WIND OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES Newsletter

**JULY 2013** 

## HE GIFT THAT GOD PROMISED

When Jesus was preparing to leave his disciples at the time of his Ascension into Heaven, he told them, "I am going to send to you what my Father has promised, but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." [Luke 24:49]

Throughout Israel's history God had spoken through the prophets to let the people know that God's Spirit would be coming upon them. This promise had been declared through Isaiah, [44:3], Ezekiel, [36:25-28] and Joel, [2:28, 29]. Israel lived in a state of anticipation and expectation for several hundred years—waiting for the Gift God promised.

Then Jesus came and told his followers that the Promise was about to be fulfilled. "Do not leave Jerusalem but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." [Acts 1:45].

Then it happened! The Holy Spirit came upon the 120 disciples as they were gathered in the Upper Room on Pentecost. [Acts 2]. God kept his promise in his way and in his time.

Who is this Holy Spirit who was promised through the ages, who came upon the disciples and who still lives and moves among us?

The Holy Spirit is the Third Person in the Triune Godhead: God, the Father, God, the Son, and God, the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is **NOT** a third god, as some believe. The Holy Spirit is **NOT** one/third of God, as others declare. The Holy Spirit IS God! The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Holy God who is perfectly revealed in Jesus Christ, who is God incarnate in the flesh.

We gain understanding of God's Nature from Holy Scripture. With the help of Scripture, and the Spirit teaching, we can come to know something of the nature of God and thus the nature of God's Holy Spirit.

GOD IS HOLY:"I am the Lord your God; consecrate vourselves and be holy, because I am holy." [Leviticus 11:44] The word Holy means consecrated and set apart for sacred purposes. It means to be complete, whole, perfect. God is Set Apart, Complete, Whole, Perfect.

God recognizes his own holiness and desires a people to be like him. "Just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written, 'Be holy, because I am holy." [I Peter 1:12, 16]

**GOD IS SPIRIT:** Jesus told the woman at the well [John 4:24], "God is Spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth." God is not flesh and bone, but Spirit. As Spirit, God is present at all times and in all places at the same time.

GOD IS PERSON: Though God is not flesh and bone, God is Person, in the sense that God has personality. God shows compassion, comfort, mercy, grace, kindness, patience, justice, wisdom, peace, joy, wrath, anger, faithfulness and many other traits of personality. These traits are demonstrated in the Life of Jesus, God incarnate in the flesh.

GOD IS CONSUMING FIRE: "Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire." [Hebrews 12:29] God is not like the created element that we call fire. Nevertheless, God is a consuming fire in the sense that God purifies, cleanses, refines and burns away all dross. Fire also carries the meaning of power and authority. God is all powerful and has all authority in all of creation.

GOD IS LIGHT: "This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you, God is light; in him there is no darkness at all." [I John 1:5] God is Light in the sense that light reveals. "The true Light that gives light to [or enlightens] every man was coming into the world." [John 1:9]

## Wind of the Spirit Ministries

Revs. Larry and Audrey Eddings

Light is to be understood in the sense of "enlightenment." God, in Jesus Christ, brings us out of darkness in our understanding into the light of knowledge, out of ignorance into understanding, out of the Lie into The Truth, out of arrogance into humility, out of self into Jesus.

GOD IS LOVE: "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is Love." [I John 4:8] God's love is not to be confused with human love. God's love is patient and kind. It does not envy or boast. Nor is it proud, rude or self seeking. It is not easily angered and it keeps no record of wrongs. It does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. God's love always protects, trusts, hopes and perseveres—and, it never fails. [I Corinthians 13:4-8]

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Holy God who is perfectly revealed in Jesus who is Holiness, Spirit, Power, Authority, Light and Love incarnate in the flesh. If we desire to understand the nature of God and God's Holy Spirit, we have only to look at the life of Jesus Christ. He is "the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of God's being." [Hebrews 1:3]

God desires a people who are set apart for sacred, not profane, purposes. He desires a people who are born of the Spirit, ignited with the fire of God's power and authority, walking in the Light of God's presence to reveal Truth to the world and loving with the quality of Love that transforms human life at every level.

That is possible as God's Holy Spirit so permeates every facet of our lives that we then become the "radiance of Jesus" glory and the exact representation of His Being," even as He is of the Father. When that happens, we then see the Kingdom of God coming on earth as it is in heaven. le



Four new members of Wind of the Spirit Ministries Support Council. L to R

> Carl Olson Marilyn Olson Linda Easter Byron Hamilton

It is a joy and great privilege to have opportunity to share in ministry with these precious brothers and sisters in Christ.

#### 30th ANNIVERSARY FOR WIND OF THE SPIRIT

**Remember!** One of the great tragedies in human life is when we lose our ability to remember. Persons who are struggling with dementia or Alzheimer's lose their ability to remember names, faces, places and the beautiful experiences of life with those whom love them. The confusion and frustration affects not only their lives, but also the lives of those who have known them and loved them through the years when their minds have been sharp and their thoughts and words work well together.

Jesus instructed his disciples to remember! "Do this in remembrance of me," as he broke the bread and poured the cup. He wanted them to remember all that God, through him, had done for them.

On Saturday, June 22, the Wind of the Spirit Ministries Board and Support Council had a time of remembering many of the ways in which God has blessed this ministry during its thirty years of existence.

We celebrated with praise reports, remembering his teachings in the Sermon on the Mount, recounting the many places and peoples to which God has led us, discovering new ways in which this work of God can be expanded, looking into the future of what God might have in store for us and generally celebrating the grace and love of our Lord.

We remembered those who have served faithfully through the years, welcomed those who have expressed a desire to become part of the ministry and then, ate cake!

May our future be guided by God's Holy Spirit so that all we think, say and do will serve to edify God's people, build up the Body of Christ and bring honor to Jesus Holy Name.

God has never failed to remember us. Let us always remember what He has done for us in Jesus Christ.



WEB-PAGE Wind of the Spirit Web Page address is www.wosm-nw.org

#### **MINISTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES**

When we were in the Philippines in January and February of this year, we had the opportunity and the privilege of meeting with the new Bishop of the Manila

Area of The United Methodist Church, Bishop Rudy Juan.

The US team, Donna Kirkpatrick, Bob Cashmore and Audrey and Larry Eddings, along with Rev. David and Josie Sablan, our beloved co-workers and hosts in the Philippines, visited with Bishop Juan in his office. We had the privilege of having a prayer time with him and for him. He also invited us to pray throughout the building and meeting rooms in which the Bishop's office is located.



Checks payable to "Wind of the Spirit Ministries" are tax deductible. THANK YOU!

One result of this meeting is that Bishop Rudy and Larry have become prayer partners, lifting each other up in prayer on a regular basis. Each time Bishop Rudy is in the states for Bishop's meetings or Annual Conference speaking engagements, we are in touch by phone and pray for one another.

On his recent trip to America to speak at the Illinois and Georgia Annual Conferences, Bishop called to invite Larry & Audrey to come back to the Philippines in September to help him lead a retreat for his pastors and District Superintendents. He desires for his pastoral leadership to experience healing and wholeness in their own personal lives and be equipped to help people on their Districts and in their local churches to experience the same.

As Audrey and I were praying about it, as whether to go, both of us heard the exact same response from our Lord, "I have opened the door, now you go through it."

These were the very words that our Lord Jesus gave us when we began Wind of the Spirit Ministries thirty years ago. He said to us at that time, "I will open doors and I am asking you to walk through them." We have been endeavoring to be obedient to that call through these years and our Lord continues to bless us with opportunities to share the good news of God's love in many places with many people.

We are excited to accept Bishop Rudy's gracious invitation and plan to be in the Philippines during the last two weeks in September. We are now in the process of putting together a team to make the journey with us.

It will be a great joy to be with our Filipino brothers and sisters once again. We are also excited about this opportunity to minister to our colleagues in ministry and, together, experience a new and fresh outpouring of God's Holy Spirit, who empowers us for effective and productive ministry in every way.

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<b>S</b>	In addition to my prayer ar moral support of Wind of t Spirit Ministries, I wish to contribute the following:			

### **2013**

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"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear the sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." John 3:8



# MINISTRY CALENDAR

#### PLEASE POST AND PRAY FOR THESE EVENTS

OTHER MINISTRY EVENTS ARE IN THE PLANNING STAGES Eddings Email address: woseddings@msn.com

JULY 10-14	ALDERSGATE CONFERENCE ON THE HOLY SPIRIT, Lexington, KY
JULY 25-28	Pacific Northwest Writer's Conference in SeaTac, WA
AUGUST 5-11	Tent Revival at Silverdale United Methodist with The Rev. Scott Kelso, preaching. Prayer Team
SEPTEMBER 16-30	Philippine Mission Trip to Conduct Healing Retreat for Pastors with Bishop Rudy Juan
OCTOBER 21-26	"The Journey Within" Seminar on Healing of Emotional Hurts, Silverdale United Methodist Church, Silverdale, WA