



PACS FAX

Portland Adventist Community Services

Hallucinating—or Not?

It was time to fill out the pledge card. It had been sitting with my bills for some time. Finally I had to make a decision.

I had prayed about this for several weeks. Each time I had been impressed to give a certain amount. Each time I thought I must be hallucinating.

Lately things had been really tight. I couldn't even pay my bills without going into debt by the end of every month—for nearly a year.

Finally I decided to just make the pledge, pay the first month right after my tithe and trust the Lord. I held tight to the admonition found in Mathew 10:8, "Freely ye have received, freely give."

The first month was predictable. I gave extra and I went in the hole even more. The next month I gave again.

Then some unexpected money came my way, just enough to cover what I'd paid for the first month and enough for the second. A few weeks later an insurance payment came through, one I never expected to see since it was eighteen months overdue.

"I am 92 years old. I am sending this payment from my meager bank account! I have a firm belief that the God who provided for me as an orphan will continue to care for me!"

come!—written by a donor to the Temple Builder's Campaign

Giving. Some say you can't out give the Lord. Is it possible to pledge what you don't have? Why not? People do it all the time. Look at the debt many people carry as a regular way of life.

Is it not easier to trust the Lord? Just ask another giver to PACS. He says, "I'm 92 years old. I am sending this payment from my meager bank account! I have a firm belief that the God who provided for me as an orphan will continue to care for me!"

Let Him set the amount, then experience the adventure of giving with Him. He loves our freewill offerings, given out of full hearts responding to His love.

Last week another surprise check came for some work I had done on a gratis basis.

Would you believe, even though it is only the third month of my pledge, I have received enough extra dollars to cover not only the entire three-year pledge, but to also pay tithe on the extra in-

Volume 11, Issue 2
March/April 2006

"Money is never not spiritual."

Overheard in a local Gateway Area Business Association meeting.

Inside this issue:

<i>Temple Builders</i>	2
<i>Changing of the Guard</i>	2
<i>News Notes</i>	2
<i>Stretcher Bearers</i>	3
<i>Norm Thompson Outfitters</i>	3
<i>Prayer & Wish List</i>	3
<i>Can We Help?</i>	4

Quilting Party

Every Tuesday they come together. It's time for visiting, sharing and laughing. It's also time for serious concentration on helping their neighbors.

Eva Blehm, Rollie Halberg and Emma Rodier come together to cut, sew and tie quilt after quilt

for others. And what a wonderful job they do. Their quilts are highly prized by those who are so lucky as to get one.

How grateful we are to Eva, Rollie and Emma. They give of themselves tirelessly, regardless of arthritis, dimming eyesight, or

other inconveniences. All work together to give warmth and love to others in their community.

May the Lord continue to bless them with health and strength as they share their talents with their neighbors.

We salute you.



“Temple Builders” Capital Campaign Launched

Well, we’re on our way! Many of you have received an invitation in the mail to join our Temple Builder’s Campaign. A good share of you have responded. Thank you, thank you!

As you may remember from our last newsletter, we have been paying regularly on our mortgage for several years. Gradually our debt is decreasing. We have never missed a payment, or even been late, for which we praise the Lord.

But debt is not a good thing for an agency like ours. The money which goes to pay for principal and interest could be used to buy food, or greatly increase our capacity to make a difference in someone’s life.

So we have embarked on a campaign to ask 1,300 people to give a gift of \$360, or a pledge amounting to that over the next three years.

Here are the comments of a couple donors who have responded to this invitation:

“This is a very small donation—wish we could do better. But it’s given with much love. Our prayer is that God will continue to bless PACS as this is His ministry.”

“Here is my gift of \$360.00. I am 103 years old and I happen to have the money right now, so I decided to pay my entire three-year pledge all at once.”

Right now we have received over \$25,000 in pledges and gifts.

This is just a start on the \$468,000 we need. But we’re on our way!

How we praise God for your gifts, and wish His richest blessings on all.



The Israelites brought freewill gifts, each as he could afford until the temple was built.

Changing of the Guard



What a blessing to have Ron Meisner as part of our crew. Ron has agreed to share the job of Food Distribution Coordinator with Dave Russell.

Ron smiles a lot, so he must be enjoying his work. He’ll catch on sooner or later, but right now we’ll let him think that long hours, little pay and a huge amount of thanks equals happiness and satisfaction!

In all seriousness, Ron brings a penchant for cleanliness and organization. He has already raised us to new levels of thoroughness and accountability. His engineering background brings a wealth of knowledge just at the times we need it. He is a great addition to our agency. Welcome to PACS, Ron!

*“How many people have you made homesick to know God?”—
Anonymous*

News Notes

- We wish Jack Farr a wonderful retirement—again. He thought he was retired until he came to work with us in the food department. Jack was a wonderful part of our family, and we are always glad to have him back whenever he can make it. To use his favorite expression, “Bless your heart, Jack!” We miss you.
- We are most grateful to the Collins Foundation for a grant of \$2,500 for an electric pallet jack. We have all been taking driving lessons. What a joy this is!
- We also wish to thank the Oregon Conference Hope for Humanity Committee for their help of \$2,200 in purchasing a floor scale for weighing food. This is a major help in keeping accurate records as required by our auditor.
- We have recently joined the Gateway Area Business Association (GABA). This is a great organization with wonderful business owners who are proud of their community and working hard to make it a safe, inviting neighborhood. We are proud to be part of GABA.
- Job opening—A full time job is open for a Health Clinic coordinator. If you are missionary-minded and have the equivalent of an RN degree or higher, consider taking a look at this job. You would be scheduling and supporting volunteers, physicians and other professionals in a busy office setting as well as managing the administrative functions of an agency clinic. If you like challenge and variety, you will love this job. Please call 503 252-8500 x110 to request an application.



Stretcher Bearer, by Ginny Allen

(Thank you, Ginny, for sharing this poem with us. It aptly describes the feelings of those who give of themselves to help others. How comforting to remember He is always there, We are promised that "The Lord is near to all who call on him." Psalms 145:18)

Oh, God, the world is crying out in pain,

And I am overwhelmed with the intensity of the need.

The world is crying out, "Who is there to care?"

Who is there to hold me ... while I bleed?"

I am only one, God, what can I do,

When I hear the anguished call?

I am only one, my hands are too few,

And my voice is too small.

My child ..., did you think that alone

I would ask you to go.

To a world that is reeling

With misery and woe?

When I show you a need and a work to do.



I'm there at your side, working with you!

I will not leave you alone for the task,

My child, I'm with you before you ask!

When I give you a work for others to start,

I will also give you a loving heart!

When you pick up a stretcher to carry a friend,

Remember I'm bearing the stretcher at the other end.

Norm Thompson Outfitters Help Community

"Guess what?!" Cindy was ecstatic.

"I just finished talking with Norm Thompson and they are going to donate some stuff to the thrift store!"

This was great news, as we always welcome donations from businesses. We were especially pleased to learn that



Cindy had made a new contact.

Finally the day came for the truck to go pick it up. When the driver came back, he was all smiles.

"Look," he said, "six pallets of things!" And sure enough there were women's clothes, men's clothes, pallets of shoes, umbrellas and other miscellaneous items. Even a

tent to connect to the back of a SUV. Our sorters and pricers have worked hard to get it all out on the floor for sale.

All told, the donation was worth \$180,000 retail, though it will be less in our store.

Our customers have been very pleased to find such nice, new items. Women who wear shoes size 5, 10 or 11 have been especially blessed!

What a difference a donation like this can make to those who need help so desperately. Thank you, Cindy, for the hard work.

Prayer & Wish List

- Here's a new idea! Consider removing your toilet paper before the roll is finished. We need partially used rolls of toilet paper for the homeless.
- Food; anything non-perishable
- Food; our shelves are truly bare
- Food; even the shelves at the Ore-

- gon Food Bank are bare
- Food; canned fruits and vegetables
- Food; rice, macaroni, cereal
- Food; canned soups, stews, top-ramen
- Food; baking mix, flour, sugar, oil

- Food; baby food, formula
- Food; did we mention food?!



Portland Adventist Community Services

11020 NE Halsey
Portland, OR 97220

Phone: 503-252-8500

Fax: 503-257-2884

Email: info@portlandacs.org



Portland Adventist
Community Services

People Active in Christ's Service

We're on the Web!
www.portlandacs.org



Can We Help?

You're important to us! If there are things about PACS you'd like to hear about, issues you would like us to pray about or even if we have spelled your name wrong please email us at info@portlandacs.org or call 503 252-8500 with an update.

Do you know someone that would like prayer for a particular situation? Have them log on to www.portlandacs.org and choose the "Prayer Request" option.

Then they can write in whatever they would like our prayer team to bring to

the Lord for them. We will pray for their particular request for 30 days.

We are particularly overjoyed when someone writes and tells us the Lord has answered their petition. No request is too small for Him, but we also love to come to Him with praise and thanksgiving.

We feel privileged when you allow us to join you in bringing your requests to the throne of heaven.

No request is too big or small. For example, we pray for health concerns, job opportunities, housing, finding

lost animals, addictions, family issues, an 18-month old with a collapsed lung, and that custody battles will be resolved.

How wonderful that God is not limited to time, resources or space in His ability to answer His children.

You may not need food, clothing, household stuff, or medical care, but there comes a time in all of our lives when we need the help of a Christian friend. Please consider us your friend and let us kneel along beside you.

We would be honored.

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.