

Church News and Events

By Mark Brown

Happy New Year

One of the things a New Year offers is an opportunity for new beginnings. One of the underlying themes of the Bible is just that. Jesus wants people to know that second chances are always available; If need be third, fourth and so on...

That is true for the church as well. I have served in many of the churches in Vernonia, both as a lay person and staff. I spent a couple of years within the Bible teaching churches looking at the constitutions and by-laws; I studied my church community beyond the feel good part. I mention this only as a reference for readers. Getting to know people I believed to be brothers and sisters in the faith, I should also mention that was several years back.

The church is, according to the Bible, the final authority for believers; God's Word! The Bible describes the church as the Bride and Jesus as the Bridegroom; can you picture it? The only thing according to God's word that will carry into eternity will be His word and "The (His) Church". Everything

else will be done away with.

Within "The Church" is the hope of the world, desperate for love, understanding, compassion and an experiential relationship with Him. We spend a lifetime trying to fill SOMETHING inside us only He can fill.

We as individual entities do what we can. There are some amazing people in this community and within the churches here. Each body continues to strive to help those within their own walls and support missions outside and I commend them for it.

What does the community see when they look at "The Church", what keeps them from walking in, staying in "The church"? There are many reasons. I will suggest that if we as "The Church of God" begin to present "The Church" as a unified body in this community; join resources and walk outside our walls hand in hand in the service of this community, there will be standing room only in them. It is only as we empty ourselves out that we allow God's Spirit to fill us again.

I would suggest, ask us to pray, that we can roll up our sleeves, jump in with both feet and get our hands dirty

together. Remind our community we are simply human beings fragile as any other. We will make mistakes and do not have all the answers. We are sorry for our attitudes if they are less than humble. That we will stand side by side to encourage one another and bare one another's burdens as we are asked to do. We will not always get it right. It may require we get over ourselves and come together to seek and save the lost, of which we either are or were not so long ago. One church serving one God with one mind, for one purpose....His Glory!

Happy New Year

May we begin this one closer than we left the last. This is your space to express and share your thoughts Vernonia; we welcome your voice.

Vernonia Community Church: "Art of Marriage" a new marriage class for couples starts in February. www.vernoniacommunity-church.org

Philippians 2

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of

love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, 2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. 3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;

Senior Center Activities

5-Area Luncheon: Monday, January 28 at the Scappoose Senior Center

Week Day Lunches: The Vernonia Senior Center offers nutritious and tasty lunches each weekday for a \$4 donation for seniors over 60; cost is \$5 for anyone under 60. To-go meals are available for \$5. These are available to the public, not just Senior Citizens. (Mealtime is noon; late arrivals may not be served.) You can reserve your lunch by calling by 11:15 AM, or further in advance if possible, to assist the cooks as they prepare the day's meals. Meals on Wheels are available for a \$4 donations for seniors over 60. Please contact the Senior Center for an application.

Maple Bars available locally! Connie King, the cook at the Senior Center, is making maple bars each day. The maple bars

are available to the public, too, and only cost \$1 each. Availability is subject to quantity on hand. You can assure yourself of a good supply by pre-ordering them directly from Connie by calling the Senior Center (503-429-3912) any week day, from 7:00 AM-3:00 PM. Please allow one day lead time for larger orders. The Center's front door opens at 9:00, but the side parking lot door opens at 7:00. Ah, sweet treats!

Thrift Store: Bargain prices can be found in Vernonia's Senior Center Thrift Store. The retail store is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. The Thrift Store provides funds for the Senior Center's facility and its many activities. Donations can also be dropped off during those same hours. Donated clothes need to be clean and in good condition

so they are "sales ready". We are offering half off during the first week of each month. Buy locally and support your local Senior Center.

For after hours drop-offs please contact Pauline 503-429-5810.

Special Days: On the last Wednesday of the month Wau-na Credit Union will be serving ice cream. On the last Friday of the month we will serve birthday cake and ice cream to celebrate that month's birthdays.

Membership Dues: Another way to support Vernonia's Senior Center is to pay the \$15 annual membership dues. Checks may be mailed or dropped off at the Senior Center. Anyone 55 and older may join.

Questions? Call: (503) 429-3912

Church Directory (in alphabetical order)

Assembly of God
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Morning Worship: 11:00 AM
Wayne Marr, Pastor
662 Jefferson Avenue
503-429-0373

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Sunday Schedule:
Sacrament Meeting: 10:00 AM
Sunday School & Primary: 11:20 AM
Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women: 12:10 PM
Marc Farmer, Branch President
1350 E. Knott Street
503-429-7151

Covenant Church Vernonia
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service: 11:00 AM

Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 7:00 PM
John D, Murray, Pastor
359 "A" Street
503-860-3860

Nehalem Valley Bible Church
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service: 10:45 AM
Wed. Ladies Bible Study: 10:00 AM
Wednesday Service: 7:00 PM
Sat. Men's Prayer Meeting: 6:30 AM
Gary Taylor, Pastor
Grant & North Streets
503-429-5378

Pioneer Baptist Fellowship
Worship Service: 6:00 PM
www.pbflive.com
John Cahill, Pastor
850 Madison Ave.
503-429-1161

St. Mary's Catholic Church
Wednesday Religious Education:
3:15-4:30 PM
Sunday Mass: 12:00 PM
Rev. Luan Tran, Administrator
960 Missouri Avenue
503-429-8841

Vernonia Christian Church
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service in Youth & Family Center: 11:00 AM
www.VernoniaChristianChurch.org
Sam Hough, Pastor
410 North Street
503-429-6522

Vernonia Community Church
Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Wednesday Prayer: 6:30 PM

Ralph Young, Interim Pastor
957 State Avenue
503-429-6790

Vernonia Foursquare Church
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Children's Sunday School
Carl Pense, Pastor
850 Madison Avenue
503-429-1103

Vernonia Seventh-day Adventist Church
Sabbath (Saturday) Services
Sabbath School: 9:30 AM
Worship Service: 11:00 AM
www.VernoniaSDAC.org
Larry Gibson, Pastor
2nd Ave. and Nehalem St.
503-429-8301