

Volume 26 Issue 2

February 2010

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Santee McDaniel, Children

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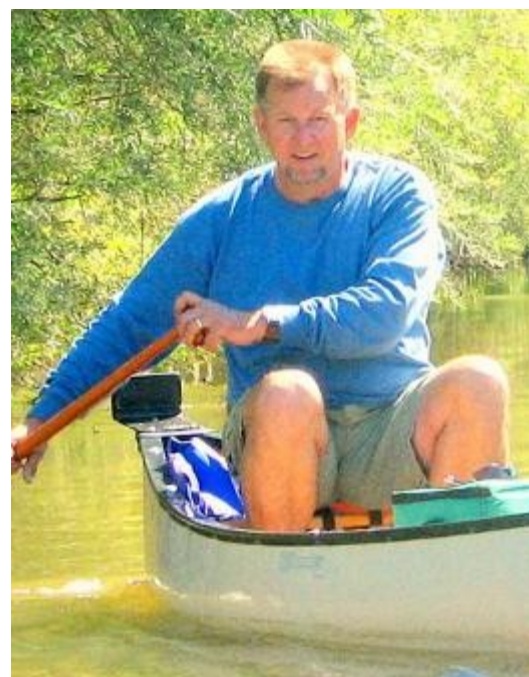
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# FAITHFULNESS...MORE THAN JUST HANGING IN THERE

There is a time to muster all of one's strength to simply hold on. It happened to me when I flipped my canoe with a twelve year old boy on board. We had safely and skillfully paddled our way through a quarter mile of rapids. Yet we wondered if our buddies, following us, would do the same. Josh and I turned our slender craft around and got in a holding pattern next to a cliff, in hopes of spotting the other guys. Somehow a rogue current caught the end of our sixteen foot Red Otter and in a second we were overboard. At that moment we didn't speak of making it to our campsite downstream. Dinner was the last thing on our minds. We were holding on to the capsized canoe and that had our full attention. I coached my young buddy to hang on. We were swept away by the liquid muscles of the Rogue River. Hang on to the canoe! That was our objective. At a bend we managed to swim ourselves and the sleek shell to a sandbar where we righted our rig and shook water from our gear.

Sometimes I hear fellow preachers talk about our labors for Christ as though we, too, are just hanging on. Our oft-times unfriendly (to Christians) culture would upset us and send us to the bottom of the river, it seems. So we hold



on. I'm no spiritual giant, but it seems that despite a set back now and then, we are really doing more than that. A fortress mentality has some folk sounding like Jesus had better come soon or the church will be squashed by the weight of a hostile world. It just ain't so.

It is certainly contrary to what Jesus said. He warned of hardships, bumps and thumps and such. But his theme was always one of infiltrating and bringing change to our world, what-

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ever its disposition. Paul used his prison days to write letters which have blessed the church for 2000 years. Saturday was quite horrible for Jesus' disciples, but Sunday spelled promise for all who have served him, lo these 2000 years. The light is promised to overcome darkness. Good will triumphs. Hold on when you must, but generally speaking it, keep the paddle in the water, friend. Dinner is waiting and a dry campsite is a few twists of the river away, but for now there is work to do. Our objective is to reach high ground and pick up a few weary passengers along the way. To those caught in the storm and out on the churning waters, Jesus didn't plead with his friends to 'hang on' but to believe...and even walk on water.



## MONTHLY POTLUCK

Many, many thanks to Laurie Royer and Ava Fish for a superb decorating for our January third-Sunday event.

In February Laurie Royer will be decorating for our **February 21th** Potluck. We are still looking for a Hostess for February. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board next to the Volunteer Office in the Fellowship Hall. You won't want to miss this special time of good food and good fellowship. We'll keep the heat on for you.

If your last name begins with **A-K**, please bring a **main dish and a dessert**. If your last name begins with **L-Z**, please bring a **main dish and a salad**. Single folks just bring one item to share.

*Remember the ovens are on for keeping food warm, so please bring your food already cooked.*

Dear Family,

Ah, the month of February! As the month progresses we see visual reminders of romantic love everywhere. I don't know about you, but it seems to me that most of what I see centers primarily on one image: the heart. The heart is pictured by way of cards, cupids, Mylar balloons, and flowery, beribboned candy boxes. It continues to show up on screen printed t-shirts coupled with (sometimes questionable) Valentine sentiments. Or, if your sweetie adores an overstuffed teddy bear toting a heart between his fat, satiny paws, this too can be had at most department store chains.



In light of Jim's recent encouragement to take another look at Psalm 119, I did a re-read or two and found to my surprise that "the heart" was practically jumping off the page at me! Turns out the Psalmist had quite a bit to say about the seat of his own emotions, and that made me think about my emotions as I approach God in prayer. May I share portions of a few verses for your consideration?

- > "I will praise You with uprightness of heart . . ." (Verse 7)
- > "With my whole heart I have sought You . . ." (Verse 10)
- > "Let my heart be blameless regarding Your statutes . . ." (Verse 80)
- > "Your testimonies . . . are the rejoicing of my heart." (Verse 111)

It seems that God takes notice of one who will approach Him without reserve. It also seems that he appreciates one who returns again and again with the priority of putting Him first. In each instance where the heart is mentioned in this Psalm (I counted eleven) I feel the need to remind myself of the obvious: the writer was engaged in a real "conversation" with the One he cared about the most. Centuries later, Jesus would tell us the following: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." (Matthew 5:8)

In light of all this, I think I'll be praying in the com-

ing month with renewed focus and appreciation for the simple fact that the Lover of my soul cherishes the gift of my undivided attention. Care to join me?

Happy to be praying with you,

Julie

**PEGGY JENSEN'S BAPTISM**

With great joy we report the baptism of Peggy Jensen! Peggy planned to take the holy plunge here in Ashland, but had an opportunity to join her daughter and grandson in being immersed in California while visiting there during Christmas. Congratulations are in order for the three generations who took their sacred pledge together. God bless you, Peggy!



**FRIEDA FULLER GRADUATES TO GLORY**

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Frieda Fuller who passed away on Thursday, January 21, 2010. You know that Frieda was 95 years



old and had been a member of this congregation for decades. Her boys, Clyde and Ron, are members of the Christian Church of Ashland as well. She had taught Bible School, played the piano, sang in the choir and brought joy wherever she went. A graveside service was held for her at Memory Gardens on Wednesday, January 27.

**39PLUS...OUR LITTLE SECRET**

While we have all come to know each other pretty well, you are welcome to jump in, friend. Like a vigorous game of Uno or SkipBo? Come on...get

**PRAYER RETREAT**

Mark your calendar for Friday, March 19 thru the 21st for our next Prayer Retreat at Ireland's Rustic Lodges in Gold Beach!

We have reserved space in two beautiful beach houses that will accommodate a crowd and still allow for privacy. The "Laguna" and the "Nantucket" await us with full living rooms, kitchens, and ocean view balconies. Come midafternoon Friday for early check in and plan on gathering around 7 pm for a worship time that will kick off a weekend that will include some special prayer focused activities and plenty of free time to relax and unwind. We have arranged for 11am check out on Sunday so there's no rush for those who want to take advantage of the full weekend. Plan on spending sixty dollars per person for two nights lodging and talk to Jim or Julie soon if you are interested as space is limited. Julie: 773-5048; Jim: 890-3209.

in on the action. It has become our habit to meet at Marie Hoffman's home the First Wednesday of each month. That will be February 3, next week. The fun and games start about 10, then we settle down for Jim's Bible study at 11. Count on a fine lunch provided by Marie, plus special dishes brought by others. All in all it is the finest way to spend a Wednesday morning. All available adults are invited to give this treasure a try. Marie lives at 61 North Mountain Avenue in Ashland.





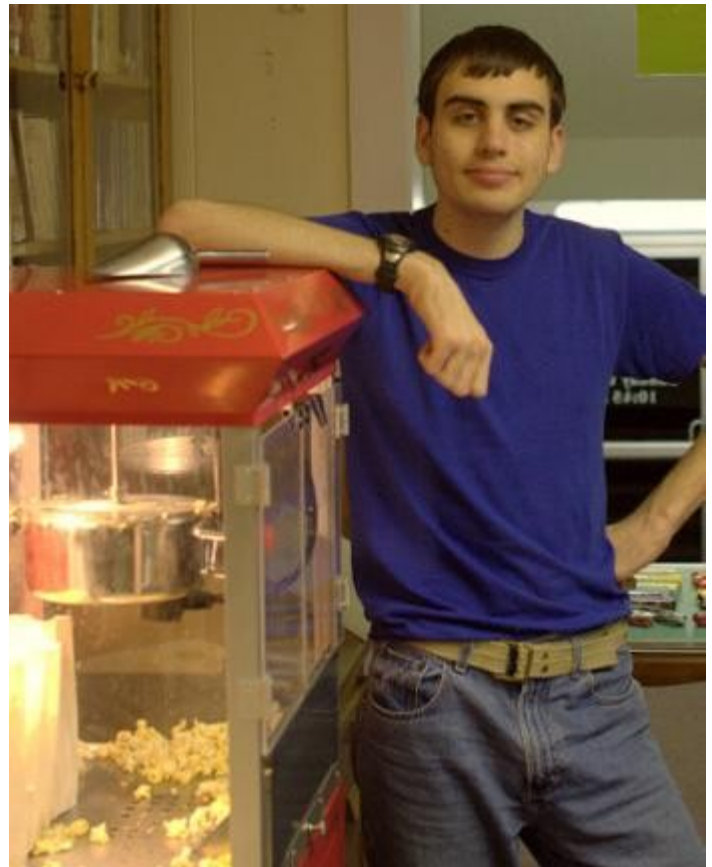
## REAL MEN MEET AT THE OLD FARM HOUSE

I admit that I've wondered about the importance of spending money and a couple hours with the guys every Monday morning. Money and time add up. But I recently looked around the table and realized that this is an unusual cohort. Daryl attends church, but not ours. The same with Bill and his grandson. Dan lives in Central Point and is generally on the road as a truck driver. The same goes for Rick, another cross country gentleman. This weekly pow wow has turned out to be an oasis for these men... and me. We don't otherwise bump into each other. This diving into the Word which we do is just what they need...we need. We share our cares and blessings with each other. Prayers are offered up. Hearty food is chowed down. We leave, anticipating our next reunion...another Monday...another blessed time. Men...this could be your story too.

Mondays, 9 o'clock, The Old Farm House, Phoenix (Oregon!)...Bring your Bible.

Jim

Larsen



## OLD TIME MOVIE NIGHT

Was January's edition of Ashland's Old Time Movie Night the largest yet? What a good evening for the news people from Channel 10 to invade us and include our nifty project in their 11 o'clock news broadcast. What's up for February, Mike Royer? (See Mike's article on the back cover)

## SAINTS ALIVE... WE PACKED THE JOINT IN JANUARY





Wow! What a crowd showed up for the First Saturday Breakfast at the Iron Skillet in Phoenix (Oregon!). What draws these folk? Restaurant fare is not that hard to come by. While vittles at the truck stop are mighty fine, it is surely the splendid fellowship that beckons most of us. We are scattered across Jackson County and have precious little time to visit on Sunday mornings, fighting the crowds and all. So this little bit of heaven serves as the jewel of each month for folk over 39 or so. Bring a joke, please. Come prepared to laugh. Take that last 'forward' off the computer and read it loudly and clearly. February 6...9 o'clock....walk-ins welcome.



## ROGUE RIDERS

For over eight years we've caravanned, car pooled and even walked to events, restaurants and hideaways all over Southern Oregon. We travel to places most of us would never explore on our own. County Fairs, concerts, museums, historical sites, lakes, parks, fish hatcheries...you name it. Once a month we hit the road, end up at a restaurant and return home glad to be a part of such an adventuresome cadre. Join us in February, won't you? Helen Jane Slack, our wagon master will lead us to destinations unknown. (Stay tuned for details later)



## DAVID AND JIM ON TELEVISION SHOW, "CHURCH AT LOUIE'S"

Every Saturday evening Southern Oregon has the opportunity to get a glimpse of our guys on cable channel 15 at 5:30. *Church at Louie's* may not compete with any sports channels, but more and more folk report that they've watched this dialogue between Jim Larsen and David Bruce. News stories from around the globe are discussed from a spiritual point of view in the 30 minute program. Perhaps the best part of the whole production is the friendships fostered at Louie's and the many ministry opportunities which have presented themselves. Smaller portions of the program, usually about five minutes in length can be seen at our website, [www.OutsideTheWalls.com](http://www.OutsideTheWalls.com). There you'll also see a multitude of PowerPoint sermons which are downloaded by people all over the globe. Take a peek.



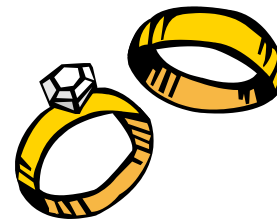


*I would rather be a poor man  
In a garret with plenty of books,  
Than a king who did not love reading.  
Thomas B. Macauley*



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 - Velma Johnson
- 2 - Jenny Acery
- 4 - Christa Phillips
- 7 - Angie Vermillion
- 7 - Frank Loyd
- 12 - Jessica Witt
- 15 - Emily McKinney
- 15 - Marie Ellis
- 16 - William Dooms
- 19 - Dona Heath
- 21 - Kecia Collins
- 24 - Lila Dotson
- 28 - Ella Rose Wilson
- 28 - Nathaniel Rogers
- 28 - Sean Rogers



## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 - Jim & Velma Johnson
- 18 - Jim & Angie Vermillion

*Editor's Note: If I have missed your birthday or anniversary please let me know so I can update my calendar and include them in the future. If I have included any that you would like removed please let me know that also. Just send corrections to the church office.*

*Brad*

*Brad*

# "JESUS, LORD OF ALL"

"The Family of God"

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 12:30 PM Ladies Ministry Mtg Angie Vermillion, B'day Frank Loyd, B'day	1 7:45 AM Men Alive-Old Farm House Cafe 8:00 AM Ladies Monday Morning Study Group 2:00 PM Ladies Monday Afternoon Bible Study Velma Johnson, B'day	2 9:30 AM Piece Corps 7:00 PM Financial Peace University-Fellowship Hall Jenny Acery, B'day Groundhog Day	3 10:00 AM 39 Plus - Marie Hoffman's Home 6:00 PM Alpha Dinner and Meeting	4 Christa Phillips, B'day	5 9:00 AM Saints Alive Breakfast - Iron Skillet	6 9:00 AM Saints Alive Breakfast - Iron Skillet
7 12:30 PM Ladies Ministry Mtg Angie Vermillion, B'day Frank Loyd, B'day	8 7:45 AM Men Alive-Old Farm House Cafe 8:00 AM Ladies Monday Morning Study Group 2:00 PM Ladies Monday Afternoon Bible Study	9 9:30 AM Piece Corps 12:00 PM Ladies Lunch Bunch 7:00 PM Financial Peace University-Fellowship Hall	10 6:00 PM Alpha Dinner and Meeting	11 Jessica Witt, B'day Lincoln's Birthday	12 Jessica Witt, B'day Lincoln's Birthday	13 6:30 PM Old Time Movie Night
14 12:30 PM Board Meeting Valentine's Day Jim & Velma Johnson, Ann	15 7:45 AM Men Alive-Old Farm House Cafe 8:00 AM Ladies Monday Morning Study Group 2:00 PM Ladies Monday Afternoon Bible Study President's Day Emily McKinney, B'day Marie Ellis, B'day	16 9:30 AM Piece Corps 7:00 PM Financial Peace University-Fellowship Hall William Doorns, B'day	17 10:00 AM Rogue Riders 6:00 PM Alpha Dinner and Meeting	18 Jim & Angie Vermillion, Ann	19 Donna Heath, B'day	20 6:30 PM Old Time Movie Night
21 12:15 PM Potluck Kecia Collins B'day	22 7:45 AM Men Alive-Old Farm House Cafe 8:00 AM Ladies Monday Morning Study Group 2:00 PM Ladies Monday Afternoon Bible Study Washington's Birthday	23 9:30 AM Piece Corps 7:00 PM Financial Peace University-Fellowship Hall	24 10:00 AM 39 Plus - Newsletter Folding 6:00 PM Alpha Dinner and Meeting Lila Dotson, B'day	25 Alpha Day Retreat	26 Alpha Day Retreat	27 Alpha Day Retreat
28 12:30 PM Deaconess Meeting - Volunteer Office Ellen Rose Wilson, B'day Nathaniel Rogers, B'day Sean Rogers, B'day						

March

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			

January

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			

# FEBRUARY 2010

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND**

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Jim Larsen, Minister

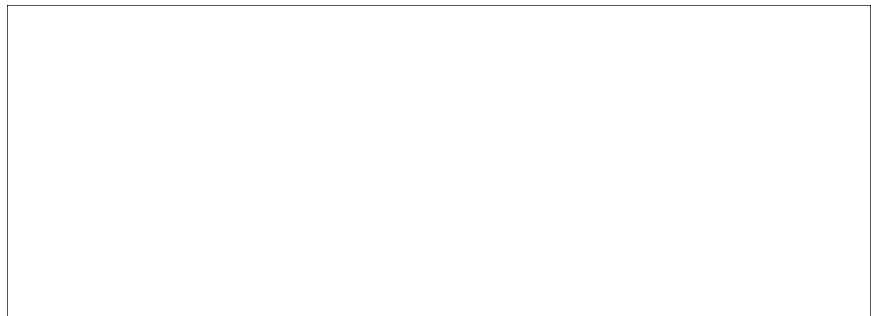
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Web: www.cc-ashland.org



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Sunday Service Schedule**

- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Discovery Club
- 10:45 AM Worship



*Faithful to God, Responsive to People*



**OLD TIME MOVIE NIGHT**

*LOOKIN' FOR CLUES AND CARVING Zs*

Most folks know Boris Karloff as The Frankenstein Monster and other assorted movie menaces, but did you know that he also portrayed one of the silver screen's famous Asian detectives, Mr. James Lee Wong? Please join us as the masterful Karloff is solving crimes rather than committing them in the 1939 "**MR. WONG IN CHINATOWN**" which Monogram Pictures liked so well that they remade it almost a decade later as a Charlie Chan (!) movie. Our evening's second feature is probably one of the best versions recounting the exploits of the legendary "Fox" as he fights tyranny and oppression in Old Spanish California. It's Tyrone Power starring as young Diego Vega who leaves "**THE MARK OF**

**ZORRO**" wherever he ventures. It'll be a real treat 'cuz this 1940 Fox film is now in color! Don't miss these treasures from the Golden Age Of Hollywood. Of course, expect the usual surprises, so bring a healthy appetite for suspense and adventure (and our great snack bar) Saturday evening Feb. 20. Betcha you won't leave hungry.

**Doors and Snack bar open at 6:00 p.m.  
First movie starts at 6:30 p.m.**

