

# Colton Seventh-day Adventist Church

## Newsletter

September 2012

### Up Coming and On Going Activities

#### Mark Your Calendars



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

Sept 9 (Sun) 8:00 AM - Youth Car Wash, here at the Church Parking Lot	Sept 16 (Sun) 8:00 AM - Work Bee
Sept 9 (Sun) 11:30 AM - Pizza Lunch and Church Business Meeting	Sept 16 (Sun) 11:00 AM - Board Meeting
	Sept 23 (Sun) 2:00 PM - Cooking Class resumes
	Oct 7 (Sun) - Health Expo

#### Business Meeting

Tomorrow, September 9 beginning at 11:00 a.m., will be the church business meeting. Leaders of different ministries will present how they plan to put our church mission statement into action. It is also a time for all baptized members of the church to participate in directing the focus and direction of the church.

When the church body works as Jesus intended, every member has a function and a contribution to the mission of the church. Perhaps you have an idea or concern that will uplift and move this church fully into the will of God. It is important to share and grow together, so be sure to attend this meeting.



#### Car Wash



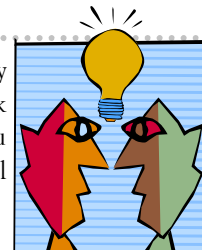
Is your care dirty? Bring it to the church parking lot tomorrow, September 9 beginning at 10:00 a.m. and you can drive it home sparkling clean. The Core Sabbath

School Crew will be there to wash cars for a fundraiser. Be sure to stay for the business meeting on the same day!

#### Calling All Elders

Sabbath, September 22 will be an elders' in-service at the Southeastern California Conference. If you are an elder please plan to attend. Not only will you have a change to learn new things, but you will

have the opportunity to meet other lay leaders within our conference. We look forward to hearing about all that you learned and to help you implement all the new plans.



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#### Verse of the Month

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

## Inspiration Section

### From Carmi

*This should have been in the last newsletter. Many apologies!*

To My Colton Church Family,

Hello to all of you. This is long overdue, and I do apologize. First, I would like to say thank-you so very much for all your prayers and words of encouragement. I also want to thank-you for all the love and kindness you've shown towards Matthew and Jason. Words will never be able to express how I feel for all the support and love I've felt for the boys and myself since I've been here. All I can say is I came in here lost, confused, scared, lonely and so ashamed, but I promise you that I am coming home a new person. I'd like to share something that a friend sent to me that pretty much sums up the last six months.

#### **Daisies, a Butterfly, a Kiss - June Powers**

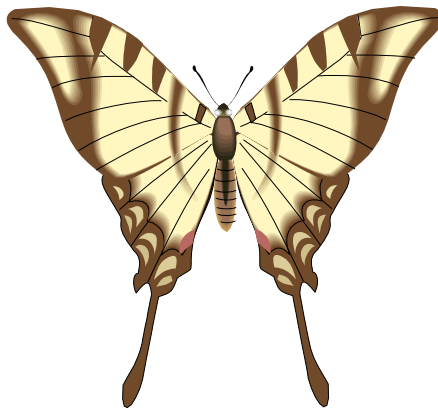
*Oh taste and see that the Lord is good;  
blessed is the man who trust in Him!*

Ps. 34:8

*I sat writing birthday greetings to my two sons. Pausing a moment, contemplating words to encourage, I glanced out the open door. Just then a white butterfly, its wings etched with black, lit upon the daisies that grew wild outside my door.*

*I was drawn to it, so I went outside and stood to watch it. Just then a spirited breeze blew in and caught the butterfly, lifting it higher and higher as if it were inviting the butterfly to partner in a dance. And dance they did, with such grace and beauty. A pure joy to behold. The dance ended all too soon when the breeze took its leave.*

*The butterfly paused a moment, then flew straight toward me, landing on my upper lip. It lifted and circled me once before lighting once again on the daisies. I was so shocked I just stood there. The moment of impact seemed to freeze my whole body. I was standing in a moment of time, conscious of only two things: the Lord's presence and having just been kissed by a butterfly.*



*Wonders of wonders! You see, the night before, I had spent hours with the Lord, reasoning together regarding the many things, past and present, that weighed heavily on my heart. I had seen myself as a broken pot, its fragments scattered over a battlefield, quite beyond repair. In every area of my life, I felt, I was nothing but a big screw-up. I knew my relationship with God was terribly lopsided all of Him, precious little of me. Trust, love, surrender were long standing mega issues.*

*Precious Lord, today I am blessed with Your presence through nature - which in my wildest imagination I could never have envisioned happening to me. A butterfly! How exquisite! Its metamorphic stages akin to spiritual growth. In Your exhaustless creative way You let me know You listened and heard me last night. I am impressed that I need to let my heart soar like the eagle, and let my spirit dance with the wind like the butterfly. To let go. Jump. You will catch me.*

Thank-You, my father, for the daisies, the breeze, the butterfly kiss - all orchestrated by You that I may taste and see that You truly are very present, very involved, very real. Thank-You for loving me the way that You do.

With love, Your daughter, Carmi

Thank-you again my church family for showing me what being, a family, God's family really means. I have learned a lot being where I am and everyday I am getting stronger and stronger. I have so many stories of how God has worked in my life and used me as His vessel in here. Please continue to pray for Matthew, Jason, and myself. This battle is not over, but I do know that God is in control and is always by my side.

Your sister in Christ,

Carmi

### Think

#### **The Window From Which We Look**

A young couple moved into a new neighborhood. The next morning while they are eating breakfast, the young woman saw her neighbor hanging the wash outside.

"That laundry is not very clean," she said. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better laundry soap."

Her husband looked on, but remained silent.

Every time her neighbor would hang her wash to dry, the young woman would make the same comments.

About one month later, the woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and said to her husband: "Look, she has

learned how to was correctly. I wonder who taught her this."

The husband said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows."

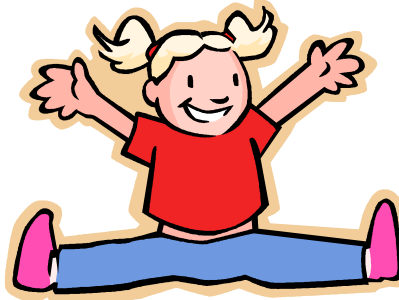
And so it is with life. What we see when watching others depends on the purity of the window through which we look!

Contributed by Shirley Purucker



## Missing

“Call Rob. Gigi is missing.” My sister-in-law said those words to me on August 18. Rob had taken JayJay and Gigi to Huntington Beach to meet the church members for a vespers and I had gone to Loma Linda to work that evening. Never did I think of the trauma that day would bring! Most of you have already heard this story either from myself or from a fellow church member or from the Marissa’s amazing children’s story. Here is a quick summary: Gigi somehow became separated from the group and for over an hour and a half could not be found. When Rob finally was able to reach me she had been missing for 45 minutes. Many of you have shared your own stories of having a child missing or lost. Think about all the emotions you experienced: the feeling of loss, the feelings of fear for all the terrible things that could have happened, feeling of dread that you may never see that child again. Really relive those emotions.... That is how Jesus felt when Adam and Eve sinned. Jesus had created these children of His, He had played with them and had envisioned an eternity with them. He knew about you and I and how we would suffer because of sin. He knew their lives and all their children would be affected. His feeling of loss and sadness was immeasurable. No matter how much we love our children Jesus loves them more and He loves each of us with that intensity. Jesus tells three stories in the Bible about missing or lost things; a coin, a sheep and a child. Losing money is upsetting and losing a pet is



heartrending, but losing a child is upsetting, heartrending and life-changing. Jesus knows that pain.

If Gigi had not gone missing that fateful day I would not have a deeper understanding of the depth of God’s love for each one of us or of the joy our salvations brings Him. Also I can better imagine the joy Jesus will feel when He comes to take us to heaven. No longer will we be lost, but found! My joy when Gigi was found was immense! He loves you and he longs to have a relationship with you today and for eternity! If you are lost come back to Him! He will never be too angry to welcome you home and to hug you tight no matter what you have done or where you have been. For you see, if I being evil, can love Gigi and hug her tight even though she scared me to death how much more does God, who personifies love, love and accept you.

*Luke 15:32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.*

*Kristi Cruise*

## Remember It

Use this space to write down an event in your life that revealed God’s love for you.

## Children's Church



Not everyone used the stickers on their goodies bag!

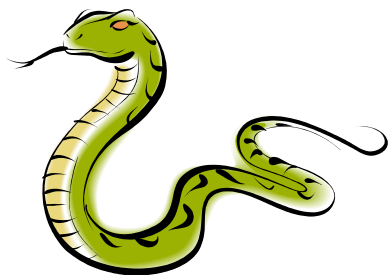


Why do we have Children's church? Have you ever wondered about that? Children's church is about making church fun for the youngest attenders. Did you know that most sermons are aimed for a 50 and over crowd? Can you image sitting every week for 2 hours to listen to something that is totally unrelated to your life and in which you can not understand over half the words? For this one Sabbath we make Bible stories real and understandable to the children of our congregation and their community friends. I encourage each of you to read the stories of the Bibles like a little child. These stories will never seem so real and so amazing as when you read them as though hearing them for the first time as a child. The children get to sing songs and move to the music with Teacher Marissa. In the craft rooms they make objects that reinforce the story and will help them remember it for years to come.

Kristi Cruise



Here on the Island of Malta the children witnessed Paul (and you thought it was Nester!) survive a snake bite!



Shipwreck! Abandon Ship!!



Julian is designing his ribbon snake to help him remember the story of Paul's rescue.



Look at those smiles! Making church fun and making the stories of the Bible real is what Children's Church is all about.

If you ever want to liven up a Bible story, tell it to a group of children. Paul's shipwreck never seemed so real!



Children's church is about singing and moving to the glory of God.



Cathy gives the "big" kids directions on how to put together their school survival kit.



## Vespers At Big Bear Lake

The smell of pine and juniper, the rustle of the wind in the trees and the sound of water lapping on the shore was the backdrop for vespers Sabbath evening August 25. The group gathered to share a

picnic and to escape the blistering heat of the valley. God has richly blessed us to have such a respite so close! Please plan to attend next time.



Place  
Stamp  
Here

Mailing Address  
880 W. Laurel Street  
Colton, CA 92324

Street Address  
1291 Rancho Avenue  
Colton, CA 92324

Phone: 909-825-9344

**Increasing member  
communication**

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

*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**

This newsletter provides communication and inspiration for our church members. If you would like to contribute, please contact Kristi Cruise at jrkljrcruise@sbcglobal.net, home phone (909) 872-0394 or cell (909) 936-0005.

Submission Deadline Date by 5 PM	Distribution Date
October 9	October 13
November 13	November 17
December 18	December 22

**Casting Lots**

During various times in the Bible, people cast lots to help them make decisions. Check out these examples, what decisions were they making?

1. Leviticus 16:8  
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2. Joshua 18:10  
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3. Jonah 1:7  
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4. Acts 1:26  
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5. Nehemiah 10:34  
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6. Matthew 27:35  
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7. 1 Chronicles 24:5  
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8. 1 Chronicles 25:8  
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9. 1 Chronicles 26:3  
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**Answers to Last Month's Trivia**

- More Ten Commandments Stuff
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. You shall have no other gods before me.</li> <li>2. You shall not make for yourself an idol.</li> <li>3. You shall not misuse the name of</li> </ol> | <p>the Lord your God</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.</li> </ol> <p>Matthew 22:37: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.</p> |
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