



The Link

January 3, 2010

“We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of joy, hope, love and peace. We will become a world-wide church dedicated to the pursuit of peace, reconciliation and healing of the spirit.”

Hope for a New Year

Hope is found in the body of Christ. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Why? In order to bring into being a new community of people—the people of the Way—the people of the cross.

St. Paul writes in Ephesians: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before Him in love...”

In other words, the reason Christ came into the world was to form us into His people, His body—that we might do His work in the world. Where there are people who bow at the name of Jesus, there is hope for the world.

Author Leonard Sweet was looking for a good place to have lunch in the community of Cannon Beach, Oregon. He approached a quaint café and pulled on the door. It was locked. On the door was a sign: “Out to lunch. Be back at 1:30.” During the noon hour, the owner of the café had gone out to lunch. Somehow, he didn’t get the fact that it was important for his business, a café, to also be serving lunch. So it was no surprise that under the “Out to lunch” sign was another sign reading “Store for sale.”(1)

There are many churches today that are “out to lunch” when it comes to reaching out to change the world. But fortunately, there are many other churches—and many church members—who are seeking the best they are able, to make a difference in the world.

As long as there are church members trying to make a difference in the world and in the lives of people, there is hope for the world. The question you and I need to ask ourselves is, are we doing our part?

The New Year holds all kinds of possibilities: are we willing to share the hope we have in Christ Jesus with others? It is my hope that all will respond to the call of Christ to share love, hope, joy and peace to everyone we meet.

Claude Rains, President/Financial Officer, Central Missouri Mission Center

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 9 — Worship for Everyone, Pleasant Hill Church, 8:30 am-2 pm. See article on next page for more details.

January 10 — Mission Center Council will meet at the Mission Center Office, 3 p.m.

January 10—Third Event of the Auditorium Organ's 50th Birthday. Ken Cowan and Lisa Shihoten, a husband and wife duo, will present a unique concert of organ and violin music at the Auditorium at 3:00 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information, visit http://www.cofchrist.org/dome_spire/calendar.asp

January 17—President Stephen Veazey will bring words of guidance and inspired counsel as the church continues to engage in prayer, discussion, and discernment about important issues. The church is invited and encouraged to participate through on-site attendance at the Temple, 3 PM, and via live webcast at www.cofchrist.org.

January 21—CMMC Young Adults (ages 18-35, single or married) meet with First Presidency, 5-9 p.m. at the Warrensburg Church. Pizza and salad bar will be provided at 5 and opening worship will begin at 6. Call 1-888-747-0439 or 660-747-6193 if childcare is needed.

January 24—Pastor's Meeting, 3 PM, Warrensburg Church. Please send a representative if you cannot be there.

January 31—Temple Event—*Light for the Journey*, 2:30-5:30 p.m. You are invited to experience spiritual renewal through encounters with God and one another. Come seeking the presence of God and be touched by the Spirit in Word, song, silence, and fellowship. Join with members of the First Presidency. Infant care and special activities for children and youth are planned. Please notify the Mission Center Office, 888-747-0439 or locally 660-747-6193 of the numbers that will attend from your congregation. We need the following break downs by **January 25:** Adults; Infants up to Kindergarten; Kindergarten through 5th grade; and 6th grade through 12th grade.

Family Camp--June 30-July 4, 2010
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Worship Workshops (8:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m.)—No cost. Please call 1-888-747-0439 toll free or locally 660-747-6193 to let Mary or Edna know you are coming. Bring a sack lunch. Drinks provided.

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| Saturday, December 5, 2009 | Clinton |
| Saturday, January 9, 2010 | Pleasant Hill |
| Saturday, February 6, 2010 | Sedalia |

“Worship that Includes Everyone”

- Planning worship that **connects** to each person
- **Understanding** how we respond in worship
- Planning worship that **transforms** us

Please plan to attend the remaining two worship workshops. Each workshop is different and focuses on the experiences of connecting, understanding, and transforming in worship. Copies of slides and notes from the first session will be available for those who missed it, along with opportunity to briefly review the main points. The sessions concentrate on the principles that help each of us experience meaningful and challenging worship.

UPCOMING DATES

February 7—World Conference Delegate Meeting, 2:30 pm,
Warrensburg Church.

March 20 — Tony and Charmaine Chvala-Smith Workshop,
8:30 am-4 pm at the Warrensburg Church. Register by calling
1-888-747-0439 or locally, 747-6193.

April 10-17, 2010 — World Conference at Independence.

2010 Family Camp, will be June 30-July 4, at Lake Doniphan.
Start making plans with your friends to be there! Steve and Cathi
Cackler-Veazey will be our guest ministers.

SUMMER CAMP DATES

Children's Camp — June 4-6, Grades K, 1, 2, Camp Far Westa
Sr. High Camp — July 5-8, Grades 9, 10, 11, 12, Camp Far Westa
Junior Camp — August 2-6, Grades 3, 4, 5, Camp Far Westa
Jr. High Camp — August 2-6, Grades 6, 7, 8, Camp Far Westa
Spectacular — July 24-31, Grades 10, 11, 12, Graceland University

