

RELIGION

Annual InnerPeace Retreat Scheduled

The 1999 Inner Peace Retreat will be held at Queen of Peace Church in Salem (4170 Pullman Avenue S.E.) on Saturday, February 6. The day of prayer and reflection will begin at 9:30 a.m., and end at 2:45 p.m. This day of retreat helps participants remember the contemplative spirit and sacred vision in working for social justice. It offers recognition of current multi-cultural enrichment efforts in this region, and hopes to stimulate greater racial, ethnic and cultural diversity in the shaping of parishes and related institutions in Western Oregon.

The Inner Peace retreat will include participation from persons from a variety of ethnic origins: African American, Asian-American, European-American, Hispanic-American and Native Ameri-

can. The welcoming team members include: Phil McBrien, Member of the Social Ministries Commission, Queen of Peace

Wendy VanElverdinghe, Chair of the Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Commission Sam Jackson, Jr., Coordinator of African-American Ministries for the Archdiocese and Founding President of the St. Patrick's parish, Independence and Member of the Archdiocese Catholic Campaign for Human Development Committee Connie Smith, Crow/Oglala Lakota and Co-founder of the City of Roses Katei Circle Reverend Petrus Binh Hoang, Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph parish, Salem Marilyn Kirvin-Quamme and Reverend Peter Byrne, S.J., of the Jesuit Spirituality Center at St. Michael's in

Portland. The theme of the day will be "O Healing River: Memory Flowing in Hope." Included will be some reflections on freedom and the struggle for justice in selected film clips and in Scripture passages related to the Exodus and Resurrection narratives. The day is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Portland Office of Justice and Peace, and is hosted by the Social Ministries Commission of Queen of Peace Church, Salem.

The cost of the retreat, which included a simple lunch, is \$7.50 per person, or \$5.00 per person in groups of three or more. Early registration is strongly suggested by January 29, by contacting the Office of Justice and Peace, 2838 E. Burnside Street, Portland, OR, 97214, or by calling 503-233-8361.

Darwin Hobbs

Mercy.



Darwin's skill had already earned him respect as a singer's singer.

That's no small feat for someone who stumbled onto the revelation that he could sing at the early age of 10 years old. At that time, the Cincinnati native was struggling to overcome his parents' divorce and adjust to a new step-family. Prior to his mother's remarriage, church attendance was just an occasional element of young Darwin's relationship with his grandmother. But along with the changing dynamics of his family, Darwin and his five older brothers and sisters were required to do something new-regularly attend their stepfather's chosen place of worship, El-Bethel Baptist Church. It was there Darwin joined the children's choir and discovered his musical gift.

"I opened my mouth and I could sing," Darwin says simply.

In fact, he sang so well that he was pulled from the children's choir, despite his age, and placed into the church's young adult choir. Traci, Darwin's wife of six years and best friend for the past 20, jokes, "He thought he was a big shot because he got to sing with choir members, who were much older than he was."

After those early days at El-Bethel, Darwin continued to impact listeners with the unique strength of his voice, performing in school ensembles, various Cincinnati community choirs and several vocal groups. He also began to pursue vocal training, studying classical music and working alongside other local gospel artists.

Darwin's older sister, Pam, introduced him to a personal relationship with the Lord when he was 14 years old. Excited by the new direction in his

spiritual life, and challenged to know more about God, he left his family's church and joined Christ Emmanuel Christian Fellowship in Cincinnati a few years later. Traci followed him in his spiritual pursuit and joined the church as well. After 5 years attending church together, their friendship blossomed into a romance and they were married. Darwin continued to pursue his music ministry from his hometown until an experience at a CeCe Winans concert, in the Fall of 1995, changed the direction of his life. "During that time in my life, I was sort of in a holding pattern, waiting for the timing of God with regard to my music," he explains. "I knew I didn't want this ordinary, shallow ministry. Prior to CeCe's concert I had never experienced the glory of God mixed with such creativity and skill."

When the concert ended, Darwin began talking to Roger Ryan, Winans' music director. A strong friendship resulted. Soon after, Darwin and his wife began to feel the pull of the Holy spirit to relocate to Nashville, TN—a growing hotbed of Christian music innovation, and the city many of today's most prominent gospel musicians and artists call home. Within weeks of relocating in September 1996, opportunities began to arise for him to use his gift in studio sessions and on tour with several well-known national artists and musicians.

Darwin's reputation as an accomplished singer drew the attention of several of the industry's most successful producers and songwriters. It also drew their willing participation when the time arrived for Darwin to complete his first solo project. Mercy features some of the best work from Fred Hammond, Cedric & Victor Caldwell and Chris Rodriguez.

The Concord Community of Choirs presents:

Concord Choir in "Amorous Pursuits" a concert celebrating the many moods of love, at the First Christian Church, 1315 SW Broadway, Friday February 19th, 1999, at 8:00 p.m. \$10 admission. There will be a preconcert lecture at 7:15 p.m. The program will be comprised of music spanning the Renaissance to the present, including a few jazz ballads. Songs inspired by love will include Northwest composer Salvador Brotons' "An Oregon Love Poem." (Concord will perform Faure's powerful Requiem under his direction in March, when they join forces with the Vancouver Symphony.) Also heard a February's

concert will be Benjamin Britten's "Ballad of Little Musgrave" and beloved works of Debussy, Rossini, Mozart, Brahms, Dello Joio, and the female Renaissance composer Aleotti. A special treat will be Jean Belmont's sumptuous "If music be the food of love." Under the direction of founder David Tork, this concert will be a multi-media event, as part of a continuing commitment to broadening audience members' experience and enjoyment of the music. As during Concord Choir's critically acclaimed Hildegard of Bingen concert in November, translations of foreign text sung will be simultaneously projected.

Fresh from December revival Concord's classic planetarium Solstice show "Return of the Light," some additional visual surprises are also in store to enhance enjoyment of the evening's choral, small ensemble, and solo offerings. Some of Concord's finest soloists will be featured, including mezzo-sopranos Patteye Simpson and Denise Andersen, and soprano Joanie McMillen. Poetry readings will complement the musical offerings. Extend your Valentine celebration with this special concert dedicated to love. In keeping with the mission of the concord Community of Choirs, no one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

During the weary times of my walk, on my face before God, I've experienced His hand of mercy, knowing many times I was not worthy of such providence.

God's awesome mercy. It's the cornerstone of a victorious life in Christ. And nearly two decades after Darwin Hobbs first opened his mouth to sing, and acute awareness of that aspect of God's love permeates his music ministry and serves as the prevailing theme of his debut album.

The 10-song collection known simply as Mercy, fully introduces gospel listeners to the richly earnest, soulful vocals of a man who has become one of the music industry's best kept secrets. Over the past several years, Darwin's rare vocal talent has been heard on more than 20 albums and in concerts throughout the United States and Europe, backing such established artists as CeCe Winans, Donnie McClurkin, Michael Card and Michael McDonald. Before ever beginning his debut project,

Miracles Meeting Schedule

Sunday:
7:00 AM EARLY RISER
1:30 PM SPANISH MEETING
3:00 PM SPIRITUAL WALKERS

Monday:
7:00 AM EARLY RISER
NOON HOUR OF POWER
5:30 PM U + ME = WE

Tuesday:
7:00 AM EARLY RISER

NOON HOUR OF POWER
6:30 PM SAY THAT

Wednesday:
7:00 AM EARLY RISER
NOON HOUR OF POWER
5:30 PM U + ME = WE
8:00 PM AA MEETING

Thursday:
7:00 AM EARLY RISER
NOON HOUR OF POWER
5:30 PM MEN'S MEETING

7:00 PM SPEAKER'S MEETING

Saturday:
7:00 AM EARLY RISER
10:00 AM WOMEN OF THE 90'S
NOON IT WORKS HOW-N-WHY
7:30 PM SPEAKERS MEETING
4069 NE MLK JR BLVD
(503) 249-8559

Birth Announcement

Baby's name: Brady Bobby Warngeago Brookins Jr.
Date of Birth: 1/4/99
Mother's Name: Tanya R. Jones
Father's Name: Brady Bobby W. Brookins Sr. of Portland

Baby's Name: Iris Christine Louise Nally
Sex: Female
Date of Birth: 1/7/99
Father's Name: Jevon Wade Nally
Mother's Name: Jennifer Darro Nally of Portland

Baby's Name: Jordan Brian Ruhmshottel
Date of Birth: January 9, 1999
Sex: Male
Mother's Name: Christina Holly Ruhmshottel
Father's Name: Mario Brian Cuanalo of Portland

"Step to Christ"

The second annual "Step to Christ" dedication weekend at the Mt. Tabor Seventh day Adventist Church will begin on Friday evening, January 29, at 7:00 p.m., with speaker Leo Gugliotto talking about "Mining the World for all its Worth." On Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. he will speak on "Staying in Bounds," and at 11:00 a.m., "Back to the Bible." In the afternoon Bible workshops will be held from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided at 12:30 p.m. for those attending.

Our biggest advantage is being part of a big family

To us, being part of a big family means...

*Sharing responsibilities among only the most qualified, highly trained professionals...

*Sharing ideas and programs to protect our children and benefit our neighborhoods...

*Sharing resources with the families and communities we serve.

and understanding the importance of sharing.

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- Get working answers to the questions our youth are asking.
- Discover the power of a new life through Christ.
- Discover that you CAN handle College level work and go on to realize a higher Potential

All This and Credit, Too?

Spring Term begins March 30 Call 288-2919 to register