

Senior Connection

Articles, News and Activities Calendar for Senior Members at Netherwood Park church of Christ

Mid-August 2006 Issue

Volume 2 Issue 8

Understanding the Christian Viewpoint

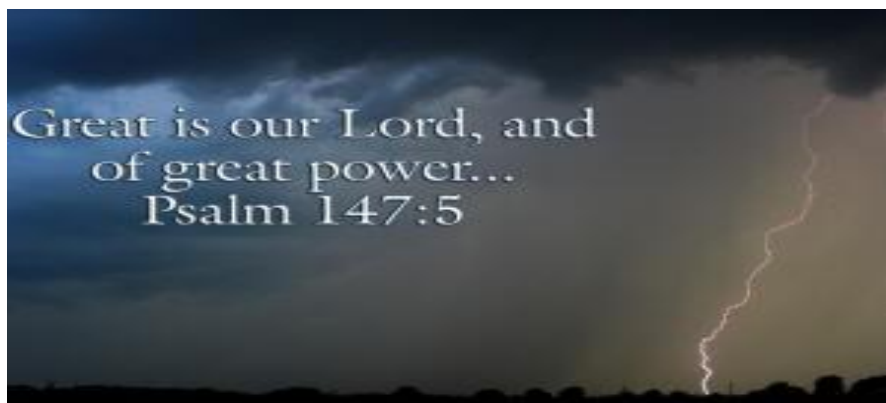
A Christian feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen
 Talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see
 Expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another
 Empties himself in order to be full
 Admits he is wrong so he can be declared right
 Goes down in order to get up
 Is strongest when he is weakest

Richest when he is poorest
 And happiest when he mourns
 He dies so he can live
 Forsakes in order to have
 Gives away so he can keep
 Sees the invisible
 Knows that which passes knowledge

. —adapted from A.W. Tozer

“God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise.”

—1 Corinthians 1:27



Senior Monthly Potluck

This Friday ----- August 18, 2006

11:30 A.M. Lunch and Fellowship
12:15 A.M. “Joy of Being a Servant” Ross Hinshaw
12:30 P.M. Magic by Robert Copeland



Mission Report

By Kayla Guthrie

Well, I never woke up from my dream of traveling to a Latin American country to speak my Spanish and share my blessings with those in need, and now I have conquered it. I remember waking up the morning of Sunday, June 25, thinking, "Wow, today has actually come. Oh my goodness, my luggage is in the car, and what is this plane ticket! What have I done, I can't speak Spanish!" Needless to say, I got on that plane to Mexico City and as nervous as I was, I was excited to see what was in store.



Now that I can finally look back on this summer, it was a breeze, and I thank the Lord every waking moment for that. The village I lived in, Las Cruces as a matter of fact was absolutely beautiful. There were 100 people living there and I lived in a family with 3 host sisters, a mom, a dad, and a grandma. There were so many mountains and flowers and I walked the streets with my cow friends. Not to mention the people. They had the most beautiful hearts. I was not in a very

Picture taken at a farewell gathering. Men of the village had already left for work.

rural spot; I had a toilet and running water. I took my bucket bath every morning and washed my clothes on a washboard. I got fed WAY more than any little girl my size should and had bottled water to drink. However, even though this village was developed, I can still say that the people would have given me their shirt off their back, even when they really couldn't spare to do so. What they have they work really hard for and it was their pride to treat me like their princess.

My host mom, dad, or grandma woke me up every morning at 7:00am so I could go running at 7:30am. That was my time to praise God for his beauty and then have some English speaking sessions with my partner, Anna. At 8:00am my host mom would have some warm water in a bucket for me and 9:00am was breakfast. I had chicken soup for breakfast for a week. At 10:00am I would start class. On Mondays I taught art/self expression to 5-13 year olds. Tuesday: culture, Wednesday: environmental awareness, Thursday: health, Friday: sports/exercise. My largest class was 18 and my smallest was 4. No matter the class size, I had so much fun with the kids and I learned some of the best life lessons that you can't learn in a classroom. I learned patience and I realized that life is too short to sweat the small stuff; just keep trucking, maybe God wanted you to take a different route than the one you were on.

I helped plant 25 trees around the soccer field for shade, and got Amigos de las Americas to donate a fence to put around a landfill so my community could burn their trash away from home so there would be less people sick. My community won 3rd place in an Ecology Fair, and right now, the young ladies are presenting a recycling system to my community to try and make lives healthier.

I learned how to milk a cow, cross-stitch, make tortillas, dance the native dance of Michoacan, fabric paint, and sing a Mexican "go-fight-win" song. My summer was jammed pack, and I don't think any words on paper can do it full justice. It was absolutely amazing and I do feel I have changed. I'm just in love with my life, and I can't wait to take it to the next level and share my excitement with others.

If you want to know more, or have another mission trip for me, I would love to sit down and chat. Don't waste a single moment that could be spent growing a relationship.



(For those Getting Married, Just Married or Married for years)

CONGRATULATIONS

Poem by Rodney Phillips

As you boldly set forth as husband and wife
You are entering a partnership for life.
Though life you must each one be a lover,
Not only with, but by and for each other.

There may be times of toil and strife.
('Tis true for many a man and wife.)
But you can thrive on love and trust,
If through the years you will adjust.

Build your future – aim for the sky,
Happiness will be yours if on God you rely.
Advice aside, my sincere wish for you –
May all your dreams and plans come true.

An Elder's View

"What Can I Do?"

"What difference can I make in this world? After all, I'm just one person." I dare say that most of us have felt overwhelmed at one time or another, questioning our self worth or role in life. But is it true? Do I really matter? To answer this question objectively, let's pause for a moment and consider the facts. The truth is you are important, and God expects each of us to make a difference.

When introducing people to the gospel of Christ, the first point I make is how very special they are. Genesis chapter one is filled with the majestic handiwork of the omnipotent, omniscient Creator and yet all things - sun, moon, stars, plants, animals - pale in comparison to the creation of Adam and Eve. The Bible says they alone were made in the very image and likeness of God (Gen 1:26-27). Though it is difficult for us to comprehend fully the significance of these words, it boils down to the fact that unlike other living creatures, we possess an eternal spirit just as God is Spirit (John 4:24). Sharing this common bond, God knows and cares for us individually. In Luke 12:7, Jesus went so far as to say that God has numbered the very hairs on our head (a difficult task to imagine, though it is becoming easier day by day for some of us). In Matt 6:31-33, Jesus said that if we will seek God first, He will provide for our every need. As if that wasn't enough, when sin threatened to separate us from our Creator for all eternity, God was willing to sacrifice His Son to pay the price for our transgressions (Rom 5:6-8). We were not redeemed with silver and gold but by the precious blood of Christ (I Peter 1: 18-19). Considering all these facts, there is only one possible conclusion. You are important because God made you that way!

So what can one person accomplish? The Bible is filled with stories attesting to the fact that people can and do make a difference. Because of the righteousness of Noah (Gen 6:6-8), God did not blot out mankind from the face of the earth during the great flood. Through one man, Abraham, a great nation was born and all the families of the earth have been blessed (Gen 12:1-3). In a time when the sons of Israel were being cast into the Nile, the mother of Moses saved her son by floating him in a wicker basket (Ex 2: 1-9). Moses, empowered by God, led Israel to freedom from Egyptian captivity (Ex 3-14) and even Moses himself asked the question, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and that I should bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?" Rahab, offered shelter to the two spies of Israel and thereby saved them and her own family (Josh 2: 1-14). The perseverance and prayers of Hannah brought forth the great prophet Samuel (I Sam 1:320). One brave lad (David) struck down the giant of the Philistines and led Israel to a great victory (I Sam 17:41-54). The courage of Esther in making a plea before the king saved a nation from massacre. The preaching of one man, Jonah, turned the citizens of Nineveh from their wicked ways. One widow's gift of all that she had, though a mere two small cooper coins, has set the standard of sacrificial giving for all Christians since (Luke 21:1-4). What do all these examples have in common? They demonstrate life, nation and world changing impact through the faithful actions of one God fearing person.

How can I make a difference? Here are some things that can be done individually:

- 1) Remain faithful to God (Heb 12: 1-2)
- 2) Love God and keep His commandments (John 14:15,23)
- 3) Feed on His Word (II Tim 2:15)
- 4) Participate in worship (Heb 10:25)
 - meet regularly with the body of Christ as long as your health permits you to do so safely

- 5) Attend Bible classes and come to learn just as the Bereans did (Acts 17: 11)
 - feed your soul; choose classes by topic not room location
 - sit up front
 - prepare for class; study and promote learning
- 6) Be attentive to the needs and struggles of others (Gal 6: 10)
 - get to know more people (e.g., invite them to lunch, stay for potlucks)
 - be on the lookout for those who are missing and follow-up with a phone call or card
- 7) Find ways to uplift people (Heb 10:24)
 - encourage others by recognizing their good works
 - be a good influence; share your experience and knowledge with others
- 8) Help meet our visitors and guests (I John 2:9-10, 4:20-21)
 - "Hello, my name is _____. Whats yours?"
 - "How long have you been coming here?"
- 9) Host a group devotional in your home (e.g., youth, seniors, young families, etc.)
- 10) Pray for those who are sick, ill, discouraged or in need (I Thess 5: 17, 25; III John 1:2)
- 11) Maintain a positive attitude - it can be contagious
- 12) Teach others and set a good example in all you do (Matt 5: 13-16)
- 13) Look for opportunities to talk about Christianity with others (I Pet 3: 15)
- 14) Host a Bible study in your home (many are willing to help teach if needed)
- 15) Send cards and letters, make phone calls and touch other lives with the love of Christ (I John 4:7-13)

Satan, the father of lies (John 8:44), certainly would like us to think that we don't make a difference and hence might as well stop trying. That fact by itself should start the red flags waving. In Revelation 2: 10, Jesus said: "Be faithful until death and I will give you the crown of life."

Bob Chambers



What is Going On

Reported by Jim Guthrie

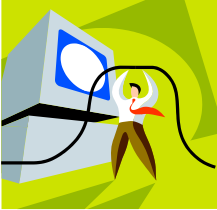
NEWS

Forty-eight seniors attended our July Senior Luncheon and Business Meeting. The topics covered were as follows:

- Program involvement has had 68% (104) participation in "Sharing Our Love."
- The senior luncheon has averaged 50 until May (29) and June (37). (Note-July above at 48~) We have enjoyed great food, programs, devotions and fellowship.
- The *Senior Connection* newsletter has a circulation of 150.
- The Senior Monthly Cinema Matinee has had an average attendance of 29 and 15 attendees in July.



- We discussed the use of the gym for an exercise, walking and after-school program with the teens.
- A bulletin board for we seniors was discussed and approved.
- David Wilkins discussed local senior evangelism needs.
- Attendees also answered a questionnaire of "Sharing Our Love." The results of the questionnaire show that our senior program has been well received in all areas.



Tuesday, August 8th, "Casablanca" was shown to 21 moviegoers with all the fan fare of the "Red Carpet." Plan to attend next month's showing of "The Inn of the Sixth Happiness," a color action drama starring Ingrid Bergman and Robert Donut.

Our outing to the Museum of Natural History was greatly enjoyed by five. We enjoyed the presentations of the *Enchanted Skies* and *The Coral Reef* along with the fellowship of lunch at Macaroni Grill.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



Our Senior Movie Matinee will be changing in September to the First Friday of Each Month at 1:15 PM.

The Men's Retreat will be at Ponderosa August 25 and 26. For reservations call Mark at Riverside Church; cost is \$30.00.

Netherwood Park Family Encampment, for all ages, is August 18 - 20 at Camp Shaver. Contact Walter Lane.

The 18th Annual Ponderosa Christian Camp Benefit Golf Tournament will be at Arroyo Del Oso course, Friday September 8th. The cost is \$50.00 per person and includes golf cart, team prizes and a catered luncheon at Netherwood. Call Wayne Moss, 821-3837 or Walter Lane, office number, 256-1389.



CONGRATULATIONS:



Sean Guthrie, after his accident in Milwaukee (practice) that caused a major concussion preventing him from racing at the road course at Indy, raced in Nashville July 15th. Sean, having only 18 practice laps on Friday and qualifying 12th, came storming back on Saturday. He raced to a 7

high and finished 8th. Congratulations Sean on your comeback. Sean's next raced in Kentucky last Sunday, the 13th, starting in the 13th position. He made it to the 3rd spot, lost ground on a caution restart and came in 5th. To read the article on the race last Sunday, go to http://www.indycar.com/pro/news/story.php?story_id=7347 .



NEXT MONTH:

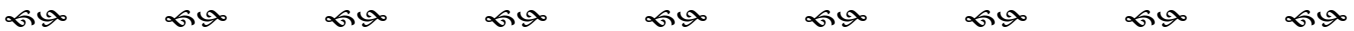
Our Senior Luncheon on September 15th, will have three speakers to inform us on our care and safety.

- Bill Henson will discuss our new A.E.D.'s at Netherwood
 - Phil Conley of "Protection One" will bring information to us on medical alert technology
 - Paul Smith of "Heritage Health Care" will inform us about Hospice.
- Each speaker will take questions after their presentation.

ALWAYS

Continue sending your articles, news, recipes, announcements, etc. to the *Senior Connection*.

Thank you for your continued support and sharing your love.



Biography

Marlin and Margaret Aker

Let's face it, anyone born 75 or more years ago grew up in a different era than youngsters of today. That is especially true if you were raised in rural surroundings. History has recorded that the great depression, of the 20th century, began in 1929, but from those who lived in the southwest during that decade can affirm, hard times were prevalent long before 1929. There were no assistance programs to lean on. Most people lived from the produce of the land. Industrial jobs were scarce and simply put, most everyone could be classified in one class, "Very poor".

Into that environment Marlin and Margaret Aker entered this world. Marlin was born September 23, 1917 at a cattle ranch about 12 miles east of Lordsburg, NM. Lordsburg was one of the last rip roaring frontier towns of the west; gamblers, outlaws, cattle rustlers, renegade Indians, railroad workers, ranchers and miners rubbed elbows with the townspeople. If that wasn't enough, a well known Mexican Bandit named Pancho Villa, made constant raids in southern New Mexico and Arizona. When word spread that he was in the area, the County Sheriff would deputize the local ranchers and give him chase. Marlin's dad served on a few of those Pancho Villa chases.



Most rural areas depended on farming, ranching and mining. Rancher's cattle roamed the open range where grass and water could be found. "Round-up time" came each spring of the year. The calves' owner could be identified by the brand on the mother cow. The calves were branded, doctored and tallied. In the fall, some stock would be sent to market. The cow hands would gather around the camp fire at night, visiting and spinning tall tales of past experiences.

Margaret was born about 40 miles west of Lordsburg at her grandmother's home near the farming community of Duncan Arizona. Her birthday is the same day of the month September 23, in 1918. Duncan is located on the Gila River which is Duncan's life-blood.

but also it's destroyer. The river frequently floods the town. It used to be a pretty little town with a tree lined main street flanked by a picturesque train depot. Before Interstate 10 was built by way of Tucson, the main route from El Paso to California was US 70 through Duncan. The town never recovered it's former beauty after the floods in the early 40's. Duncan's claim to fame is that it is where retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor was raised on a cattle ranch near by. However she spent little time in Duncan. She attended a boarding school back east during the winter months.

A little side note of interest: The house where Margaret was born, was built by Sandra's grandfather.. Margaret's Grand parents bought the farm from the Day family several years prior to Margaret's birth. Margaret's grandfather died when she was about four years old. Circumstances forced her grandmother to sell the Day farm and buy a small farm close by.

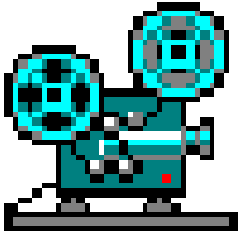
To say Marlin and Margaret's lives were ordinary is far from what transpired. Space will only permit a glimpse of their unorthodox childhoods. Children of the present day can't imagine living with out their modern conveniences. Let's take a peek of that era. There were few modern conveniences. Most houses of the day had no inside plumbing. A #3 wash tub served for bathing and an "outhouse" served for the toilet. There were few cars, few paved roads, few radios, few phones and few doctors. Marlin said he never visited a doctor until he was 17 years old. Imagine no TV's, cell phones, or movies in color. What you didn't know you didn't have and it didn't bother you for everyone was in the same boat. You didn't realize you were poor. You helped your neighbors when they needed it, and most people were happy.

Morality, respect for others, truthfulness and courtesy were common attributes. Farm life demanded everyone in the family to pull their own load. The size of each load was gauged by the age of the individual. Marlin's chores as a child on the farm were: getting in the kindling for the wood stove, feeding the pigs and the weaned calves, turning the cream separator handle, helping clean the separator when finished. Other chores included gathering the eggs, helping carry drinking water from the neighbor's well nearly 1/2 mile away, plus a few other chores his size.

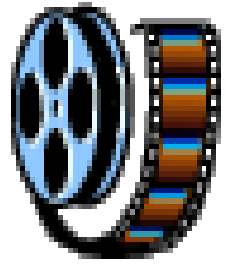
Marlin lost his mother in the flu epidemic in 1920 when he was only 2 1/2 years old. His brother, Preston was 8 months old and his older brother Everal was 10 years of age. After her death the 3 boys were taken to their widowed Grandmother Harper in Deming, N..M. Their dad Quincy, heartbroken and deeply in debt, tried to weather the severe drought and pay the mortgage on his cattle. It was a losing battle so he sold what was left of his assets and returned to Virginia, where he was raised - to seek employment. Quincy had a school teacher's degree. He found a teaching job in a small town in western Virginia.

Shortly after this Marlin's grandmother Harper moved her combined family to Santa Ana, California. She had two teen-age sons still at home. The load of three grandchildren added to the family, proved to be too much for her. After struggling for two years she sent Everal and Marlin on the train to live with their 75 year old Grandfather Aker, who worked at the Muir ranch near the old homestead near Lordsburg. Marlin's granddad bought a small farm near Duncan, Arizona. The next 5 years spent with his granddad are the most memorable of his childhood and he learned some very essential survival techniques under the tutorship of his granddad and brother.

(This interesting story continues next month.)



SEPTEMBER 1

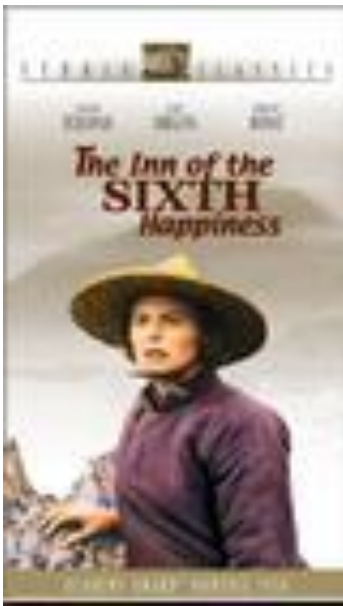


Senior Cinema Matinee

At 1:15 P.M.

Presenting

“The Inn of the Sixth Happiness”



Showing in the fellowship room
(with Intermissions)

Drama / Biography, Made in 1958, Color, 158 Min

All her life Englishwoman Gladys Aylward knew that China was the place where she belonged. Not qualified to be sent there as a missionary, Gladys works as a domestic to earn the money to send herself to a poor, remote village. There she eventually lives a full and happy life: running the inn, acting as "foot inspector", advising the local Mandarin and even winning the heart of mixed race Captain Lin Nan. But Gladys discovers her real destiny when the country is invaded by Japan and the Chinese children need her to save their lives. The film is adapted from the novel "The Small Woman" about the true life story of Gladys Aylward. Inspiring entertainment from beginning to end.

Fine Movies, Popcorn, Refreshments

Bring a Friend, Relative or Neighbor

Calendar of Activities

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

This is a list of activities, events, birthdates and anniversaries that we know about for the next 45 days that may be of interest to our senior members.

August

- 18th = Senior Potluck Lunch at 11:30 a.m.
- 18th – 20th = Netherwood Park Family Encampment
- 19th = Albuquerque Christian Children’s Home “Open House” – 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- 20th = Fall Quarter Bible Classes begin
- 20th = Care Group #3
- 21st = Monday Night for the Master at 6:45 p.m.
- 25-26 = Men’s Retreat at Ponderosa Camp ... “Holy Men of God”
- 26th = Wedding of Kristie Martin & Ronald Bland – 3:00 PM
- 27th = Care Group #4
- 28th = Monday Night for the Master at 6:45 p.m.
- 30th = Deadline for information for the Mid-September Senior Connection Newsletter

September

- 1st = Senior Cinema Matinee – at 1:15 p.m. The Inn of the Sixth Happiness
- 3rd = Care Group #1
- 4th = Monday Night for the Master at 6:45 p.m.
- 8th = 18th Annual Ponderosa Christian Camp Benefit Golf Tournament
- 10th = Care Group #2
- 10th = Second Sunday Fellowship – following evening assembly
- 11th = Monday Night for the Master at 6:45 p.m.
- 15th = Senior Potluck Lunch at 11:30 a.m.
- 17th = Care Group #3
- 18th = Monday Night for the Master at 6:45 p.m.
- 24th = Care Group #4
- 25th = Monday Night for the Master at 6:45 p.m.

If you know of a future event, please get the information to Phillip Liggett. You may hand a note in at the office, email Phill at Liggettp@comcast.net or call 975-6909.



August Birthdays

Irma Patton	1 st	Del Conley	11 th	Edna Worf	25 th
Maria Montoya	3 rd	Jean Blackburn	15 th	Mary Mitchell	26 th
Luella Audrey	4 th	Ross Hinshaw	19 th	Geraldine Anderson	29 th
Fred Bitting	6 th	LuAnn Marpel	20 th	Harold Crass	30 th
Jody Lowry	6 th				

August Anniversaries

Fred and Ann Bitting	15 th	= 47 years
Buzz and Lucy Custard	17 th	= 44 years
Tommy and Carolyn Thompson	25 th	= 51 years
Steve and Anita Zdunek	28 th	= 22 years
Roy and Leta Bassham	28 th	= 19 years



Notes on August

- August 5 – “American Bandstand” premiers in 1957
- August 7 – In 1959, the first picture of Earth was taken from space..
- August 10 – Smithsonian Institution was founded in 1846
- August 12 – In 1851, Isaac Singer developed the home sewing machine
- August 13 – The Berlin Wall was built in 1961
- August 15 – Panama Canal opens in 1914
- August 19 – In 1893 the Root Beer float was created by Frank J. Wisner
- August 24 – Voyager 2 reaches Neptune in 1989
- August 28 – In 1922 was the first radio commercial



Bibles / Cell Phones

Contributed by Billie Rice

We wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone.

- What if we carried it around in our purse or pocket?
- What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot to take it?
- What if we flipped through it several times a day?
- What if we used it to receive messages from the text?
- What if we treated it like we could not live without it?
- What if we gave it to kids as gifts?
- What if we used it as we travel?
- What if we used it in case of an emergency?

Senior Potluck

This Friday at 11:30

Please come and join us

Schedule:

Lunch and Fellowship

Short Devotional – Led by Ross Hinshaw

The Magician, Robert Copeland



**Deadline for information for the
mid-September issue is August 30, 2006**

Netherwood Park church of Christ
5101 Indian School Road N.E.
(I-40 at San Mateo exit)
Albuquerque, New Mexico
87110

Mid August
Senior Connection