WIND OF THE SPIRIT MINISTRIES Newsletter

APRIL 2014

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN—TODAY!

Spellbound, about thirty of us pastors were seated on the floor around her, like children. She was an educator of children, graphically illustrating for us the story of Jesus' resurrection. She placed small replicas of trees, the cross and the garden tomb on the floor in front of us.

With serious tone in her voice she told of the crucifixion of Jesus as she held a small plastic figurine against the small cross. Then she told of how he was taken down from the cross by friends and lovingly placed in the tomb. She rolled a small rock over the opening as she shared how the tomb was sealed.

Excitement grew in her voice as she reminded her students that Jesus had told his disciples that he would be crucified, but on the third day he would rise from the dead.

After a very short period of waiting, she, with effort, rolled the stone from the tomb and told of the angel doing it on the day Jesus came out of the tomb.

Then she carefully reached into the small opening, took hold of the small plastic figurine and brought it out and stood it up, saying "Christ is risen!"

We in the audience spontaneously responded, "He is risen, indeed!" We were captured by the story.

Immediately following that beautiful, pictorial illustration of the resurrection of Jesus, one of the colleagues in the group asked, "But wouldn't that give the children the impression that Jesus had a bodily resurrection?"

Most of the rest of us looked at him with a "duh" expression on our faces. "Brother, where have you been? He is risen, just as he said. This is not an imaginary story about a spirit coming forth from the dead. He lived, he died, he arose, he is alive!"

Sadly, there are those, even among so called church leaders, pastors, bishops and seminary professors who deny the bodily resurrection of Jesus. That heretical teaching flies in the face of 2,000

years of orthodox teaching that Jesus did, in fact, rise from the dead, in bodily form, just as he said.

There is a great Resurrection Day Hymn that declares, "Christ the Lord is Risen today! Hallelujah!" That is the clarion call of the Christian Faith. Jesus is alive! He lived as a man 2,000 years ago here on earth. He taught, he healed, he lived life to the fullest, he forgave sins, he enjoyed children, he challenged the religious establishment, he ate with sinners, he walked on water, he turned water into wine, he raised the dead, he set the demoniacs free, he fed 5,000 people with a couple of loaves of bread and a few fish, he turned his world upside-down—and the establishment crucified and buried him.

It's one thing to go around doing good - and even miraculous things, but don't touch the entrenched establishment, or "progressive" theologies, unless you want something bad to happen to you.

However, it came as no surprise to him that this would happen. He knew very well what he was up against. So much so that he warned his disciples on several occasions that he would be killed. Like all good friends do, they protested and said it would never happen. He had too much going for him; he was the very Christ [Messiah] for whom everyone was looking. They couldn't understand what he said.

Nevertheless, Jesus could see the whole picture—why he had come in the first place, [to redeem sinful humanity], what would be the reaction of those in power [opposition and doing away with the thorn in their flesh], and what would be the ultimate outcome [his resurrection]. He knew!

The Resurrection of Jesus is God's Exclamation Point! Over 500 people saw him, ate with him, listened to him and loved on him for forty days after the resurrection until his Ascension back into heaven.

But, wouldn't that give the children—and us adults, the impression that Jesus had been bodily raised from the dead? Lord, I would certainly hope so! lle

Wind of the Spirit Ministries

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GIVE **BIG** DATE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Seattle Foundation's fourth annual *Give-BIG* will take place on **Tuesday**, **May 6**, **2014**.

This annual event gives opportunity for nonprofits to receive special financial support through the Seattle Foundation for their work. Wind of the Spirit Ministries is one of the nonprofits on the Seattle Foundation's network.

This is a one day, online charitable giving event to inspire people to give generously to nonprofit organizations who make our region a healthier and more vital place in which to live.

The Foundation states: "We will "stretch" all donations up to \$5,000 per donor, per organization." This means that Wind of the Spirit Ministries will participate in receiving additional funds, depending upon the amount of each donation to the Ministry and the "stretch" money that is available to the Foundation.

Donations to Wind of the Spirit Ministries may be made in two ways, both by credit card:

- 1. **On May 6,** midnight to midnight, go to our website, **wosm-nw.org,** click on May 6, 2014 **GiveBIG, OR**
- 2. Go directly to **Seattlefoundation.org**, search for and click on *Wind of the Spirit Ministries* link and make your donation.

This is a great opportunity to see our donations stretched and in some cases doubled during this *GiveBIG* day.

Be sure to mark it on your calendar. **NOT** May 5 or May 7, **BUT ONLY MAY 6**, midnight to midnight.

Thank you for participating in this *GiveBIG* event and helping to make our ministry dollars in order to accomplish more in the work of our Lord's Kingdom.

The ongoing work of Wind of the Spirit Ministries is supported through the financial gifts of persons who desire to be involved in helping to equip the people of God for works of ministry. This is done through workshops, seminars, classes and healing academies.

We give thanks to God for all of you who continue to uphold this ministry with your prayers, financial contributions and personal contacts with words of encouragement.

We endeavor to be faithful in our prayers for you, the practice of good stewardship in the use of your gifts and our desire to be mutually encouraging to you in God's Kingdom work.

THE REMARKABLE, CONTEMPORARY LETTER OF JUDE

If you have not read the Epistle of Jude lately, I encourage you to do so. It takes about ten minutes to read but it speaks volumes that pertain to the spiritual condition of the contemporary church. It is timeless!

"Jude [Judas], a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James." Both James and Jude are brothers of Jesus. [Matthew 13:55, Mark 6:3] They came to believe in him as the Christ only after his resurrection.

Jude pulls no punches when it comes to calling out the false teachers who have perverted the gospel preached by Jesus and proclaimed by the early apostles.

Hear these words: "I find it necessary to write and appeal to you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. For certain intruders have stolen in among you, people who long ago were designated for this condemnation as ungodly, who pervert the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ." [v.3, 4] NRSV

Hear how this last statement is made in the NIV, "They are godless men who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord."

I want to suggest that there are those within the contemporary church who, like those in Jude's time, interpret—rather misinterpret, the grace and love of God as God giving them permission to be involved in immoral sexual relationships, whether heterosexual or homosexual. God's grace is understood by them as permissive, giving freedom from bondage to the old law and free to indulge in those things that bring fulfillment and gratification of our physical and emotional desires. We live in a more enlightened time, they say, and need to have a newer understanding of God's grace and love. God's grace is not permissive!

And too, the theology of universalism has crept into the church, touting the belief that Jesus is not the only way to God. They deny that "Jesus is the way, the truth and the life and no one comes to the Father except through him." John 14:6 That, for them, is bigoted. For them, all roads lead to the same goal. Just look at the religions of the world: all roads DO NOT, in fact, lead to the same goal.

This denies one of the central tenets of our Christian Faith. Jesus is God's plan, and only plan, for humanity's salvation—all of humanity's salvation.

Once again I encourage you to read the Epistle of Jude and let its message speak to your life and the church. It has to me. It makes me search my own heart and commitment.

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

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BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Before Jesus Ascended into heaven, he told his disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Gift that the Father had promised. In a few days they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit and they would receive power to be his witnesses. Luke 24:49, Acts 1:8

Baptism with the Holy Spirit is essential if we are to experience supernatural power to do the work that God has called us to do in his Kingdom. This is not optional for the Christian. Jesus made that very plain.

How does a person be baptized with the Holy Spirit? Jesus said, "If you, then who are evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask." Luke 11:13

- 1. **Ask.** If you are one who believes in Jesus, then ask Jesus to baptize you with the Holy Spirit.
- 2. Thank the Lord for hearing your request and answering your prayer.
- 3. Ask the Holy Spirit to release the spiritual gifts that God has for you in your life. This may well include speaking in tongues. The early disciples spoke in tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4
- 4. Allow the Holy Spirit time to minister to your spirit. If someone is praying with you and for you, you may "rest in the Spirit. This can happen while standing straight up, sitting in a seat or lying on the floor.
- 5. **Baptism** with the Holy Spirit rests on God's faithfulness to keep his promise. It is not based on a particular experience or feeling, though these may accompany the Baptism.
- 6. Offer a prayer of praise and thanksgiving to Jesus for baptizing you with the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist said, "I baptize you with water, but there is one coming after me who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
- 7. Share your experience with others as a witness to what God has just done in your life.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

- Praise God for the Life, Death and Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords who is victorious over death. We celebrate his Resurrection and our new life!
- Praise God for the outpouring of his Holy Spirit who brings healing, hope and comfort to those who call upon him in prayer.
- Praise God for answered prayer: Rev. David Sablan has once again been appointed by Bishop Rudy Juan to a full time ministry of healing and wholeness in the Philippines.
- Pray for the Lord to open doors for ministry opportunities and financial support for David and Josie.
- Pray for Jeremy and Joy Ellington in India as they work to complete their church building. The Lord is truly blessing their work there.
- Pray for the safe return of our Medical Mission team from the Philippines and the good report they will bring.
- Pray for Wind of the Spirit Ministries to remain faithful to God's call to go where He sends and continue to equip God's saints for works of ministry..

"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

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APRIL 20	CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST
APRIL 22—24	MINISTER'S RE-DO CONFERENCE AT THE AL- DERSGATE RENEWAL CENTER, Goodlettsville, TN
MAY 3	Filipino Dinner and Mission Program [Date change]
JULY 16-20	ALDERSGATE CONFERENCE ON THE HOLY SPIRIT, Springfield, IL



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