started in 538 AD and ended in 1798 AD. The year 538 AD marked the fall of the Roman Empire and the start of official rule of the Papal Rome power. The year 1798 marked the end of the Papal Rome power when the Pope Pius VI was captured during the French Revolution and was soon died in captivity in Valence, France. This period signifies the time of oppression the early Christian church went through until the rising of the great nation of America.

History tells us that the early faithful Christians were persecuted and oppressed throughout the first century to the end of Middle Ages period; around late 1700. The Puritans that left Europe and migrated to the US and celebrated the first Thanksgiving in the 1600 reminded us of the faithfulness of the word of God in prophesy. 1776 marked the Declaration of Independence for all the Puritans and Pilgrims that became the citizen of the US. In 1789 the United States Constitution was ratified and became the basic law of the US. These historical events marked the rising of the great nation of USA with a constitutional promise of freedom of religion to be cherished by her citizens.

As we celebrate the season of Thanksgiving, we must be very thankful to God for the faithfulness of the word of prophesy as they are being unfolded before our very eyes. The word of prophesy that spoke of "the woman fled into the wilderness to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days" could be seen as the historical migration of the Pilgrims seeking a place for the free exercise of religion. When the Pilgrims arrived to the United States of America to colonize and cultivate the fertile land, they became so thankful of God's provision to supply all their needs and to celebrate their freedom of worship to God Almighty. Just as Peter reminds us that we need to be thankful for the word of prophesy made available for all of us. "19 We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts." (2 Peter 1:19).

Happy Thanksgiving,



The Bottom Line

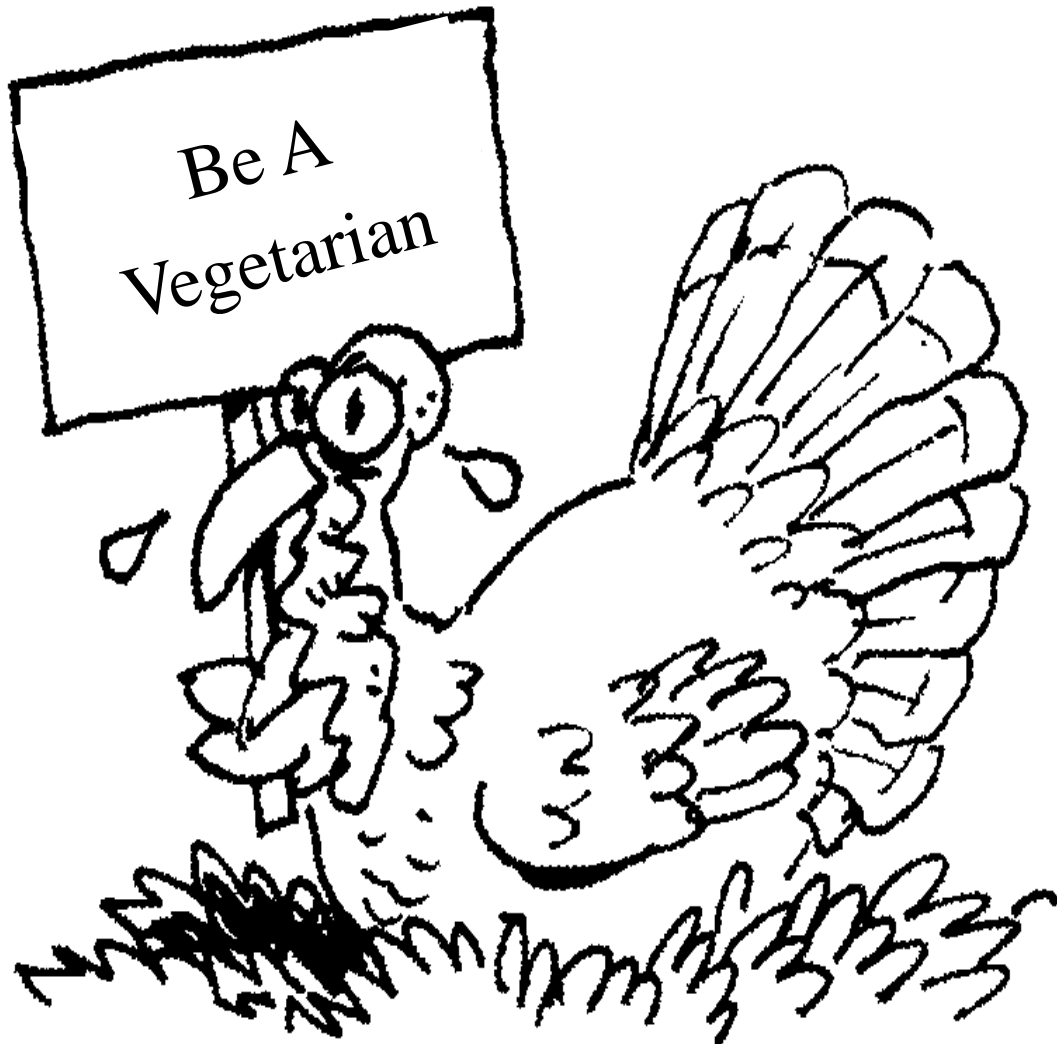
Face it: nobody owes you a living.
What you achieve, or fail to achieve in your lifetime,
is directly related to what you do.
No one chooses his parents or childhood
but, you can choose your own direction.
Everyone has problems and obstacles to overcome,
but that, too, is relative to each individual.
Nothing is carved in stone.
You can change anything in your life
if you really desire to do so.
Excuses are for losers.
Those who take responsibility for their actions
are the real winners in life.
Winners meet life's challenges head on
knowing there are no guarantees.

They give it all they've got
and never think it is too late,
or too early to begin.
Time plays no favorites
and will pass whether you act or not.
Take control of your life;
Dare to dream and take risks.
Compete
If you aren't willing to work for your goals,
Don't expect others to work for yours.
Believe in yourself,
The Bottom Line!

Author Unknown

Contributed by Lisa Cairus

Coloring Page

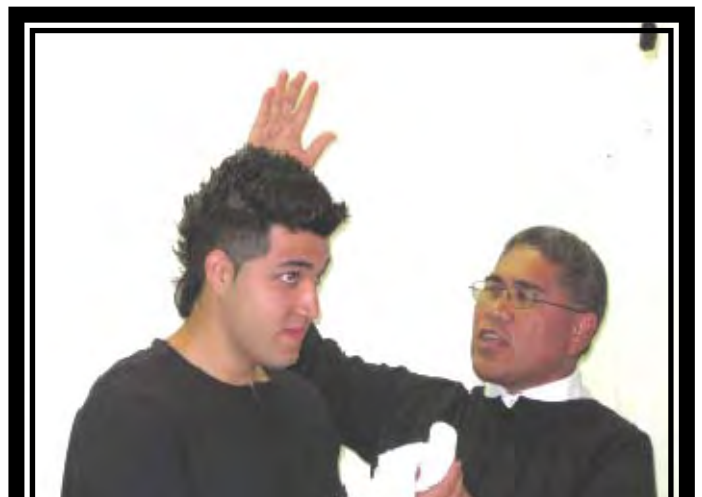
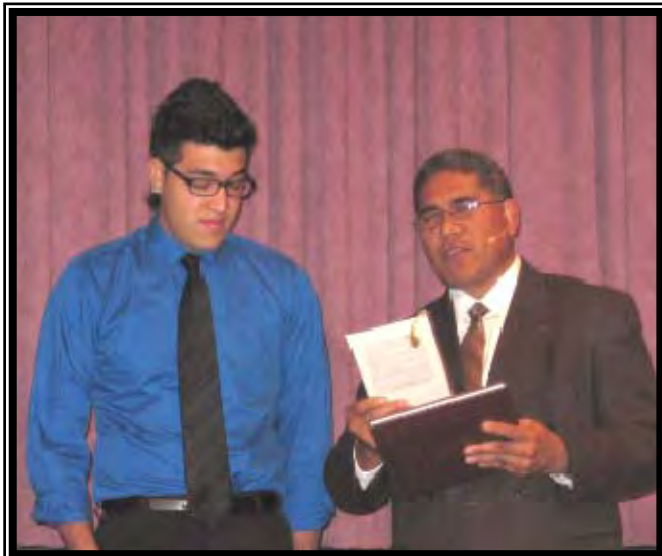


Activities Report

Baptisms



From L>R: Briana, Andy, Pastor, Kristen, Nara. These young people made the biggest decision of their lives, by dedicating themselves to Jesus Christ on October 29, 2011.



Andy was introduced to our church through our youth program and as a result accepted Jesus.



Brianna gazes at the congregation with serenity and joy.



Briana accepts her baptismal certificate and a special *Welcome!* Book which was presented to all of the candidates.



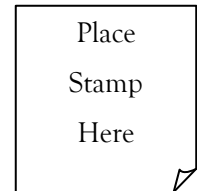
A special Father–Daughter moment when Nara rose from the baptismal waters.



Kristen prepares for her holy plunge.



Carlos rededicated himself to the Lord through re-baptism, for himself and no one else.



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Increasing member communication



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 jrklijcruise@sbcglobal.net or home phone (909) 872-0394. The next Newsletter will be distributed December 24. Please turn in your articles or photos by Tuesday, December 20 before 5:00 pm.

Mark Your Calendars



Come join us for Study & Worship Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. and for the following activities.

- Nov 20 (Sun) 8:00 AM - Work Bee
- Nov 20 (Sun) 11:00 AM - Church Board meeting
- Nov 23 (Wed) 7:00 PM - No Prayer Meeting this week
- Dec 3 (Sat) 6:00 PM - Christmas Concert: Riverside Concert Band

- Dec 7 (Wed) 5:30 PM - Monthly "Soup and Salvation"
- Dec 7 (Wed) 8:00 PM - Board of Elders meeting
- Dec 10 (Sat) 2:00 PM - Family Ministries Presentation
- Dec 11 (Sun) - Women's Ministry Christmas Banquet
- Dec 17 (Sat) 11:00 AM - Christmas Cantata
- Dec 17 (Sat) 5:00 PM - Christmas Party

The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:3-10

These words are anything but trivial, but blessed are you if you can complete each phrase.

- 1) Blessed are the poor in spirit,...
- 2) Blessed are those who mourn,...
- 3) Blessed are the meek,...
- 4) Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,...
- 5) Blessed are the merciful,...
- 6) Blessed are the pure in heart,...
- 7) Blessed are the peacemakers,...
- 8) Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,...

Answers to Last Months Trivia

All Shook Up

- 1. Rehoboam king of Judah
- 2. Baasha king of Israel
- 3. Jehoshaphat king of Judah
- 4. Jehoahaz king of Israel
- 5. Amaziah king of Judah
- 6. Shallum king of Israel
- 7. Pekahiah king of Israel
- 8. Josiah king of Judah
- 9. Athaliah queen of Judah
- 10. Zedekiah king of Judah