

THE GOOD NEWS

College Drive Seventh-day Adventist Church Newsletter

Volume I, Issue VII

March 2015

Our Vision

College Drive SDA Church:
at the Intersection of Serving
God and Changing Lives.

Prayer

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22-23 RSV

Thank You, Father, for Your examples of love. Your steadfastness, mercy, and faithfulness is such a model for me. Give me Your strength to love others as You have loved me. *Amen.*

Source: Bless Your Heart (series II), Heartland Samplers, Inc.

Choose Health

Whole Plant Based Food Classes

Take advantage of this opportunity to enhance your skills in preparing delicious and healthy meals.

Classes will be held March 15th and 29th, 2:00-4:00 p.m., at the Frezza home located at 711 Chickasaw Drive South, Flowood, MS 39232.

Call Carol Frezza at (269) 313-1014 or email at carol.mullins79@yahoo.com to register.

By Carol Frezza

From the Pastor

Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. -Psalm 127:1

If I ever doubted this verse before, I don't anymore. If you wonder whether or not there is a God...plant a church.

Not long after beginning our ministry at College Drive, I was told by several members that it was always a goal to build up the membership of College Drive and then plant another church. On February 28, 2015 this dream became a reality.

Planting a church has been, hands down, one of the hardest things I have ever been involved in, from finding a suitable worship venue to conducting a full series of meetings for people who had never been exposed to the Seventh-day Adventist message.

However, further along in the process I began to realize, and more firmly believe, Psalms 127:1. The moment I just knew I had found the right place for our church, God would say, "no, I do," and sure enough he did. God opened the door for a fully furnished church to lease, with the option to buy, or renew at the end of the 2-year lease. Also the owner is going to apply 1/4 of all the

It Was a Mistake—or Was It?

My box of booklets entitled, "She Kissed the Face of God," had finally arrived; but too late to share them with my neighbors as I had planned for Christmas time. When I opened the box, my joy turned to dismay when I discovered every last one of them was in Spanish. I didn't order them in Spanish, and what was I going to do with them now? I didn't want the confusion of sending them back because they were discontinued.



rent we pay toward the purchase if we decide to go that direction. Praise God!

The work is far from over. You are the parent church—we need you! Two things we need from each of you are: 1. Prayer, and 2. Come worship with us from 5 to 6PM at least once a month. I don't always preach the same sermon I preach at College Drive.

Having a full church helps to bolster spirits. Thank each of you for your hard work. God will continue to bless as we grow in number, but more importantly, in Spirit. Let God use us to finish the work of carrying the Gospel so that we can go home.

By Pastor Richie

Several days later, God gave me an idea. My husband and I love Mexican food, and we have a favorite Mexican restaurant in Flowood where the majority of the servers are Hispanic. I decided to put several booklets into my big purse; the next time we went to the Mexican restaurant, I presented a copy to our server who seemed genuinely delighted to receive a free booklet in his language. After he left, another server timidly came over to our table, bent down and whispered if he could have a

Valuable Moments ~ Time With Our Kids

March’s Moment ~ Working Outside with Our Kids

Growing up on a corner in Jackson, with sidewalk bordering my yard on two sides and driveway on the third, didn’t keep me from working outside. The part I most enjoyed, I called “peacock work.” My dad’s philosophy for tree trimming was simple. If a branch touched his head when he walked under it, it needed to go. The peacock part was me, dragging the cut pecan limbs behind me to stack beside the curb.

In the city we didn’t burn the limbs. Elsewhere, throwing wood on a fire is one of my favorite things to do, even now. Lessons learned in this multi-generational outdoor activity were many; the obvious safety precautions, learned in Pathfinders and still practiced, the life lessons and the spiritual lessons. We’ve all heard the sermon illustration—it’s surely in public domain by now—of a pastor’s visit to a non-attending member. At the beginning of the visit, the pastor slid a red hot ember from the fireside to the edge. In the course of the visit the coal cooled and darkened. The man got the point and promised to be back at church the next week. Fellowship is needed across the generations.

Have you ever tried to make a fire using only twigs? It starts easily, but quickly burns out. What about a roaring blaze with only mid-sized limb--harder to start, and difficult to maintain? And starting a fire with only big logs—difficult to impossible? Is it a stretch to think we all need to work together?

A text from the e-teen Sabbath School lesson this week seems to apply. Hebrews 10:24, 25 CEV “We should keep on encouraging each other to be thoughtful and to do helpful things. Some people have gotten out of the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging each other, especially since you know that that day of the Lord’s coming is getting closer.”

By Kathleen Martin

Announcements/Activities/Events

Visitors’ Lunch: Immediately following Sabbath service. Consult the church bulletin for details and changes.

Fellowship Dinner: Second Sabbath of the month. See the church bulletin for details and changes.

Dinner and a Movie: Saturday, March 21st. Make your reservation now: call Cheryl Nance at (601) 664-1408 or email her at cheryln@windstream.net. Proceeds benefit the Adventurer Club.

Men’s Ministry: *Get involved. Contact Manuel Recinos or Enrique Guzman.*

Feeding the Homeless Ministry: Third Sabbath of the month—please join us. Contact Dan or Joann Mitzlaff to help (601) 824-9776.

Food Pantry: Please continue to bring non-perishable food items to stock our food pantry. Remember to label them—for the food pantry.

Health Ministry: First Sabbath of each month. Visit the health information display table for free water and handouts. Contact Katie Dearborn to help with this ministry (601) 954-2652.

Hospital Ministry: Once a month Ms. Pat or Ms. Joyce visits Riveroaks and Crossgates Hospitals. Contact Pat Roan to help with this ministry (601) 214-4648.

Small Groups Meetings: Check with Teri Spracklen to get the details.

Prison Ministry: Every Friday night. Contact Nick Lesh to help with this ministry (601) 668-9727.

Christian School: If you have friends or family looking for an excellent elementary school within a Christian environment, please tell them about College Drive School. Contact us at (601) 933-0990 or visit the school website at www.collegedriveschool.com

Jackson Evangelism Plan:

- March 28, 2015** **S.O.S. (Season of Service) Celebration**
- March 29, 2015** **“God’s City, My City”
Small Groups and Season of Prayer Begins**

booklet too. I gladly gave him two, and then I also gave one to a lady server who had waited on us on previous occasions.

Since we also like Chinese food, we sometimes go to a lovely little Chinese restaurant in Richland. A new, very friendly Hispanic lady works there. I told her I would like to give her a book; and upon handing her

the booklet her eyes lit up, she gave me a big hug, and started translating the chapter titles for me. In further discussion with her, we reached the conclusion that maybe the “mistake” was providential.

Needless to say, I still have a few more booklets left; and there is another nice Mexican restaurant in Magee, which is on the way to take Emily back to Bass. The owner is a very outgoing person, and he and his wife appear to be very religious. The whole serving staff is also Hispanic—need I say more?

As most of you know, we are

living in troubled times: people are interested in and in need of life-altering literature. They seem to be very appreciative when they receive it. Think about meeting someone in the Kingdom that you shared a book with and that they are there because of the part you had in ministering to their soul.

Reflecting upon my experience, I never got a hug from a total stranger before over a 27 cent booklet, in a language I didn’t order. The blessing I received from this experience far outweighed any frustration I felt when my plans were changed by what I thought was a “mistake.”

By Barbara Adams

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