

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

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Newsletter of the Washington Christian Church

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2007 - Year of the WALK

On Your Special Day

God bless you, Mother, on this special day
For always being lovable and dear,
For thoughtful things you find to do and say
That mean so much to others all the year.
For patience and for willingness to share
Whatever comes, in joy and sorrow too,
For thoughtfulness and tender, loving care.
God bless you, Mother, all your lifetime through.

Author Unknown

There Was a Place

There was a place in childhood
That I remember well,
And there a voice of sweetest tone
Bright fairy tales did tell,
And gentle words and fond embrace
Were given with joy to me
When I was in that happy place
Upon my mother's knee.

Samuel Lover

Focus on Our Family

by Kim Taylor

An Interview with Jared and Janelle Zotz

Janelle's parents divorced in 1998. Four years later, her grandmother passed away. Janelle's father asked her to call her mother, who then came to the funeral. Since they had both been transformed in Christ, they began dating again. When they decided to remarry, Janelle and her siblings were all in the ceremony. Janelle says, "This is another way to see God reconciling families."

One of Janelle's favorite scriptures is 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" Janelle particularly appreciates this passage because she has seen, "so many changes in my own life, my family's and my friends' lives -- seeing them become new people."

Jared Zotz was born April 3, 1981, to Mark and Terri Zotz in Danville, Illinois, and lived there until

he was about six. He moved to Sparland for two years, and then the family moved to Roanoke. He attended Roanoke- Benson High School, graduating in 1999. Jared then attended BASIC training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri.

While attending college, Jared played trombone for five years in the Illinois Army National Guard Band and graduated from Illinois State University in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant before entering the University of Illinois College of Medicine.

Jared is due to graduate May 5, 2007, with his M.D. Then he will perform his four-year obstetrics & gynecology residency at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii, as a U.S. Army Captain.

Jared has a younger brother, Jonathan (Jon) Zotz, who is attending the University of Illinois-Champaign.

Janelle (Dailey) Zotz was born in Peoria on October 28, 1976, to Russ and Colleen Dailey. She attended Olympia High School and lived in Hopedale, Illinois. She graduated from High School in 1995 then attended Heston College in Heston, Kansas, graduating in 1997 with an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts. She then attended Illinois State University, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work in 2000.

Janelle took a year off, during which she spent five months team-teaching missionary kids in the Philippines. She taught Kindergarten through third-grade kids in all subjects. When she returned from the Philippines, she reentered ISU and earned a second Bachelor's Degree in Special Education.

Janelle's older sister, Alicia, and husband, Dwayne Cooksey, have two kids and are in the process of adopting two children from Ethiopia. The Cooksey's live in Hopedale. Janelle's younger sister, Shari, married Scott Fogler and lives in Danvers, Illinois. Janelle also has a younger brother, Rusty Dailey, who lives in Hopedale.

Janelle says she was rebellious in high school and in her early college years at Heston. When she came to ISU, she began to seek the Lord and repent of all that she had done. She also became involved in the Campus House, a Christian ministry where they had worship services and small group meetings. Janelle says, "It was the first place where I saw people who had a personal relationship with Jesus Christ."

On December 29, 1999, she made the decision through Campus House to be baptized. Janelle became involved in leading a women's small group. Unsure of what to do after graduation, she went on the mission trip. Janelle felt the trip was, "a time God was trying to get me away from distractions and focus on Him."

Jared and Janelle met on a later mission trip to the Philippines. Both had been attending Campus House. Jared was a freshman at ISU. When he first decided to go to the Philippines, he announced it to his small group at Campus House, and asked for prayers. Jared had previously talked with Janelle about missions and had taken one of Janelle's prayer cards and put it up at the dormitory. That fall, Janelle also went to the Philippines. In Jan. of 2001, a group from ISU took the two-week mission trip, twelve of the group were from Campus House, one of which was Jared.

Janelle flew to meet the group and see her friends. While there, Jared and Janelle had the opportunity to get to know each other.

Janelle thought Jared would be a really nice guy for one of her friends. Janelle returned from the Philippines about the same time as Jared, and, once back, they continued to hang out. In February, Jared asked Janelle out, but she said, "No." She just did not think it would work, but she kept thinking about him. Eventually she emailed and asked him to ask her again.

At a Campus House retreat where they were both small group leaders, on February 18, 2001, during a "DTR" (Defining the Relationship) discussion, they decided to be a couple.

Janelle describes Jared as "very romantic; he could write a book full of romantic ideas." Before he proposed, they took a train ride to Chicago. It was November 23, 2002, and Jared's parents were at a conference in Chicago. He suggested Janelle bring a nice dress. They had been reading the book "Before the Ring," but Jared informed her that, "Just because we finished the book doesn't mean you'll get a ring."

One evening in Chicago, they dressed up and went to a fancy dinner on Michigan Avenue, followed by a carriage ride. Jared gave Janelle a photo album of pictures of their relationship and things they had done. The last picture was Jared on one knee holding the ring. Jared got down on one knee and asked Janelle to marry him, to which Janelle replied, "Really?" Then she said, "Yes." Jared asked if she had a date in mind, and Janelle replied, "May 17." It was the weekend after graduation in 2003 (Jared's dad said they could not get married until after graduation).

Two weeks later they moved to Champaign, where Jared did a year of medical school, after which, they returned to Peoria.

Nathaniel Zotz was born seven-and-one-half weeks early on September 20, 2006. At the time, Jared was doing a rotation at the hospital working with high-risk patients. When Janelle became a high-risk pregnancy, she moved into the part of the hospital where Jared was doing his rotation. Jared said, "Nathaniel's lungs formed in 32 weeks. Janelle made it 32 weeks and three days before he was born. We could really see God's hand in all of it."

Janelle said she learned much of her doctrine and theology from Campus House. When they moved back to this area they tried a couple different churches. But they already knew people at Washington Christian Church (WCC), and Jared's parents attended here, so they decided to attend.

Jared grew up in WCC, attending since sixth grade. While he lived in Sparland, he attended Toluca, where he was baptized at age nine. Jared said, "I knew that was what I needed to do what God asks of us and I wanted to do it."

However he shared, "I think once you get out on your own in college, it becomes more and more your own faith." Jared became interested in doing missions, and thought at one point he wanted to do medical missions, but he did not know if he wanted to do long-term or short-term trips. Then he did the short mission trip to the Philippines in 2001.

Two years later he traveled to the Philippines again through Campus House. Jared said, "It was a neat experience for us to plan and organize a mission trip together and lead it." They led small group Bible studies and large worship services, and their group also took books and computers. The Zotz's said they are still in contact with those leaders and would like to go again, but they said, "We don't now where God is leading us."

At WCC, Jared and Janelle taught the High School Sunday School class for over a year, during the gap between Becky Payne and Jon Pittman. Janelle has been on the mission committee as well, and the Zotz's are in the McClintock's LIFEGROUP on Wednesday nights. Jared is also a member of the Christian Medical and Dental Association.

Janelle also likes Philippians 3:13-14, as she focuses on the future, "Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Jared's favorite scripture is Jeremiah 29:11, " 'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.' "

Jared says, "It's easy to make plans with your life and to think that's good. A week after we were engaged I received three letters of rejection, and they lost my application at the University of Illinois. Then I was supposed to take the MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) and my car broke down. Roy Buck, driver for Peoria Charter Bus, decided to pick me up, even though he didn't normally pick people up; but he felt God was leading him." Jared said he had considered applying at Lincoln Christian College, but he shared, "You can make plans, but it's really up to God." He said that obstetrics & gynecology was the last thing he wanted to do because of all the controversies surrounding that field, but later decided it is a very good field for a Christian doctor.

Jared and Janelle will be leaving June 6, 2007, for Hawaii for his 4 year residency. Be sure to take some time to get to know this awesome family before they leave.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE MINISTERS

The events at Virginia Tech are chilling. If you are not struggling, at least a little bit, with God's role in all of this, you are probably in denial. However, it is impossible to function in today's world without coming to grips with the existence of evil and its relationship to the sovereignty of God. To understand this issue you must understand that we cannot truly enjoy freewill in a world without sin. In order to be truly free, you must be free to do wrong, and when others choose sin, the innocent may suffer. The only alternative is a world without choice, a prison of obedience. This struggle is

played out in concrete terms as Virginia Tech law enforcement personnel look to the future. Is it possible to protect 26,000 students from every homicidal maniac without turning the campus into a prison of obedience? Probably not.

Just days ago, I heard that Peoria racked up its sixth homicide for 2007. Peoria residents were fed up and much hand-wringing ensued. "More gun control," some said. "More money for schools," said others. Then they turned off the cameras and everyone went home. Those of us watching from home most likely retreated to the relative safety of our beds and, after a few moments of anxiety for inner-city Peoria and perhaps a quick prayer, got a good night's sleep. However, hundreds of inner-city youth were lying awake wondering if they were next. How many of them started considering whether it might be safer to join a gang than try to avoid them? How many will carry a weapon to school tomorrow just to avoid feeling like a victim?

These events are also chilling and they are right in our backyard. But what can we do? What is our responsibility? Do we wait until we can elect politicians who pay better lip- service to better crime prevention? Do we lobby for bigger prisons and more police officers? Do we curse the rich? Do we blame the poor? Do we grumble? Do we scream? Do we pray? Do we weep? We can do these things, or we could do something real.

Big talk, I know. We talk about this a lot. "We need to be Jesus to the world." "We need to get out of our comfort zone." "We need to step out on faith." "We need to put our money where our mouth is." More talk is not an option. After painting a pretty clear picture of the church's mission, Jesus suggests that all we have built will meet with destruction if all we do is talk. "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" (Luke 6).

Fortunately, WCC is already doing something. You saw a big step in the right direction at our Easter evening service. We bridged several gaps that night - cultural, racial, and fellowship gaps with unprecedented success.

Also, many of our men have begun assisting Pastor Antonio Lipscomb (our guest at the first Easter service) in his efforts to create skills training options for young men in inner-city Peoria through the Cornerstone Vocational Center (CVC). On Saturday, April 28, we will be helping CVC with clean-up and construction in anticipation of an

Open House on Wednesday, June 27. We need every available person to make that day a success.

Jesus told the rich young ruler first to sell everything he had and give it to the poor. Only then could he truly follow Christ. (Luke 18:22). Is your safety or comfort preventing you from truly following Jesus? Will you make a difference by joining us in this effort? Is God calling you to step out of your safety and into battle?

Will a center on the south side stop all the killing? Probably not. But it can't hurt.

Blessings! Ed

What's this guy thinking? Find out at:

<http://worshiparts-wcc.blogspot.com/>

High Ameren Bills Are Coming!!!

Let's work together to keep them as low as possible!!!! Ameren/CILCO Rating Period is in effect from Mid-May thru Mid-Sept. meren/CILCO watches our peak kilowatt usage, and from there they set our rates for the remainder of the year.

We have saved thousands of dollars over the last few years by keeping a careful watch on when we turn on various air conditioning units. Each time an air conditioner kicks on the kilowatts spike. If several ACs kick on at the same time, the usage spikes tremendously. Ameren records this and takes the highest spike and bases our rate on that, (even if it's only once). Please check with the Property Team or Jeff for instructions on how to use the AC more efficiently. Lets try to be good stewards of our money.

Thanks! The Property Team

National Day of Prayer ~ May 3, 2007

This year the National Day of Prayer will be celebrated world wide on Thursday, May 3, 2007.

Ever since 1775 at difficult times, the country has been called to prayer. for example, in 1863 Lincoln called for a day of prayer. In 1952 a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress and signed by President Truman resulted in a law recognizing a need for an annual day of prayer. in 1972 the National Prayer Committee established the National Day of Prayer Task Force as a non-governmental organization to help coordinate events for the National Day of Prayer. It's mission was to communicate the need for individual personal repentance and prayer. In 1988 President Reagan

decreed that the first Thursday of May would be the official day of prayer.

When Mrs. James Dobson was asked to chair the Task Force, she was able to work from the Focus on the Family headquarters. To help the Task Force, Focus on the Family donated several grants from 1990-1993, until the Task Force became self sufficient.

Under Mrs. Dobson's leadership, the number of planned events has grown to 35,000. While all Americans are encouraged to participate in the National Day of Prayer, the promotional materials and most sponsored events are in keeping with the Judeo-Christian traditions.

This year's theme is: 'America, Unite in Prayer'. The key verse in II Chronicles 7:14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Washington plans to spend from 9-10 a.m. on the Square, May 3rd.

If you are in Peoria, the event will occur at the Peoria County Courthouse, 324 Main Street, from 12-1 p.m. There is promotional material in the foyer. America, UNITE in Prayer

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray . . ."
2 Chronicles 7:14

In the Power of Prayer Comes Victory

by Joyce Nordhielm

They met to observe Passover in the Upper Room. Peter, James and John with the remainder of the twelve, including Judas listened as Jesus predicts his betrayal and Peter's denial. He comforts His Disciples with promises of rooms in His Father's house and the presence of the Holy Spirit. He speaks of the Vine and the branches, enmity between His disciples and the world and the work of the Holy Spirit. And then as if to seal the bond between Himself and those He loved, He went to His Father with the following request:

"I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name-the name you gave me-

so that they may be one as we are one. (John 17: 9-11).

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (John 17:20-23) In the twenty centuries since that day the church has never quite succeeded in being one with Him. It was just one hundred years ago that the churches of the Restoration Plea divided into two entities - the Church of Christ A cappella and the Christian Church. A movement designed to unite all Christians under a banner of Biblical truth now divided for all (including our Lord) to behold. At the last service of the 2006 North American Christian Convention, we sat as Jeff Walling, minister of Providence Road Church of Christ, prayed for reconciliation. After his prayer, as we sang a hymn, he asked only those who intended to reach out to the 'other side' stand. My husband and I, along with most of the audience, stood hesitantly, wondering what we could possibly do to help the cause.

Less than a month later, while I was in a hospital bed, I was writing an article to be printed in our church paper about the efforts of the NACC to promote reconciliation. A nurse appeared and made a comment about the 'Good Book' I was reading. The next time she came in we began a conversation that would lead to a joint service of the City on a Hill Church of Christ in Peoria, Illinois and the Washington Christian Church of Washington, Illinois.

One of her questions that day in the hospital was, 'We are attending a church called the 'Church of Christ'. Do you know anything about it? I can't believe until I know that everything they teach is in the book.' It just happened that on that bed table was a copy of the Christian Standard with a history of Restoration Movement, including basic doctrine.

She copied that article and we continued to discuss Bible truth during my stay. After making a call on their minister, William Preston, we asked our minister, Jeff Browning to follow through with plans for interaction between our congregations. On Easter evening 2007, at the Washington Church,

approximately 225 people from both churches met to share in song, the Word and the Table.

Members from both churches led in the song service. Brother Preston presented a very stirring message. We met for refreshments in the fellowship hall and went home feeling blessed with the acquaintance of a whole new part of the family.

A coalition, made up some time ago, of ministers from most of the area Restoration Churches continues to meet in hopes that permanent fellowship will fulfill a tiny part of the unity prayer Jesus prayed that night.

Youth Page

Sign up for Summer Camp

2007 Registration information and forms for Little Galilee Christian Assembly Camp are in the Fellowship Hall. And boy, do they have a great summer camp season planned for you!

They have great camps for kids entering 2nd grade all the way through High School and beyond, including two Family Camps over the Summer Season.

There's lots to do, like camp fires, fishing, crafts, hiking, music, swimming, games, worship and prayer time, Bible study/lesson time, and did I mention eating. They have great food and snacks too!!!

Get your schedule and registration forms, pick out the camp you wish to attend, and get your registration sent in soon, as some of the camps fill up fast.

And as always, we at WCC think that the experiences your child will receive from camp at LGCA are so very important that the Youth Team has budgeted for and is willing to pay half of your child's camping fee. Check with Jon or the Church office for more information and get signed up today!

Last DOMINGO Before Summer

The Pittman's are having a House Party! Since Sunday, May 6th will be the last DOMINGO before Summer Break we will be having a cookout at the Pittman's starting at 6 PM.

Girls, we are asking you to bring a scrumptious dessert and Guys, we would like you to bring a large bag of chips and a 2 liter of soda. Meat, buns, tableware and everything else will be provided.

Along with the cookout we will have games, so if you have something really fun to play, bring it along. See Jon or Jessica

with questions.

Senior Reception

The Youth Team is planning a Senior Reception for any of the graduating Seniors, their families and friends on Wednesday, May 16th after WCHS Baccalaureate. This reception is for any and all of the WCHS Graduates as well as our H.S. Grads graduating from the surrounding area High Schools. Refreshments will be served.

We would like to encourage everyone to attend the Baccalaureate Ceremony at WCHS on Wed, May 16th at 7:30 p.m. or any of the surrounding school's Baccalaureate's. Let's show our young people that their community and church supports them and that we are very proud of them!

Mini Golf at the Rock in East Peoria

Attention All K-5th Graders!!! (Families are welcome too.) We will be going Miniature Golfing at The Rock in East Peoria on Sat, May 5th at 1 PM. The cost is a group rate of \$5 per person.

If you would like to car pool, meet in the church parking lot.

We will leave promptly at 12:45 PM. Sign up on the Youth Board.

May's Youth Ministry Team Meetings

Student Ministry Team ~ Wed, May 2, after FISH

Children's Min Team ~ Wed, May 9, after FISH

If unable to attend the meetings, please contact Jon Pittman.

C.I.Y. (Christ In Youth Conference)

For High Schoolers (Incoming Freshmen - Graduating Seniors) This year we will be attending the C.I.Y. Conference held at SIU in Carbondale, IL. If interested in going we need you to sign up and pay a \$30 deposit by Sunday, May 27th.

Congratulations to WCC's 2007 Graduates!!!

Middle School / 8th Grade:

Gary Fitzgerald - Roanoke/Benson Jr High

Stephanie Jarrett - Central

Brittany Patterson - WMS

Jon Robertson - Peoria Christian

Olivia Shawgo - Peoria Christian

High School:

Andrew Brown - WCHS

Julie Browning - WCHS

Taryn Green - WCHS

Megan Lewellen - WCHS

Melissa McCracken - WCHS

Ele Phillips - WCHS

Brian Rau - WCHS

Abigail Robertson - Peoria Christian

Darren Smith - WCHS

College:

Cody Doremus - Bradley - Electrical Engineering

Bart Jenkins - Business & Human Resources

Jamie McClintock - UofI - Sprngfld - Bus Admin

Dorrine Smith - Eastern IL Univ - RN, BSN, BS

Jared Zotz - UofI College of Medicine @ Peoria

Garage Sale Time is Here!

June 14th - 16th Youth Fundraiser

One of our greatest annual Youth Fundraisers is just around the corner. Yes, it's time to do a little Spring cleaning and pull out all that good, usable, clean, stuff that's not being used by you or your family anymore, but is just too nice to throw away.

(Hope you all caught that. . . the key words are: 'good', 'usable', 'clean', and 'just too nice to throw away'.)

We don't want anything that everyone thinks is junk. So while cleaning out your attics, garages, basements, closets, etc. please just pitch the junk and un-usables and save the good, clean, etc. . . . stuff for our garage sale.

This year we will accept clothing, including adult, and especially infant, but please make sure it is clean and in good condition. If you would be embarrassed to be seen in it (if it still fits) or have your children seen in it, then most likely so will everyone else. Please no stained or torn items.

We will take knick-knacks, housewares, decorations, toys, games, appliances, antiques, furniture, bikes, . . . just about anything, but again (and I can't stress this enough) items must be in good, clean, working condition!

We are accepting items now through June 10th. Please bring your Garage Sale items to the South Parsonage garage. Need help delivering a large item? Call Jon and we will try to arrange for a pick up.

Thank you in advance for donating to our Youth. And don't forget to come during the Garage Sale and purchase one of our valuable bargains that we will be offered at a very reasonable price!

Senior Day ~ Graduation Sunday ~ Sunday School Promotion ~

Potluck Planned for Sunday, June 10th

WOW! Lots going on! Yes, and you don't want to miss it, so be sure and be here on Sunday, June 10th as we recognize all those graduating from 8th Grade, High School, and College. This will take place during both worship services with special emphasis on recognizing our High School Seniors. We will be putting together a picture presentation of our H.S. grads, so be sure and turn in a few pictures of your graduate by Sunday, June 3rd. (baby, adolescent, teen, etc. pics are welcomed) Pictures will be returned.

Sunday School Promotion will take place during the Sunday School Hour (9:45 a.m.) in the Auditorium followed by donuts, juice, and milk. Please go quickly to your classroom, take attendance, then return to the Auditorium for the Promotion. We would encourage all the Adult classes to participate in this event too!

After 2nd Service at approximately 12:30 p.m. join us for an all church Potluck in honor of our graduating Seniors. We are asking each family to bring 2 dishes to share. (serving approx. 10 people each). Drinks and tableware will be provided. We will also have graduation cake. Be sure and sign up in the foyer so we know approximately how many to plan for. Everyone is welcome!

F. Y. I.

For Your Information

"MOM" Summer Survey

Michele Lelm and Nancy Groff would like to put together a group for Moms to socialize together, discuss motherhood issues in a Christian way, and to re-energize ourselves so that we may be better (sane) moms and wives.

They have passed out a survey to be filled out and returned as to best times for you to meet, topics that interest you, ideas for nights out, and comments.

If you haven't filled out your survey and/or turned it in yet please do so. If you didn't receive a survey and would like one, please see either Nancy or Michele.

They will be putting together a schedule of escapes...oops...activities for us moms (young and old) to do together starting in May.

Annual WCC Picnic & Mixer

Saturday, May 12th

Location: Lincoln Park - Rotary Shelter

Time: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. or dusk

Provided: Drinks, tableware, hamburger, hot dogs, buns, chips and condiments.

Needed: We are asking that each family bring a side dish or dessert to share, serving 8-10.

Bring you favorite yard or board games to share/play. Informational table and sign-up will be available in the foyer.

Family Night with the Peoria Chiefs

Chiefs play Burlington Bees

Friday, June 29th at 7 PM

Contemporary Christian Concert featuring "Sonic Flood" will follow the game.

Group rate tickets are \$14 each. See Gary Shawgo (688-0876 or gtshawgo@sbsglobal.net) by Sunday, May 20th if you would like to go. We need at least 20 people to get the group rate.

Washington Christian Nursery School Annual Spring Programs

Celebrating '30 Years' of Christian Pre-School

You are cordially invited to join us on Tuesday, May 1st at 7 PM for the 4-5's and Thursday, May 3rd at 6:30 PM for the 3's Annual Spring Nursery School Programs. This year we are celebrating our 30th year as a Christian Pre-School.

The children are working very hard on their songs and fingerplays and it's such a joy to see them perform.

Refreshments will be served after the program in the Fellowship Hall.

Red Cross Apheresis Blood Drive

The Red Cross will be holding a platelet Apheresis Blood Drive here at WCC on Tuesday, May 29th in the Fellowship Hall. If interested in donating call Donna @ 444-5214 for an appointment.

Graduation ~ Farewell Open House for Jared, Janelle, and Nathaniel Zotz Jared Zotz will be graduating from U of I College of Medicine @ Peoria on May 5th. His family would like to extend an invitation to you, to an Open House held for Jared on Sunday, May 6th from 2-5 PM in the church Fellowship Hall.

Also, this will be a farewell gathering for the Zotz's as they will be moving to Hawaii in June. Jared will be doing his 4 year residency there.

May F.I.S.H. News

The menus for F.I.S.H. for May are as follows: 2nd:

Sub-Sandwiches, Carrot Salad, Dessert; May 9th: Spaghetti, Dessert; May 16th: Last F.I.S.H. for the Season - Pizza, Salad, and Dessert;

Up-Coming Events to Put on Your Calendar 7th Annual Hog Roast Saturday, September 8th

Location: WCC

Time: 4:00 -6:00 p.m.

Provided: Pork, hot dogs, buns, beans, potato salad, drinks, tableware & condiments

Cost: TBA

Needed: Each family needs to bring a dessert to share to serve 8-10 others.

Informational table and sign-up will be available in the Fellowship Hall or Sign-Up sheet is posted in the foyer.

Get Your Act Together!!!!

Variety Show

Saturday, September 8th (in conjunction with the Hog Roast.)

Location: WCC

Time: Approx. 6:45 p.m. (following the Hog Roast)

What: Show your talent (individual, duet, trio, quartet or group). Sing a song, dance, perform a skit, play an instrument, tell jokes, get a band together, etc.

Questions?: See Tom Chambers or someone else on the Membership/Fellowship Team.

WCC Membership Recognition's

WCC recognized four ladies on Sunday, April 15, who have been members of our church for over 50 years. Each lady received a framed certificate with their respective number of years.

Gwen Kubley - 57 years

Carol Worthington - 63 years

Millie Schnebly - 63 years

Mary Blumenshine - 63 years

"You've Got Mail!"

WCC now has a community mail box, currently located in the foyer. If you want to send a card or letter to someone in our church, just drop it into the mail box and the Membership/Fellowship Team will make sure they know "They've Got Mail".

This is a great way to say thank you or let someone know you are thinking about them. And a great way to teach children the importance of sending Thank You notes. And best of all, it's free, no postage required. So, take advantage of this

inexpensive way to 'mail' a note to a church friend. Especially with the postage rates going up!

Photo Wall

Perhaps you've noticed. Our Photo Wall is now ready for your photo. In fact, you may already have your picture up. But, if you have not already had your picture taken, please see Jim Fisher or Tom Chambers to schedule your individual or family photo shoot.

This is a great way for everyone to learn who you are and for you to learn who is attending WCC. You need not be a member of the church. Regular attenders are welcome too. So don't be shy!

Get your picture snapped today!

Thank You

I would like to say thank you to the Membership/ Fellowship Team and the rest of my church family for the special Sunday 'surprise' you honored me with on Sunday, April 22nd.

It truly was a surprise! I'm not sure how you managed to keep it a secret though.

Thank you for the gift certificates, gifts, beautiful flowers, and all the wonderful cards and kind words! Your Christian love is truly overwhelming! We really do have a kind, giving, and loving church family here at WCC.

Thanks again, Mary Fisher

Same Place - Different Numbers

Because of the new Supported Living Center across from Washington Christian Village, the City of Washington has re-numbered the street numbers and apartments at the Village.

WCV's address is now 1201 Newcastle Road.

Millie Schnebly's new address is 1117 Newcastle Rd., no need to include an apartment number.

The Church Office will be closed on Mon, May 28th in observance of Memorial Day.

Washington Cherry Festival

May 30th - June 2nd

Stop by and visit our booth in the Merchant's Tent.

Washington Christian Village Theme Party 2007

This year the Theme Party for WCV occurred Wed, April 11, from 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Thanks to the Adult Sunday School Classes, we had money enough to purchase ice cream and prizes such as Seek-n-Find puzzles, stuffed animals, hard

candies, and lotions. Mary Fisher, Cara Getz, Leanette Libotte, Anamarie Morris, and Carol Worthington donated cakes.

Ceil Adams, Pat Connaughton, Marilyn MacDonald, Anamarie Morris, Edna Neal, Betty Patterson, and Judy Spain served refreshments to the residents in the cafeteria.

While several of the ladies then offered refreshments to the residents who remained in their rooms, the remaining volunteers stayed in the cafeteria to play Bingo.

When some of the residents heard that there were prizes, more stayed to play.

The Volunteers had an opportunity to use the new Bingo game and apparatus, the new card tables, and the new cart. All items were purchased with Auxiliary money collected this past winter from area churches.

A special thanks is due to all who helped. Everyone was kept quite busy.

Our last event before the Summer is the County Faire Days to take place on May 16, 2007. We will need strawberries and kiwi as a WCC donation. See Anamarie Morris if interested in donating.

Circle of Friends News On March 22, 2007, Circle of Friends met at 'Touch of Homespun' where Rhonda made everyone welcome and graciously gave a discount on the materials that the ladies were using to construct jewelry. Snacks were provided by Leanette Libotte, Angie Hobbs, and Mary Fisher. Please read the March minutes in the foyer for further details.

Plan to attend the May 24th meeting. After the 'Installation of Officers' ceremony, we will have a general business meeting and review the past year.

Circle of Friends will start up again in the Fall.

Beginning early in May, Circle of Friends will be passing a sign-up list asking for volunteers to man our booth in the Merchant's Tent during the Cherry Festival.

Along with the Outreach Ministry, Circle of Friends hope to highlight WCC's presence in the community. We will be handing out WCC informational literature, displaying our summer VBS Program and possibly early registration. We will also have our Church Cookbook on display and for sale.

Be sure to stop by the booth and visit with the volunteer workers. Sitting is sometimes a very hard activity.

And once again, we will be providing the Diaper Changing Station, which seems to be very

much appreciated by families with infants and toddlers who attend the Cherry Festival events.

As it states in our Mission Statement, ". . . we want to build meaningful relationships with each other and engage women in Godly service among ourselves, our church, our neighbors, and our community."

WCV Key Ladies April, 2007

The Key Ladies met at the regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday, April 10, to discuss several problems that needed to be completed. Someone will see about refinishing the porch furniture.

Jim Gorby also asked for names of volunteers who will be attending the Appreciation Dinner on April 19, at Countryside Banquet Center.

We need to nominate someone for President and Secretary. The offices are rotated so that everyone serves a two-year term.

Nancy Groff is again going to help arrange the planters on the porch. Several individuals are needed to help mulch the flower beds.

Jim is looking for volunteers who might be willing to be available regularly to man the This 'n That Shoppe. As always, Kleenex (long boxes), Werthers candies, Milky Way and other bite size candy bars as well as Dove or Caress bath soap is needed for the Shoppe.

WCC Volunteers continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. For May that would be Tuesday, May 22nd. The Volunteers are replacing old water pitchers with new ones. The older thermos types tend to be used by the staff during the hot weather.

WCC Auxiliary needs someone who is interested in planning two centerpieces that will be used in the foyer for November and February. There is an open space on the top of the TV that we are suppose to create an interest center. Please let Anamarie know if you would like to do some decorating.

Somebody

Somebody said it takes about six weeks to get back to normal after you've had a baby....

Somebody doesn't know that once you're a mother, "normal" is history.

Somebody said you learn how to be a mother by instinct.

Somebody never took a three-year-old shopping.

Somebody said being a mother is boring

Somebody never rode in a car driven by a teenager with a driver's permit.

Somebody said if you're a "good" mother, your child will "turn out good".
Somebody thinks a child comes with directions and a guarantee.
Somebody said "good" mothers never raise their voices.
Somebody never came out the back door just in time to see her child hit a golf ball through the neighbor's kitchen window.
Somebody said you don't need an education to be a mother.
Somebody never helped a fourth grader with his math.
Somebody said you can't love the second child as much as you love the first.
Somebody doesn't have two children.
Somebody said a mother can find all the answers to her child-rearing questions in the books.
Somebody never had a child stuff beans up his nose or in his ears.
Somebody said the hardest part of being a mother is labor and delivery.
Somebody never watched her "baby" get on the bus for the first day of kindergarten, or on a plane headed for military "boot camp."
Somebody said a mother can do her job with her eyes closed and one hand tied behind her back.
Somebody never organized seven giggling Brownie to sell cookies.
Somebody said a mother can stop worrying after her child gets married.
Somebody doesn't know that marriage adds a new son or daughter-in-law to a mother's heartstrings.
Somebody said a mother's job is done when her last child leaves home.
Somebody never had grand- children.
Somebody said your mother knows you love her, so you don't need to tell her.
Somebody isn't a mother.
This isn't just about being a mother; it's about appreciating the people in your life while you have them.....no matter who that person is.

submitted by Mark Zotz

BEING A MOTHER

After 21 years of marriage, my wife wanted me to take another woman out to dinner and a movie.

She said, "I love you, but I know this other woman loves you and would love to spend some time with you."

The other woman that my wife wanted me to visit was my MOTHER, who has been a widow for

19 years, but the demands of my work and my three children had made it possible to visit her only occasionally.

That night I called to invite her to go out for dinner and a movie. "What's wrong, are you well," she asked? My mother is the type of woman who suspects that a late night call or a surprise invitation is a sign of bad news. "I thought that it would be pleasant to spend some time with you," I responded. "Just the two of us."

She thought about thought about it for a moment, and then said, "I would like that very much."

That Friday after work, as I drove over to pick her up I was a bit nervous. When I arrived at her house, I noticed that she, too, seemed to be nervous about our date. She waited in the door with her coat on. She had curled her hair and was wearing the dress that she had worn to celebrate her last wedding anniversary. She smiled from a face that was as radiant as an angel's. "I told my friends that I was going to go out with my son, and they were impressed," she said, as she got into the car.

"They can't wait to hear about our meeting."

We went to a restaurant that, although not elegant, was very nice and cozy.

My mother took my arm as if she were the First Lady. After we sat down, I had to read the menu. Her eyes could only read large print. Half way through the entries, I lifted my eyes and saw Mom sitting there staring at me. A nostalgic smile was on her lips. "It was I who used to have to read the menu when you were small," she said. "Then it's time that you relax and let me return the favor," I responded.

During the dinner, we had an agreeable conversation- -nothing extraordinary but catching up on recent events of each other's life. We talked so much that we missed the movie. As we arrived at her house later, she said, "I'll go out with you again, but only if you let me invite you." I agreed.

"How was your dinner date?" asked my wife when I got home.

"Very nice. Much more so than I could have imagined," I answered.

A few days later, my mother died of a massive heart attack. It happened so suddenly that I didn't have a chance to do anything for her.

Some time later, I received an envelope with a copy of a restaurant receipt from the same place mother and I had dined.

An attached note said: "I paid this bill in advance. I wasn't sure that I could be there; but nevertheless, I paid for two plates - one for you and the other for your wife. You will never know what that night meant for me. I love you, son."

At that moment, I understood the importance of saying in time:

"I LOVE YOU" and to give our loved ones the time that they deserve. Nothing in life is more important than your family.

Give them the time they deserve, because these things cannot be put off till "some other time."

submitted by Mark Zotz

Happy Mother's Day!

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