

WIND OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2014

DRIVING IN THE FOG WITHOUT LIGHTS

We live between the Olympic and Cascade Ranges of mountains which has to be one of the most beautiful places on planet earth. The mountains are snowcapped and majestic. Mt. Rainier, in the Cascade Range, stands at around 14,000 feet, forever glistening under the mantel of snow that embraces it year 'round. It has an occasional cloud cap, adding to its beauty.

"The Mountain is out" is a familiar statement, meaning that the sun is shining and you can actually see its majestic and awe inspiring beauty.

When we drive out from our home onto the major street that leads into our hometown of Silverdale, we look straight ahead at the Olympic Range and The Brothers—a towering, twin peak mountain that also elicits words of awe and wonder

Our Creator God has molded and shaped a place of beauty in which we have the privilege of living. When the sun shines, the mountains sparkle, the lakes and salt water inlets glisten and the sky is so blue that one automatically reaches for their "shades," in order to refrain from squinting at nature's brilliance.

And then, because we do live in such a location, there are times—like this week, that fog creeps in during the night and one awakens to a blanket of dark, moist, spine-chilling damp. Heavy dew covers the grass and trees drip with gathered moister.

Such dark, gloomy, dreary, bone-chilling weather causes one to climb into a warm coat and pull the collar up around the ears. No mountains are in sight.

On just such a morning a few days ago I was driving from our home to the church where our office is located. There were no Olympic mountains to be seen. In fact, I had to give very careful attention as I pulled out onto that main highway to make sure there were no cars approaching. Car lights were pin points of illumination through the heavy fog.

Pulling safely onto the highway I carefully made my way toward the office.

Suddenly, directly in front of me, there was a very large object, gray in color, blending perfectly with the fog. I had to quickly slam on my brakes to keep from becoming an appendage to the back of another car—a car with no lights on. The person was driving in peasoup fog without lights!

They did use their turn-signal as they prepared to turn at an intersection. I followed them at a safe distanced for about four blocks with my lights shining in their rear view mirrors. Still no lights! They continued on into the dense fog as I turned and drove to my office.

My initial reaction was not necessarily positive as I thought about a person who would risk their own life and the lives of others by driving in such heavy fog without benefit of lights on their car.

Then came the thought,, Jesus said, "You are the light of the world....Let your light so shine before people that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Mt 5:14, 16

Do you think that it is possible that we Christians sometimes go around with our Life-lights off and do not provide for people a way through the foggy issues of life? We are here, according to Jesus, to provide light and understanding for people who wander in the darkness and confusion of life.

Then, it also came to me that there is a far greater danger as people think they are walking in the light when in reality they remain in darkness. The Disciple John put it this way, "God is Light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and remain in darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." I John 1:5-7 Bottom line brothers and sisters: Get in the Light and turn on the Lights!

Wind of the Spirit Ministries

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MINISTER'S RETREAT AT ARC

Each year the Aldersgate Renewal Ministry holds a three day retreat for clergy and other ministry leaders. It is scheduled as a time for spiritual renewal and restoration.

This year Larry has been invited to participate in the leadership of the retreat. He will join with other speakers to guide the participants in a time of Returning to our first Love, Reclaiming our inheritance, Redefining who we are in Christ, Recalibrating our set points for integrity, Reigniting with Fresh Fire of the Holy Spirit and Reestablishing a priority of intimacy with God.

Larry will be the speaker for the two sessions that focus on Returning to our First Love and Reigniting with Fresh Fire of the Holy Spirit.

The Retreat will be held at the Aldersgate Renewal Center [ARC] in Goodlettsville, TN.

We encourage those of you who are ministers in your local church or appointments beyond the local church, to register for this special time of refreshment and renewal.

You may register by going to www.Aldersgaterenewal.org or calling their office at 615-851-9192.

We also encourage local churches to make it possible for your pastors to be able to attend. Your church will be blessed as a result.

MEDICAL MISSION TO VISAYAS

The Filipino Medical Team is busy at work preparing for their mission to Visayas, Philippines scheduled the third week of March. The team has already shipped several boxes of medical supplies that will arrive just prior to the time when they begin the mission.

While in Visayas they will work in Bohol and in Cebu. Local pastors are helping in preparation for the work they will be doing while there. They will also distribute basic survival items—foodstuffs and clothing, in addition to medical treatments of persons in need.

Following their work in Visayas, they will return to Bulacan, in the Manila area, to conduct a medical mission for a mission church there. Pastor David Sablan, our dear brother in Christ, and pastor of the Puno UMC in Quezon City, will help in setting up this mission for the team.

We are still in the process of raising funds for the medical mission. Contributions may be made to the Silverdale UMC or Wind of the Spirit Ministries, designated, Medical Mission.

MID YEAR BOARD AND COUNCIL MEETING

If you have ever been a part of the leadership in a local church, you have had opportunity to attend innumerable meetings. There have been those you remember with great fondness because so much was accomplished and the Spirit was present in power.

Of course, you have also attended those that you later wished you would have feigned illness in order to have an excuse to stay home.

Well, our mid-year meeting on January 25 was one of those meetings where the Spirit of God showed up in power, a spirit of love and unity was present among all who attended and it all ended too soon. All business was completed an hour earlier than the scheduled time. No one was eager to leave.

Worship was led by Jane Petter with her guitar as we sang songs of praise to God. Davis Hylkema led us in devotions with a tremendous reminder that the Holy Spirit is like wind in the sails that keep us going. Without the wind of God's Spirit we, as a ministry or a church, are dead in the water! Unless, of course, we want to row the boat under our own power.

Donna Kirkpatrick, chairperson, led us through the time when we all gave reports of how the Lord is working through this ministry in its outreach to the Philippines, India and across the States. This work includes providing the faith-based covering for a local shelter for women and children, Georgia's Memorial Shelter, in Bremerton, WA

Our website, wosmnw.org is being redesigned to better capture who we are as a ministry. Members of the Board and Council are busily involved in teaching classes on prayer, writing curriculum for children about the supernatural power of God and counseling persons in need.

Times of prayer and offering praises to God helped us all to remember why we are doing what we are doing. It is all for his glory, as well as for reaching out to people in Jesus' name to give them healing and hope.

Board and Council members of Wind of the Spirit Ministries, meeting on January 25, 2014. What began as a dark and foggy day, ended in bright sunshine. It could be a parable of life, as we come to walk with the Lord.



WEB-PAGE Wind of the Spirit Web Page address is www.wosm-nw.org Checks payable to "Wind of the Spirit Ministries" are tax deductible. THANK YOU!

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GOD IS AT WORK IN THE PHILIPPINES

When Wind of the Spirit Ministries first answered God's Call, our instructions from the Lord were that He would open the doors for ministry and we were to go through them to those places to which we were directed. It was during that time we were reminded that much of the time we would be going to small, "out of the way" places. And for the past thirty one years that has been largely the areas of service where the Lord has opened doors for ministry.

However, God has also blessed this ministry with opportunities to share in places where the Spirit is moving in power and people are involved in dynamic ministries that focus on the work of God's Holy Spirit.

In both, the small and the large, God's Spirit is at work to bring healing and wholeness, forgiveness and salvation, to any and all who are in need of his touch.

During the past seventeen years, we have had opportunity to be in the Philippines to work with our brothers and sisters there on at least fifteen different occasions. We do not fully understand why God has chosen to bless us with the privilege of working along side this part of his Body, but we rejoice in it.

Once again we are invited to return to the Philippines, this time to be at Wesley University in Cabanatuan, to meet with the University staff and workers for a two day healing event. This will take place during the break between semesters so that the whole staff of 300-400 may participate.

This comes at the invitation of the President of the University, Dr. Pacifico Aniag, who desires that all of the leaders of the University may experience freedom from any issues that would, in any way, hinder their work with the students. It will be a time of forgiveness, release from bondages, healing of emotional hurts and discovering who we are in Christ.

The trip will also include a time of being on one of the Districts where the Superintendent saw such a change in one of his pastors who attended the Reigniting conference last September, that he desires such a time for all the pastors in his District. We will have opportunity to meet and minister to those pastors.

The Women's Society of Christian Service will also be conducting a conference at which they desire we come once again. We were with them last September for a tremendous time of prayer, praise and teaching.

As Pastor David and Josie Sablan JR., of the Puno UMC in Quezon City, conclude all of their communications with us, WE LOVE THIS MINISTRY!

Audrey and I give continual praise to God that we have such a special group of men and women on the Board and Council of Wind of the Spirit Ministry that we are given the freedom to go where the Lord sends us and also provide the prayer covering and financial means by which that can happen.

We will be returning to the Philippines the first two weeks in May. Thank you for remembering us in prayer for the trip.

"He gave some to be apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers, to equip God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up....attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." Ephesians.4:11



MINISTRY CALENDAR

PLEASE POST AND PRAY FOR THESE EVENTS

OTHER MINISTRY EVENTS ARE IN THE PLANNING STAGES

Eddings Email address: woseddings@msn.com
Wind of the Spirit Email: wosmnw@yahoo.com

FEBRUARY 14	Valentine Mission Dinner Fund Raiser for Missions and Medical Team, Silverdale, WA UMC
FEBRUARY 20	Healing Service for Parents of Adult Children, Woodinville, WA CUMC
MARCH 18-31	Medical Team to Visayas Philippines
APRIL 21-25	Minister's Retreat, Nashville, TN, Larry
MAY 2	Philippines: Wesley University, District Meetings, Women's Society of Christian Service Conference



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