

Changes Happening at Grace Family Fellowship

continued from front page



cleaned up and back to work like God has intended," said Lindsley. "We're just thrilled to be part of it."

In addition to the expansion of the campus, Grace Family Fellowship is also completing a small addition onto the gymnasium portion of their original building. The addition will serve as a storage facility.

The final change at Grace Family Fellowship is the recent purchase of a baby grand piano which will be used to enhance the music portion of the services at the church.

Grace Family Fellowship has a new baby grand piano, just in time for Christmas.

Things to Ponder: *continued from page 20*

promised us that faith in Him would bring us a new life that no one could steal. When the world looks at us do they see humble, gentle, peaceful, forgiving people or do they see people that think they're better than everyone else?

This Christmas my hope for the Church is that the world will see Jesus in us and be drawn to Him. My prayer is that we will think more of others than we do ourselves. Is it possible for the Church to change the

way the world looks at us? Is it possible that we can recover some of the lost ground we have surrendered because of our arrogance? Many call on Christ and honor Him with a sincere life, live only for His glory, and want to do His will, but others see Christianity as a means to an end. We can change how the world understands Jesus if we put Him first, others second and ourselves last!

God bless and Merry Christmas.

Indigo Ranch *continued from page 4*

guests. "We play with them, we throw the ball with them, with lay on the floor and sit on the couch with them," says Wright. "They get tons of attention."

"We just love them," adds Bettencourt.

Both Wright and Bettencourt's enthusiasm for their work and the joy they receive from being around their dog guests, shows on their faces and in their conversation about Indigo Ranch. "Sometimes I just can't believe I get to do this for a job," says Bettencourt.

Caring for a group of dogs, especially dogs that don't know each other, can be challenging. "We have two mantras here--'Safety first,' and 'Know your dogs,'" says Wright. "We have to get to know them so we match them up and know which dogs can safely stay and play together, because we want them to have a really great time while they are here."

One of the dormitory rooms is designated as a "small dog dorm," says Wright, and generally houses the littler visitors, although during very busy times, when living space gets a bit more crowded, some gentle larger dogs may bunk with the small dogs.

Wright says Indigo Ranch can board up to thirty-two dogs at a time and will be full to capacity during the holidays.

Dogs at Indigo Ranch get to eat their own food, including a raw meat diet. "Whatever they eat at home, that's what they get here," says Wright. In fact, Bettencourt says the staff has even had to prepare special meals for several guests that were not feeling well, including scrambling eggs and preparing pumpkin for their upset stomachs.

One misconception about Indigo Ranch is that it is a cage free facility. Wright says because of the nature of dogs in general, and caring for them in confined spaces, the dogs at

Indigo Ranch sometimes are required to spend some time in crates, depending on the number of dogs being boarded. Wright says dogs are rotated in and out of doors for play time and in and out of crates throughout the day, to make sure all dogs are kept safe. Making sure dogs get introduced to each other and will get along



Angela and Sam with Laura Wright and Otie.

is a top priority for the staff, says Bettencourt.

In addition to dogs, Indigo Ranch is also home to several barn animals who have been rescued when they needed a place to live, including several alpacas, goats, chickens and bunnies. These animals live in the large red barn on the property which has separate fenced runs to keep them contained.

Wright says one of her favorite things about living and working at Indigo Ranch is seeing dogs excited to come back for a return visit and overnight stay. "When they get used to us and then come back—seeing them come running through the gate wagging their tail—it's just the best feeling. It's important to us that our clients feel comfortable leaving their dogs with us," says Wright.

For more information about Indigo Ranch visit indigoranch.org. For more information about Indigo Rescue go to indigorescue.org.



Make sure your holidays are wrapped in safety.

One of the best gifts you can give your family for the holidays is a safe home. While you're decking the halls, check that you've done all you can to prevent fires. Make sure that all light strings, electrical cords and power strips are in good condition and suited to the job. Don't overload your outlets. Inspect and clean the chimney and fireplace before you ever light a match. Always use a fireplace screen. Keep your live tree well watered.

Warm wishes for safe celebrations from Columbia 9-1-1.



Columbia 9-1-1.
Always there.



P.O. Box 998 St. Helens, OR 97051

Administrative Office: (503) 397-7255 Non-emergency Dispatch: (503) 397-1521 1-800-696-7795

www.columbia911.com