

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 6th- Superbowl Party
- Feb. 24th-Military Wives Connection
- Feb. 18 & 19th-District Men's Retreat
- Feb. 24-26-Youth Measured Retreat
- Feb. 28th-Christian Sportsman Banquet
- March 11-H2H After Dark women's get together
- March 12th & 13th- Missions Awareness
- March 26th-Men's Breakfast
- For more information check out the church website: www.central-assembly.com



A Need

- Ben Azure needs a couch and/or loveseat

Kudos to:

- Jo Ann Sodomka, the Church Decorator. Wow!!
- Mary Ann Ballance, our Pastor's wife, who led the organizational endeavor for the Women's Gala, reaching nearly 1000 women!
- Pastor Kelly – what a choir, what a technical crew, what a drama crew!!
- Keith and Wanda – for a beautifully clean church!
- "Stu" and "Ru" (also known as Andrew Sheldon and Rob Robertson), our own gifted actors, for bringing reality and application to the Christmas story.
- MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers) for providing gifts to each teen mother (Teen MOPS) and their children.
- The "Merry Widows," who adopted and blessed a single mom with a God-blessed offering. Do you know of a "Kudo" you would like mentioned? Submit it to Jan at rjw65@bresnan.net.



Who? What? When? Where? Why?

By Jean DeRusha

This sequence of "W" words is a useful tool when writing about what we want others to know, do, or think. Our world is full of written words, put together with the five W's for our edification. The most important and valuable of these is the Written Word, the Bible, God's spoken word through the Holy Spirit so that we can know Him and align our thinking with what he would have us do and think. He intends us to use words, too, as tools to bring us together as a church and to learn and share with each other within the Body of Christ. Hence, a need for "Connection

News" was born. We, your editors, see this newsletter as a way for everyone at Central Assembly to participate in sharing with each other information, testimonies, stories, teaching, and your gifts, in order to bind us together.

We invite you to participate with us. You may contact any of the following if you have something to share. We welcome your input!

- | | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Jean DeRusha | 452-0098 |
| Lenore Jacobsen | 761-7125 |
| Bev Stone | 452-1900 |
| Denny McCall | 454-1887 |
| Nancy Knauf | 454-3136 |
| Jan Wolter | 452-4234 |
| Carol Spurgeon | 761-6026 |

"Meet a Need"

"They had all things in common...."

- o The Bible gives an example of the early church in Acts 2:43-45 where believers "gave to anyone as he had need."
- o Connection News provides an opportunity for you to be part of blessing a need in our congregation. Look in the Classified Section of the newsletter for

a space called "I Have/ I Need," where we list items or services needed and items or services to be offered by someone.

- o A few examples of how needs have been met already:
- o Someone expressed a need for a washer and dryer; another heard of the need and was able to provide a washer and dryer, having just received an extra set!
- o A free Christmas tree was offered, a family

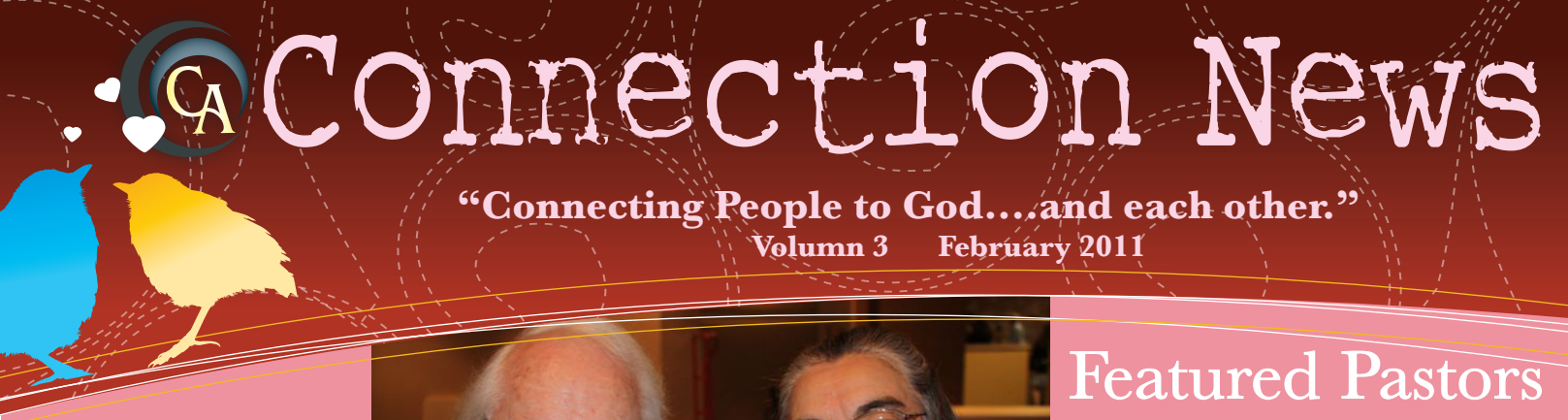
blessed!

- o What do you have to offer? Reading, tutoring a child, baking cookies, decorating a special cake, shoveling snow, changing a tire, parting with unused furniture or appliances?
- o Or do you have a need? Be blessed and bless someone else! Call Lenore at 761-7125 with questions, needs or offers. And God Bless You!!

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

We would like to help you by informing the members of our church body of services that are available right within our family. If you are interested, please call Lenore Jacobsen at 761-7125, or e-mail her at jimlenore2@yahoo.com. We will publish the name and phone number of your business.

A donation for this service is suggested, in order to help offset our printing costs.



Pastor's Corner

Restoration! The heart of God! To restore a people in relationship to Him and to be able to give Himself to this people burns deep within the heart of a loving Father.

How perfect is the Love of God? When mankind deserved separation for his sin and his willful disobedience God chose to walk through painful sacrifice to restore. Latter Rain outpouring is all about the Love of a Heavenly Father who desires to give Himself in blessing, care-taking, and restoration. The promise is that God will make His people strong and mighty, victorious in battle, "trampling the enemy in the mud under their feet," over-



Featured Pastors "Robert and JoAnn Bryant"

-Seniors Ministry

Testimony of a Team: "It's a Wonderful Life!"

Falling in love and pastoring over 57 years, hardships, miracles, lovers of people – who else but the familiar and beloved Robert and Jo Ann Bryant?

For Robert Marion Bryant, it began December 20, 1931, in Palestine, Illinois, with a brother and two sisters and a father who worked in the saw mills. Robert also worked the mills. But he describes an event on July 22, 1949 when two ladies, led by God, approached him asking to pray for him. As a result of that experience, he began to feel some conviction about the way he was living. One night a man named Jesse Rogers said to him at a revival meeting, "I'll go down to the altar with you." Robert agreed and was saved. Later, when being baptized in the Holy Spirit, he "stayed till he prayed through," which was customary in that day.

Robert became, in his own words, "a radically born again believer in Jesus." He read his Bible, and after high school graduation went back and gave his testimony to the entire student body.

In 1953, he was appointed by the National Assembly of God headquarters to minister Christ to the Native American population in Montana. Robert's housing when he arrived in Browning was a small trailer with no hot water or toilet. The pay was \$50 a month.

Meanwhile, in Sidney, Montana, on May 4, 1937, Jo Ann Harriet Reisig was born. She was a farm girl, the youngest of ten, saved at age thirteen at an Alliance Church Vacation Bible School. Although baptized as an infant, she was confirmed and baptized again as an adult, and

A "GROWING" MINISTRY

By Nancy Knauff



Meet the Craig family! For over 30 years, Steve and Kathy lived and farmed north of Carter, Montana, raising and home schooling their two daughters, Shelisa and Janette. Even though they were 35 miles from Great Falls, they traveled to Central Assembly on Sundays and also ensured that Shelisa and Janette were part of the Youth Group. Being farmers, they are familiar with all

7 Project...hope for our youth...

Imagine a city with high schools and middle schools where students serve Jesus. Imagine God's righteousness reigning throughout our school district. Imagine Great Falls schools proclaiming "yes" to Jesus, to prayer and Bible study and "no" to alcohol, drugs, immorality, and suicide.

"An awesome vision", says Pastor Andrew Sheldon. "I call 'righteousness' a God word... a theme He is pulling together." For the youth to come into the righteousness of God is Pastor Andrew's vision for 2011.

This vision is within grasp due in part to the 7 Project and the ongoing 7 Clubs created within Great Falls' high schools.

What, you ask, is the 7 Project? This creative tool is for students, by students, a way for our young believers to share their faith with their peers in the school setting.

UNITY was the word for the city's youth pastors as they all caught the vision, met, prayed and planned. When the project started last fall,

throwing even the enemy's horsemen. Restored out of the compassion of God and removing all rejection. Happy hearts for the people of God and for their children is promised by the Lord. They will live in the redemption God has provided in such freedom that they come running to Him and they will prosper. I love the verse that closes out the 10th chapter of Zechariah. "By my power I will make my people strong, and by my authority they will go wherever they wish. I, the Lord, have spoken." WOW! What a great promise. It is not my strength I have to depend on but His. It is not my authority, which is limited on its own, that I go in. Rather it is the Lord who goes before me and makes the way, and comes behind and is our protector. Join me as we continue to Ask, Pray..."And he will send showers of rain so every field becomes a lush pasture.

Kicking Off the New Year

By Mary Ann Ballance



God will never give up on you! Explore how David's life proves the truth of this promise in this updated edition of the best selling "David: Seeking a Heart Like His," a study by Beth Moore.

My heart is sensing more than ever before an urgency for women to see God as the Day of the Lord draws closer. The need to prepare our hearts is crucial in these last days, that women would have their hunger intensified for an intimate relationship with their Lord.

How will we stand with and withstand the shaking coming before that Day? I share with Beth Moore the importance of women not being intimidated or ashamed of bringing their hearts to the Lord, just as they are, so that God by His Spirit may circumcise their hearts. Through this study, women will also see the need to take authority over their emotions so that their emotions do not overtake them.

From a Widow's Grateful Heart

By Leanoire Jacobsen

On this final day of 2010 I am sitting in my favorite wingback chair reflecting on the wonderful love and care that I have received from my church family, my siblings, my beloved "Merry Widows", and most importantly my Jesus whom I love with all my heart!

Being a widow without family members near can be frightening especially when facing knee replacement surgery in the middle of winter. Yet that is where I found myself this holiday season. I write this to encourage you all that our Lord always has everything under control. Every detail was taken care of, and it has been a wonderful Christmas season,

Look for these additional exciting Heart-2-Heart Events!

Heart-2-Heart Book Club
Come join a lively discussion of Andy Andrew's book "The Noticer" Beginning Monday, February 7, 2011
7:00 p.m. in the Church Foyer (Contact Cindy at 453-5524 for details, or to purchase a book.)

Coming April 1st and 2nd Spring Ladies' Getaway "Embraced in His Presence" Great Northern Hotel, Helena, Montana
Keynote Speaker: Sheba George Workshops & Fellowship (Space is limited)

One of my desires for the women at Central Assembly is that they be encouraged to become involved in servanthood and leadership roles within Heart-2-Heart Ministries, to create purpose, to be connected to an area of ministry, and to build relationship in community within our fellowship.

A "GROWING" MINISTRY

(cont. from pg. 1) things that grow. Now that they live in Great Falls, that love of growing has not diminished, especially for Kathy.

The first time I met Kathy Craig, I was impressed by her compassion and desire to feed the hungry. When the opportunity to help feed Great Falls' needy families arose, she was excited.

In Kathy's words, "I took the Extension Service Master Gardener Class in the spring of 2010. We are all expected to do some form of gardening-related community service. As a result, I became team (cont. from page 1) leader of the Salvation Army garden. Other master gardeners and my family, especially my husband, have all been involved as well. It has been an absolute joy to be able to use my gardening skills to bless my new community in some small way."

A new vision has developed for the family to continue their passion to grow food and promote our city's growth. Steve and Kathy are now searching for the perfect spot to start a hydroponic garden on a scale that would create jobs and establish a faith-based employer in the Great Falls marketplace. As the Craig family focuses on God's plan for them, we can be assured it will be a "growing ministry!"

actually one of the best! Instead of being consumed with the "to do" list, JESUS became my focus. And surprisingly all the details took care of themselves. A wonderful Christmas dinner was provided for and delivered on Christmas Day, my daughter was able to spend 6 weeks with me, and has provided great care, a kind neighbor (I call him my angel) took care of snow removal, and on and on it goes. So thank you, my wonderful church family for all of the love you so freely give. And to my Lord who has imparted fresh revelation of His love for me during this time. He truly is all we need!

7 Project

(cont. from pg. 1) youth groups throughout the city began their evangelism training. Students proudly wore their "7" t-shirts each Wednesday for 7 weeks. The shirts became a conversational piece and an invitation to attend the 7 Project Rally.

To add to the growing excitement, Tim Bach (Tim Bach Band) was brought in to address middle school and high school students during their school assemblies. After sharing his powerful story, he invited the young people to the Rally, which was held at Paris Gibson Education Center. There, an estimated 1,000 students heard the rest of Tim Bach's story as well as a salvation invitation. Each youth pastor marveled that kids they did not believe could be moved by the Gospel showed up and stayed for the whole rally.

The 7 weeks of this project may have concluded, but it's not over by any means. Although about 20 cards were written out, many hands went up at salvation's call. Several went

forward for prayer. Youth pastors are still following up with those who committed their lives to Christ. In addition, Great Falls High and CMR students are in the process of creating 7 Clubs for teens to gather every other Wednesday.

What is next for our youth? Pastor Andrew believes it is discipleship. "Our teens are full of passion and we need someone to lead them in wisdom. They are a spark but they must be taught."

EXCITING NEWS!
We can all be a part of this new future for our teens. How? Pray.

Pray with thanksgiving for our youth, pray for our middle schools and high schools, pray for the 7 Clubs. Lift up the city's youth pastors as they work in unity on behalf of Great Falls' teens. Pray for revelation of God's next move and how to direct our teens into a deeper walk with Jesus.

Student Testimonies:

Tassie Horning believes many seeds were planted. "So much was going on in the room. I felt so many wanted to reach out to the Lord but were afraid

of what others would think. Seeds were planted. Two weeks after the rally a friend asked me to come to her house and she asked three questions about faith. I was able to talk with her about it."

"I thought this was a great opportunity for students to reach out to friends. A lot of kids were at the rally. It's good for our fellow students to be exposed to the Gospel rather than sinful things they face every day. I saw a lot of seeds planted in hearts. I am praying for God to continue the work in their lives so they can have a relationship with Him." -- Anna Laughlin

Shanna Loughlin liked how the 7 Project showed her she was not alone in her faith at Great Falls High. "All the youth groups got t-shirts. I saw kids in the school with shirts that I didn't know were Christians. We were able to connect. Sometimes it gets lonely and I thought I could be the only one. About 150 GFHS kids were wearing shirts."

Testimony of a Team: "It's a Wonderful Life!" (cont. pg. 1)

later received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This goal-centered young Christian woman became a teacher, and over the course of 37 years taught grades K through 12 at varying times and places. In order to attain her degrees - a BS in Education and a Masters in Administrative Supervision - she often attended classes day and night. Her teaching took her to Fairview; Livingston; Nehalem, Oregon; Choteau; Pendroy; and a Hutterite Colony out of Browning. She conducted kids' camps, ladies' retreats, child evangelism and is certified as a minister. She plays the piano, loves painting, and does crafts and needlework.

Along the way, she saw a young man at Glacier Bible Camp and inquired, "Who is that cute blonde?" A love story began

which Pastor Robert describes as "love at first sight." However, that "cute blonde" could not resist a sign that said, "I may not be rich or good looking, but I am available," which Jo Ann wore! That MRS Degree came in May 1974.

Pastor Robert was ordained at Central Assembly in 1958. His ministry took him from Browning to Baker to Plains to Fairfield, Montana, all as lead pastor and always working at other jobs at the same time, including their time as children's pastors at Central Assembly for ten years. In 1999 he and Jo Ann returned to Central, this time as Senior Adult Pastors. They presently minister to well over 100 seniors in our congregation. Pastor Robert feels especially called to hospital and nursing

home ministry, and to those in the dying process. Jo Ann is a good listener, leader, and loves praying with people.

This couple has experienced many Godly healing miracles, including one experienced by Jo Ann when a pastor's wife agreed with her in prayer; Robert's healing from long-term headaches; and God's continuous healing during his recent carotid surgery. But Pastor says, "Even a miracle cannot just happen without our cooperation."

It IS a beautiful life following God's lead. We are blessed by the demonstration of obedience and love in this easy-going team. Thank you, Pastor Robert and Jo Ann!

Christian Sportsmen's Fellowship, Big Sky Chapter of Great Falls, will hold its annual Sportsmen's Banquet and Wild Game Tasting event on Monday, February 28th, at the Montana Expo Park Exhibition Hall. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 6:30 p.m. Our special guest speaker will be Dwight Schoh, Editor of "Bow Hunter's Magazine."

The evening's events will include a menu of pulled pork, and you are encouraged to bring your favorite wild game dish to share with others. There will be a silent auction and a knife raffle to benefit our community outreach programs. Taxidermy displays and an encampment exhibit will enhance the event. The top door prize will be a Weatherby Vanguard 270 Rifle.

Tickets are available at the following locations:
Central Assembly of God Church
Valley Community Bible Church
Faith Center
Big R
Big Bear Sports, Firearms Department