



RELIGION

Send notice of your church activities and events to:
Religion Editor, Portland Observer
P.O. Box 3137
Portland OR 97208

World Religion Day observed

World Religion Day is being observed by the Baha'is of Portland on Wednesday, January 16th at 7:30 p.m. at the Baha'i Center at 2828 S.W. Corbett Ave. The focus this year is on sharing and service to humanity. The public is invited to enjoy with the Baha'is an evening of music and storytelling about the life of Abdu'l Baha, the son of the prophet-founder of the Baha'i faith. Abdu'l Baha dedicated a large portion of his

waking hours to giving to the poor and ministering to the sick. Ernestine Berkey, a Baha'i with a background in drama and storytelling will speak. Music will be provided by Ann Blair, who will teach and lead some songs. Attendees are asked to bring vegetables, meat, bread, crackers, grains, dried legumes, jello, or canned fruit, which will be used the following Saturday in cooking a meal to be served to Portland's hungry at Baloney Joes.

Adventist ministers aid Africa

Famine in Africa has drawn two Oregon Seventh-day Adventist ministers who are veterans in church relief efforts to become directly involved.

Bill Jensen, who pastored in Lebanon and Sweet Home, is working with Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) International in Washington, D.C. He left Washington November 29 to help organize an enlarged relief program for starving Ethiopians where ADRA has already been providing help for up to 17,000 persons. He will return to Washington, D.C., later in December.

The other pastor is Dick Hall, who is on leave from his pastorate in Santa Clara. In Ghana where Adventists have been conducting an emergency food distribution program in famine areas, Hall is now establishing a food-for-work program.

Jensen, who has been involved in the Ethiopian program since October, reported immediately prior to his departure that one of the most pressing needs for Ethiopia is vehicles for transporting food.

ADRA is using the church's hospital and eight area medical clinics in Ethiopia as its central food and medical distribution centers and more centers are being set up in southern provinces.

ADRA has just purchased two truck-trailer rigs which have 20-ton capacity each and three trucks with 10-ton capacity. These will soon arrive from Europe and go into immediate use transporting food and other materials supplied by U.S., Canadian and European governments, Jensen says.

Already on its way is an ADRA shipment of 12,000 pounds of medicine and 50 tons of blankets, tents and clothing, according to local church officials.

Because of their cooperation with Ethiopian governmental agencies in their relief effort the Adventist teams have sustained very little interference in their relief program, Jensen says. ADRA is one of several major organizations involved in the relief effort.

ADRA is not new to the Ethiopian relief effort. It has been involved in feeding programs in stricken areas for more than two years, Jensen says.

Contributions may be sent to ADRA Ethiopian relief, 6840 Eastern Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20012 or to properly identified local church members currently involved in the Adventist Church's annual World Service Appeal.

Religious Icons to be shown

William Temple House will present an exhibition of icons and vestments by S. V. Bettendorf and Bryan Paatz from January 4th through February 8th, 1985. An opening reception for the artists will be held on Friday, January 4th from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. with entertainment by a Slavic choir and clavichord player.

S. V. Bettendorf studied at the Academy of Art and the Art Institute of San Francisco with independent study in Istanbul, Turkey. She is represented by the Folk Craft Gallery

in Portland and has commissioned icons in many Portland churches and private collections in the United States and Europe.

Bryan Paatz studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, Syracuse University and at the Berghaus in Amsterdam, Holland. His work is represented in various vesture collections nationwide.

Both artists are members of the Liturgical Arts Resource Center at Marylhurst College.



Ebenezer Scrooge, played by Jerry Harris Sr., changes his ways in the Maranatha Church annual production of "The Gospel According to Scrooge" by James P. Schumacher. Carmen Hardy plays Angel No. 1. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Scrooge's gospel presented

by Bob Lothian

The drama department of Maranatha Church presented a colorful and musical rendition of the Charles Dickens classic, "A Christmas Carol," on Friday and Saturday night.

"The Gospel according to Scrooge" featured a cast of over 50, striking turn-of-the-century costumes and many musical interludes backed by an original soundtrack.

Scrooge, the old miser, is despised by all the townspeople for his grouchy and penny-pinching ways. He is especially mean to his nephew, Bob Cratchit, whom he employs as a clerk. The hard-working Cratchit remains kindly and true to the end, even though he, his wife and crippled son, Tiny Tim, can afford only a meager Christmas due to the low wages Cratchit gets from Scrooge.

"The way of the world condemns the weak to poverty and the strong to strive for wealth," says Scrooge, the successful businessman. "My money is all I need. I don't need people, and that God Cratchit talks about — who needs him?"

Scrooge is finally won over, of course, when he sees his means ways through the eyes of ghosts representing Christmas past, present and future. The ghost of the present tells Scrooge that, "Greed has left you blind and deaf to everything but money. But Christmas lives 365 days a year."

The converted Scrooge shows up at church on Christmas morning with the Cratchits and other townspeople. "Hallelujah! I've been saved. I'm a changed man!"

Jerry Harris, Sr., turned in a charismatic performance as Scrooge, supported by Ed Williams as Bob Cratchit. Emmet Wheatfall Jr. directed and music coordinators Debra Neal and Chris McAvoy were responsible for the other star of the show, the music.

There were 11 musical numbers in all, some with a large chorus. Jelani Greenridge's falsetto voice was especially moving when, as Tiny Tim, he sang "someday," and "Yes, I Believe."

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Tuesday-Friday: Noon Day Prayer
Friday: "The Pastor Speaks" 7:30 p.m.
Saturday: Morning Prayer 9:00 a.m.

Community Directory and profiles
Ads On This Page Are Of Local Businesses That Are Helping Build A Better Community

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THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW CHAPTER 1

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.
22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,
23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.