

RELIGION

Portland Retreat Unites All Faiths

Women Empowering Women Conference

Women from all communities in the Portland area are invited to join together for the "Women Empowering Women" conference from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 2 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 7900 N.E. 82nd Ave., near the Portland International Airport.

Women With a Vision, a grassroots non-profit organization through a grant from the Black United Fund, presents the conference. The group consists of women from the Portland area dedicated to helping diverse groups of people in various capacities. The organization believes in the importance of giving back to the community and pulling together people without barriers.



Carol Van Atta



Lyn Bell

"At this conference, I want women to be coming together regardless of their different backgrounds, race or denomination in unity and love," said Women With a Vision founder and director Kim Green.

Guest speakers for the event include local motivational speaker Carol Van Atta, who will speak on "Embracing God's Purpose for Your Life," as well as another speaker

who will address "Overcoming Your Past to a Better Future." Each speaker will present 45-minute educational workshops designed to empower distressed women and lead them to a more purpose-driven, healthy lifestyle.

The conference also will feature Portland area vendors and information from organizations that address women's health, mental health and domestic violence con-

cerns.

The event will continue from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. with "Her Cry-Her Prayer-Her Praise," a free spiritual gathering for both women and men, designed to inspire the community. The evening will feature worship, praise, teaching and music and keynote speaker, evangelist Lyn Bell from SLS Ministries in Maryland.

"The morning conference is catered to be a retreat for women from all different communities while providing information on services in Portland," Green said. "The evening service will bring awareness to what Women With a Vision is and why we are here. I see it as having a date with destiny, and understanding God's purpose for our lives."

The morning session registration is \$35 and includes a full meal luncheon, as well as the chance to win door prizes and other items. For more information on the conference or to purchase tickets, email wvav2006@yahoo.com or visit www.wvav2006.mollyguard.com.

Local Faith Leader Honored

Marcus J. Irving elevated to Bishop

Albina Christian Life Center announces the ordination of Rev. Marcus J. Irving, son of Bishop and Mrs. Samuel M. Irving, to the Office of Bishop at the State Conference of the Church of God in Cleveland, Tenn.

Bishop Marcus has been an upstanding member of the Portland community and will be honored at a reception that welcomes all friends, family, and fellow laborers

in the Lord, Saturday, Aug. 29 at 3 p.m. at the Albina Christian Life Center, 2149 N. Willamette Blvd. The reception will follow the 2006 West Coast Regional Fellowship.

Bishop Marcus fulfilled all qualifications, both biblical and spiritual, and along with his wife Kaysandra F. Irving, was consecrated on June 15. The two have served the denomination for over 27 years, pastored for 14 years,

served on the Regional Youth Board for three years and are distinguished as the Ministries Facilitators at the Albina Christian Life Center in north Portland.

Bishop Marcus has also served as the West Coast Regional Pentecostal Fellowship Youth Director for over 20 years. He and Kaysandra have been married 26 years and have two daughters, Marckia Lawrence and Adrienne, a son-in-law Andre' Lawrence, and a grandson Andre' Terrell.

Vacation Bible School

Allen Temple CME Church will sponsor Summer Vacation Bible School, Aug. 14 through Aug. 18 from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Allen Temple CME Church, 4236 N.E. Eighth Ave.

The classes are free to the public and available for kindergarten age up to adults. Activities include bible education, crafts, music, food and beverages. For information and help with transportation, call 503-287-0261.



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Oregon's Transportation Department is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer. We value a well-trained, diverse workforce as a strategic advantage in serving our customers and stakeholders.

The Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities is hosting a forum to gather public comments on its draft strategic plan for 2007-2011. Light refreshments will be served. The DD Council advises the Governor on developmental disability policy and advocates for improvements in services and supports for people with developmental disabilities and their families. The forum will be held on Wednesday, July 26th, from 10:30 a.m. - noon at the North Portland Library, 512 N. Killingsworth St. (take I-5 exit 303, turn west on Killingsworth; use Trimet bus routes #4F, #40M and #72).

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