

Words of Faith

THE NEWSLETTER OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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From the Editor



*“The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming...
—Romans 10:8*

With summer “fun in the sun” on everyone’s mind it has been hard to sit inside and compose newsletter articles. But, we do have a new section this time, *Lessons of Faith*, which should appear in each newsletter from now on, to explain some facet of worship or ministry that you may have been wondering about here at Faith. This time we have the *Lessons of Faith* article about the men’s night of prayer, which is coming up at the end of October.

It’s Pastor Rayburn’s intention to eventually collect some of these articles into a pamphlet that could be given to visitors of Faith Pres.

Pastor Rayburn will write most, but not all of these articles. If you have a favorite topic and a zeal to share

your insight with the congregation, then write an article and submit it to Mike Simpson or Elliot Shelden and we will see that it gets published, provided it passes muster as representing the teachings of Faith Presbyterian Church.

We would also like to solicit the ideas of the congregation for other future newsletter articles. If you have any suggestions regarding articles about ministries, books that should be reviewed, amusing quotations from your children, or other ideas, please contact the newsletter editor, Elliot Shelden or the church office.

On behalf of the
Newsletter Committee,
Elliot Shelden, General Editor



Inside this Issue

Lessons of Faith — Men’s Night of Prayer	2
Summer Seaquest — An Admirable Success	3
Lisping Faith	4
Church History — The Lord’s Supper	5
Church Music at a Crossroads	6
New Member Spotlight	8
Acts of Faith	9
New Member Spotlight—Special Edition	10
Book Review — Gospel Truth / Pagan Lies	11

Lessons of Faith



Men's Night of Prayer

By Elliot Shelden

Occasionally, our Lord prayed through the night (Luke 6:12). Twice a year (Good Friday eve and All Saints Day eve) we encourage all the men of Faith Pres to attend a 6-hour night prayer vigil. In the past this has been midnight to 6 AM, and more recently 9 PM to 3 AM.

Now you may be thinking, “No way, 6 hours!” “I can’t even handle 15 minutes without my mind wandering, or (at those hours of night) falling asleep.” Those were my thoughts 4 years ago upon my first encounter with the idea. But, it’s not quite as you might expect—it’s actually better than the average prayer meeting. Praying corporately is easier because you don’t have to keep a 6-hour stream of thought going all by yourself. In a journal entry (that I can’t seem to locate) I made about the first prayer vigil I attended, I noted that there was not even a 10-second gap between each man’s petitions throughout the whole night. I, and everyone else, stayed awake much better than I expected.

I was pleasantly impressed with the whole thing. Each hour is focused on a different area of ministry, a group of people, or an aspect of our approach to God in general. We break each hour for a little refresher and start each hour with a hymn. Somewhere in the night we divide up into smaller groups, take a list of all the members and adherents of Faith Pres, and pray for each one by

“Why would these men forgo sleep to sit in a church basement and talk to each other hour after hour with their eyes closed?”

name. I find that particularly touching to think that in the middle of the night while you and yours sleep, there is a group of 20 to 30 men praying for you.

If an unbeliever were to see this he would wonder, “Why would these men forgo sleep to sit in a church basement and talk to each other hour after hour with their eyes closed?” And indeed, without faith that is all you would see. But, with the eyes of faith we see the waging of spiritual war against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Eph 6:12).

Each hour it seems that the time is too short for the many items we need to pray about. With so many men present the air is not dull with silence, but rather full of fresh petitions as one man after another brings his heart forward. On the breaks there is no grumbling about what we are doing, but rather each man is there because he too sees with eyes of faith. We see this as

time well spent, even though we are novices at the task. Truly, this is an example of many hands making light work.

Watch the church bulletin for the announcement, and then come out and join us in this act of faith.



If I could hear Christ praying for me in the next room, I would not fear a million enemies. Yet distance makes no difference. He is praying for me: “He ever liveth to make intercession.”

—Robert Murray McCheyne

Summer Seaquest

An Admirable Success

By Doug Bond

The little five-year-old boy grew quiet as his mother read the Soundings reading from the VBS Reachout Adventures, Summer Seaquest booklet. “O Lord, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise... You hem me in, behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.”

He fidgeted uncomfortably. He needed his mom to read it so he could get stickers the next day, but this was more than he bargained for.

His mother read the paragraph explaining the verses, “The God of the Bible knows the words you are going to say, even before you have said them. In Summer Seaquest, we want you to learn to trust and obey this God, for He can be trusted.”

“Okay, where do I sign?” asked his mother when she’d finished.

The boy’s face felt hot and he stared hard at his tennis shoes.

“What’s the matter, Tommy?”

“I-I stole a dollar from the boy down the alley,” he stammered at last. “I needed it for Pokemon Cards.”



“One of my goals,” said Pfefferle, ... “was that none of the volunteers would cry.”

Little “Tommy,” and at least twenty other children from the broader unchurched community, heard the gospel daily along with the nearly 170 children attending this summer’s VBS at Faith Presbyterian Church.

Admiral Pfefferle, a.k.a., Connie Pfefferle, did a first-rate job of organizing and leading the 100 teachers and helpers, all of whom signed up after only two announcements—but then, it was two of *Connie’s* announcements!—in this summer’s highly successful VBS program.

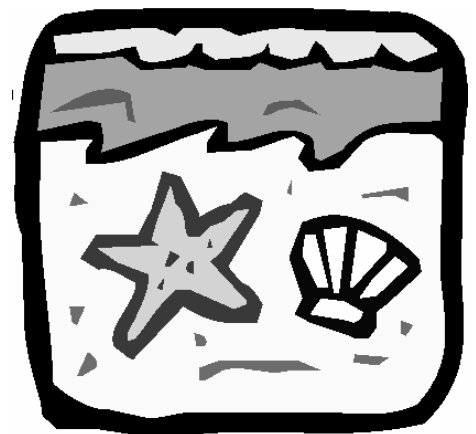
“One of my goals,” said Pfefferle, who weeks later is still saluted and called Admiral by many, “was that none of the volunteers would cry.” To her knowledge this goal was met (any volunteer who cried in the quiet of your own home...let’s just not tell her).

The week was spent memorizing Scripture, singing sailor songs on the biblical themes found in the book of Jonah (*Anchors away, my friends, anchors away*, and one sung to the tune, *What shall we do with a drunken sailor*—there’s seizing do-

minion for you!), making fun crafts, organized by Amy Lawty, Wendy Tamminga, Becci Oatridge, and Margot Johnson, and listening to creative speakers as they presented the gospel.

Treacherous Tom Ramsey (the Admiral’s father), a very bad pirate who stole treasure and made people walk the plank, spoke Saturday, but had become Tender Tom through reading God’s Word. Monday Adam Skrivan (after Tim Johnson, whom he was replacing, bribed him with Mariner’s tickets) while swimming near Joppa in complete scuba gear, saw it all happen to poor Jonah. Then Jonah himself, played by the Admiral, spoke to the children right after the fish spewed him out, and a lady from Ninevah, Kim St. John, told them how amazed she was at the Lord’s mercy to her city. Then came one of the highlights of the week, Pastor Rayburn played the worm that destroyed Jonah’s gourd—and he did it in green tights! Chris Vitzthum wrapped up the week as the Herald, again, creatively proclaiming the Good News to all in attendance.

(Continued on page 4)



Summer Seaquest (continued)

(Continued from page 3)

“Captain” Lonnie Arnold was featured each day with what Pfeifferle described as, “the best gospel presentations for children I’ve ever heard.” He taught the children that each of them was born with a bad record and a bad heart, and only through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross and the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit can they be saved from hell, their record wiped clean, and their heart made new.

Marilyn Bridgan contributed many nautical props from her classroom, Joan Smith added another creatively painted backdrop, and a host of willing teen-agers and others added their time and energy to this important ministry of the church.

Summer Seaquest was first conceived by Anna Van Wechel (Leonard) in 1979 and is the third in a cycle of four summer VBS themes. The late Bronwyn Leonard (Rayburn) contributed to VBS Reachout Adventures, based in Seattle, Washington, with her Bible



Pastor Rayburn...in green tights!

Lessons and Daily Bible Readings. This popular VBS program is used by approximately 190 churches (75% PCA), in thirty-five states, and is being used overseas by missionaries. Faith Presbyterian will, Lord willing, continue the cycle next summer with the Olympics theme.

Filled with Scripture and a straightforward presentation of the gospel, VBS is an important way for our church family to make contact with our unbelieving neighbors. But a successful VBS requires dedicated and willing volunteers. If you are looking for an avenue of service at Faith, your gifts will be welcome in future VBS outreaches. Perhaps you, through volunteering at VBS next year, can be the means by which God hems in, “behind and before,” and lays his gracious hand on another “Tommy.”



Lisping Faith



Aaron Skrivan (10), when asked by his VBS teacher, Marie Seifert, if he had invited any in his neighborhood to VBS, replied, “I think they’re all too old.”

Miss Seifert, not to be put off so easily, pressed him, “Well, how old are they?”

“About sixty,” replied Aaron.



Church History



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

By Mike Pfefferle

The New Testament tells us little about how the early church celebrated the Lord's Supper. Strangely, what we are told concerns a congregation that was abusing the rite so shamefully that God judged some of them with premature death! Perhaps this prepares us for the way this most holy act of worship has been through the history of the church both a source of the deepest comfort for God's people, and a point of the most violent disagreement between Christians.

By the close of the New Testament age, Christianity was suffering occasionally severe persecution by the Roman imperial authorities. To gather in large numbers in a private house for worship, often in the early morning, was to risk exciting the hostile interest of police and informers. Yet this faithful offering of corporate worship was at the core of the Christian life, and the church thrived on it. The Lord's Supper, or Eucharist as it was usually called at this time, was the pinnacle of this worship. (Only in Reformation times did it become common to hold worship without the Lord's Supper.) So sacred was the Eucharist that only the communicants were allowed in the room during the ceremony; all the catechumens (those preparing for full communicant membership) and any inquirers were dismissed from the service after the sermon. The early Eucharist

had the character of a meal: each person brought some bread and wine to be pooled together for the elements. The presiding minister partook first, followed by the lesser clergy, and finally the people. Everyone stood throughout. The rite commemorated the whole life and death of Christ, remembering not only the sinner's guilt, but also the great acts of creation and redemption accomplished by all members of the Trinity, and looking forward to Jesus' return in glory.

With the conversion of the Roman emperor Constantine in 312 A.D. and the subsequent privileges granted the Christian church and clergy, the church was flooded with new members, many of whom had only the haziest notion of the fundamentals of the Christian faith. It was easy for many of these recent pagans to see the Lord's Supper as a magical procedure to placate a vengeful deity. Helping this trend along was the decline in education among people and clergy, and the new practice of saying the liturgy with back turned to the congregation, almost inaudibly, and in Latin, which was no longer the common language of Europe. The high point of Christian worship lost its verbal component and became primarily visual, consisting only of actions, smells, and bits of music (a development that would be completely familiar to today's MTV generation!).

Theory followed practice: the pagalized piety of the masses was codified by the intellectuals in an elaborate sacrificial theology. The church officially adopted the dogma that the Eucharist was an actual sacrifice of Christ, actually wiping away the sins of those who partook of it. An actual sacrifice requires an actual victim; the church declared that priests, by the miraculous power conveyed in ordination, turned the bread and wine into the very body of Christ, so that, as it was graphically put by one theologian, what the Christian ate was "the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ ... broken and torn by the teeth of the faithful."

Superstition regarding the sin-atoning value of the Eucharist, now commonly called the Mass, also led to morbid fear of the consequences of partaking of the sacrament unworthily. People believed they had to attain a high level of sanctity before they could safely partake of the Lord's Supper. Though the Eucharist remained part of virtually every service, often only the clergy actually communicated (i.e., partook of the elements). This fact called forth a church law requiring every Christian to communicate at least once a year! As a modern scholar wrote, "the food of men wayfaring' came to be looked upon rather as the reward of the saints..."

Such was the sad state of the Lord's Supper on the eve of the Reformation. In the second part of this article, we'll survey the Lord's Supper from the Reformation on.



Church Music at a Crossroads



Warning: Entering an Entertainment Free Zone

By Michael Javins

Now in its third year, Church Music at a Crossroads (CMAC) brought its annual symposium to Faith during the month of July. Taking as its theme “Being Servant Musicians in an Age of Entertainment” this year’s symposium focused on the worship of the church against the backdrop of our modern, entertainment-driven culture.

Featured guest faculty included Dr. Michael Horton, Vice-President of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals and host of the talk radio program *The White Horse Inn*; Mr. Ken Myers, formerly of NPR and now producer of the *Mars Hill* audio tapes; Dr. Dale Voelker, guest choral conductor and clinician from Judson College and conductor of the Washington Kantorei; Dr. Terry Yount, National Coordinator of CMAC and recently appointed Chief Musician of St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Orlando, Florida; and our own Pastor Rayburn. Presentations by Dr. Horton and Dr. Rayburn argued for the need to return to the Bible – and the Old Testament in particular – to develop a theology for worship. Ken Myers discussed the state of modern culture and the place of liturgical worship within it.

No music conference would be complete without live music, and this symposium was no exception. From congregational singing in the

evening sessions to rehearsals and a performance by the conference chorale to small groups gathering around the piano to sing during breaks between sessions, music filled the air. Drs. Voelker and Yount held sessions on techniques and repertoire for choral conductors and keyboardists. The conference concluded with a special presentation by the CMAC chorale (a group comprised of many of the delegates attending the conference) performing music ranging in style from Mozart to the avant-garde.

As an organization Church Music at a Crossroads was established three years ago by Dr. Terry Yount and fellow board members Rev. Chuck King, Dr. Leonard Payton, and Dr. John Hamm. Since its inception at the first symposium held on the campus of Covenant College, the organization has grown steadily and has recently achieved non-profit status from the IRS. The stated goal of CMAC is to promote standards of excellence in the worship music of historic orthodox Protestantism. Through these annual symposia, printed materials, and audio resources CMAC is committed to providing leadership and to opening a forum to discuss and develop standards of excellence in the creation and performance of biblically sound worship music.

The following is a brief synopsis of the sessions available on tape. To

order tapes, you may use the order form in this newsletter or contact Mike Simpson in the church office.

Entertaining the God of the Bible - opening keynote, Dr. Michael Horton: From Abraham to Moses, then through Old Testament prophecy, Dr. Horton demonstrates the need for the church to develop a theology of worship if it is to transcend its modern culture. He further discusses two covenants: the covenant of glory (unmediated intimacy with God) and the covenant of the cross.

Mass Popular Culture in Church Music: Theological Observations - Dr. Michael Horton: What happens when we worship? Who is the primary participant in worship - the church or God Himself? In this complementary session to his evening address, Dr. Horton poses these questions as he seeks to base the theology for worship on the covenant of the cross – the covenant of the here and now. In this session, he explains that God is active in the church’s worship, providing the very reason the church needs to fully engage in worship in spirit and in truth.

Worship as Entertainment - The “New” Evangelism - Mr. Ken Myers and Dr. Michael Horton: This session begins with an opening statement by Mr. Myers on the state of modern culture. Through question and answer with Dr. Horton and audience participation, an open forum discussion seeks to understand the question “How should we then live?”

(Continued on page 7)

Church Music at a Crossroads, continued

(Continued from page 6)

The Justification of the Old Testament as a Liturgical Authority – Rev. Dr.

Robert Rayburn, evening keynote: Why is there little discussion of the form and practice of worship in the New Testament? Perhaps, as Pastor Rayburn explains in this session, the answer lies in the thoroughly comprehensive treatment in the subject receives in the Old Testament and in the Psalms particularly.

Opening Pandora's Box – The Form and Culture of Worship – Mr. Ken Myers:

In this session, Mr. Myers discusses the development of liturgy and religious rite. From a historical perspective he argues that worship can and should have a form and method distinct from the surrounding culture – that churches should be declared “an entertainment-free zone.”

Tapes of the CMAC sessions are available through the church office. If you would like to order a set or a portion of a set, please use the form provided on this page.



Send to:
 CMAC Tapes
 Faith Presbyterian Church
 620 S. Shirley
 Tacoma, WA 98465

Individual tapes are \$2 each plus \$4 for shipping and handling. Please make checks payable to Faith Presbyterian Church.

“Entertaining the God of the Bible,” Michael Horton, Monday, July 19, 7:30 p.m.

“Mass Popular Culture in Church Music: Theological Observations,” Michael Horton, Tuesday, July 20, 8:30 a.m.

Demonstration: Transcendent Church Music—Outstanding Modern Examples, Dale Voelker and Terry Yount, Tuesday, July 20, 10:00 a.m.

“Worship as Entertainment—The ‘New Evangelism,’” Michael Horton and Ken Myers, Tuesday, July 20, 11:00 a.m.

“The Justification of the Old Testament as a Liturgical Authority,” Robert Rayburn, Tuesday, July 20, 7:30 p.m.

“Opening Pandora’s Box—The Form and Culture of Worship,” Ken Myers, Wednesday, July 21, 8:30 a.m.

“Resources and Techniques for Organists,” Terry Yount, Wednesday, July 21, 10:30 a.m.

Chorale Concert, Dale Voelker, Wednesday, July 21, 3:00 p.m.

Entire Set—\$20.00 (8 tapes; includes S/H)

Total number of tapes _____. \$ _____ enclosed.

Send tapes to:

 Name

 Address

 City / State / Zip

New Member Spotlight



By Kathryn Allen

Theodore Arial

Theodore Arial, having attended our church since his birth seven years ago, just recently joined our church body. His parents Mary Jane and Robert have been members for nineteen years, and his sister Amelia is being brought up in the church as well. Theodore derives great joy from interaction with his church buddies and loves to participate in the church activities for his age group.

He is going into the second grade at Washington Elementary and especially enjoys drawing and other artistic activities. His favorite subjects are reading and math; his preferred sport is baseball. We rejoice to see his desire to be affiliated by his own choice to our church body and heartily welcome him.

The Carters

What a pleasure to be able to annex Bud and Eden Carter to our church membership! We are privileged to have them coming from our mission church where Pastor Cassis labored until its recent adjournment. Though only spending the late spring and summer months here in Washington, they especially appreciate the consistent thread of excellent reformed teaching while abiding in the great northwest. We will miss them when they head to their Sun Lakes, Arizona home in October until early spring; we will anticipate their return.

They both relish the life of retirement. Bud had a forty-year career at Boeing working most recently as a systems safety analyst for the military division, while Eden labored in a commercial real estate firm with Costco stores for eight years. Being involved in church ministry activities has been a priority when time permits. Besides raising two godly children, Eden was at one time a secretary for Presbyterian WIC, and Bud has taught a Bible study for retired men. Praise the Lord for these two committed members!

Jeanine Edensword

Jeanine Edensword became Bret's wife three years ago. While already thinking of her as family these past few years, we now officially welcome her as a new member who passed the customary interview with the elders. She was a five-year member at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Vancouver, while Bret was a member here at Faith for that same portion of time. Together, they bring Bret's two sons, Grant (17) and Ryan (14), to services when they have the opportunity. She has enjoyed becoming a part of their lives.

Besides being a support to Bret who works as an insurance agent in long term care with GE Capitol, Jeanine has been testing waters for new types of employment in the administrative / professional realm. She recently graduated from PLU and

was involved in social work while attending there. In her BB (before Bret) days, she was the director for CPC in Vancouver for a year and a half. She worked as a counselor both there and at her church since she had experience in encouraging people in all ages and situations. In her beginning CB (current Bret) years, she was even immersed in aiding humanity with a family renewal shelter for victims of domestic violence. Let us make her know that we are thankful to have her as an official Faith family member.

The Gordons

Another police officer has joined our ranks at Faith. In fact, Lonnie and Lorna Arnold had an intricate role in directing this man and his family to us. Michael Gordon has been working in the King County Sheriff's office for ten years and anticipates a move to the motorcycle SWAT team as he is currently in training for this. His desire is to eventually be a sniper. He and his wife Jennifer have three active boys, Andrew (2), Alexander (5), and Benjamin (8 months). She was a full time banker before becoming a mother and home maker. While Michael enjoys woodworking in his spare time, Jennifer works with her craft skills: decorating, cross stitching, and crocheting. She especially loves throwing parties and getting all the necessities organized for such affairs.

Having been raised in the Catholic Church and saved within the last seven years, the Gordons are new to the reformed faith. They have attended our church since October

(Continued on next page)

New Member Spotlight (continued)

(Continued from previous page)

of 1998 and have been amazed with the involvement of children in the church. In fact, the family atmosphere encouraged by the covenantal responsibilities drew them to membership. Looking towards the future, they are excited about the possibility of sending their sons to Covenant high school. Faith Presbyterian's love for the sovereign God and his ultimate truth as well as His chosen people was apparent to the Gordons. We welcome them with arms wide open to our fellowship of believers.

The Kamkes

As a graduate of Covenant High School and a wife of Jonathan Kamke, Brooke felt comfortable becoming a member of Faith. Having grown up in a non-Christian home, she has always been perplexed at God's mercies and keenly aware of his presence. She has experienced his sovereignty on a regular basis—seeing how God moved hearts that were not his to supply her needs such as attending Christian school. Her loving and winsome spirit is a direct result of God's work on a believer's heart.

Brooke attended Washington State University for a year before marrying Jonathan who works at the Haven of Rest in Gig Harbor. She hopes to return to college someday. She currently works with her mother at Destination Harley Davidson. Both she and her husband enjoy watching movies with Aubree and Kent. Jonathan also revels in working on his bug, and Brooke derives joy from reading. We are thrilled to have this won-

derful couple among us; help them know this.

The Perssons

We are elated to announce the membership of Jon and Michele Persson to our congregation! This Scandinavian couple has been attending for four years now with their children Samuel (9) who was already a member, Rachel (6), and Sarah (3). Over these years, they have been impressed with the stability of the church and the excellence revealed in everything the church members accomplish. The discernible desire of those at church to glorify God and be ministers to each other solidified the Persson's decision to join with us. Praise to God's grace at work in touching the lives of His people through us. Let us continue to spread the love of Christ to this endearing family.

Jon, working in his field for eight years now, is an estimator and purchasing agent for Laser Direct. Michele has not only taught at the high school level and college level (at Tacoma Community College), but has home schooled her children using Verities Press. She has used the public school as a resource to enrich her children's education through the extracurricular classes, accelerated reading curriculum, and the gifted programs available. We are blessed to have yet another family dedicated to teaching their children at home join us in our pilgrimage together at Faith. Make them ever aware of our happiness to have them as part of our family!

Acts of Faith

Baptisms

Margaret Lu Oatridge (6/13)
Olivia Grace Longenbaugh (6/20)
Ben Crawford (8/8)
Nicola Crawford (8/8)
John Abraham Sullivan (8/22)

Births

Micaiah Nathanael Allison (6/21)
John Abraham Sullivan (7/15)
Mark Josiah Lovelace (8/3)
Nathan Douglas Lawty (10/6)

Weddings

Dan Grant & Lora Squire (6/26)
Daron Wilson & Yunae Judge (7/24)
Doug Hayes & Amy Spears (8/14)



New Member Spotlight — Special Edition



By Kathryn Allen

Laverne Rayburn

When unusual but exciting opportunities arise, we must take advantage of the moment. It is our express pleasure to include one who has given us so much to be thankful for into our family. A delightful lady who has aided in the continuance of a godly Presbyterian heritage, Laverne Rayburn, blesses us with her presence faithfully ever since she arrived in the northwest. She naturally takes her place in our church membership as our beloved mother figure. When knowledge of this interview was to take place, I realized how little I knew about our pastor or his family and have worked to inform you of different key components that may endear them ever so much more to our hearts.

Laverne, a UW English literature student on spring break, attended a 1943 Young Life Campaign in Mt. Vernon, Washington that would drastically change her life as a single young maiden. The Young Life director introduced her to the single pastor of a Presbyterian church in Texas, his brother Robert G. Rayburn, who fell madly in love and asked for her hand in marriage. January of 1944 intertwined this couple for life and this dear lady became a supportive pastor's wife. Being an Omaha Seminary graduate and the son of an evangelist, this was not the first pastorate Robert had taken nor would it be his last.

Robert soon joined the military and attended the chaplain's school at Harvard University during WWII. Commissioned overseas in June, he was quickly separated from his January bride who moved back to her parent's home in Mount Vernon, Washington and finished college. Upon discharge, his name remained on the inactive duty reservist list only to be recalled to duty during the pastorate at College Church in Illinois. This time departing from his beloved wife who was left with the responsibility of caring for three little ones on her own. In his must-read book "Fight the Good Fight" he highlighted the life and death situations as well as key ministry opportunities he experienced for God's kingdom and glory while spending his 21 months in Korea and Japan.

As the chaplain for the 187th Regimental Combat Team, he led many to the Lord, some of whom attended Covenant College that Robert established in 1955. He also founded Covenant Seminary a year later. He was president of both of these until 1965 following the move of the college to Lookout Mountain where he passed on the torch to Dr. Marion Barnes.

Meanwhile, Laverne not only faithfully reared four quality children who all love our Lord Jesus Christ, but was always ready to be hospitable at a moment's notice. When spe-

cifically asked how she reared such distinguished Christian children, she attributed it all to the grace of the Lord.

Her first two children Linnea and Bronwyn both had the exhilarating occasion to attend Francis Schaeffer's L'Abri Fellowship in French speaking Switzerland to study language for a year. They both graduated from Covenant College and ended up being PCA pastor's wives. Both naming their firstborn after the other Linnea the pianist had three children: Bronwyn, Jason, and Conner, and the flutist Bronwyn had four children: Linnea, Joshua, Dagney, and Caleb.

Our Robert S. Rayburn loving scriptures, theology, and writings of godly men attended Covenant College for his BA, the University of Aberdeen for his PhD., and Covenant Seminary for his MDiv. While at Covenant Seminary he met his musical Florence who was doing work in theology. Their delightful children whom many have watched grow in grace and beauty include Bryonie and Evangeline (who are students of Covenant College), Courtney, Robert, and James. Faith Presbyterian has been molded and shaped by Laverne's diligent and godly son for 21 years now and we look forward to many more years of spiritually, intellectually, and emotionally stimulating ministry.

Laverne's other son Bentley Rayburn motivated by his passion to fly attended the Air Force Academy quickly demonstrating his competency when appointed Wing

(Continued on page 11)

Book Review



Gospel Truth / Pagan Lies

By Peter Jones

Reviewed by Kathryn Allen

Unify humanity. Be one with Mother Nature. Defy traditional structure. Overlook religious differences. Find truth within your innermost being. Whatever you do, endeavor to attain peace with all. These types of Monistic beliefs pervading our American culture and even some Christian thoughts are communicated in many unsuspecting places. We must be wary soldiers fully armed with the truth in order to detect the lies.

Having been away from the states, Peter Jones returned and noticed the bombardment of these pagan lies and decided not only to compose and publish several works to enable the fiery darts of the wicked

one to be extinguished but to engage himself in lectures and seminars as well. His scholarly background from the University of Wales, Gordon Divinity School (there being influenced by Francis Schaeffer), and Princeton Seminary prepared him for his current ministry. His books include “The Gnostic Empire Strikes Back: An Old Heresy for a New Age,” “Spirit Wars: Pagan Revival in Christian America,” and “Gospel Truth / Pagan Lies.”

The last book mentioned, “Gospel Truth / Pagan Lies,” provides an easy to read format of short essays followed by critical application questions challenging the believer to

perceive the daily propaganda and to pragmatically refute these damaging lies. Endeavoring to enable his readers to be more discerning, he relates the basic monistic beliefs (unity at all costs) and then contrasts these lies with the Biblical gospel truth. He attempts to prepare his reader for encounters they may have with Monistic thinkers. This would even be a good devotional to cover with your teenager or other adults and may even provide a backdrop for group discussion. Consider reading this book to refute the intellectual laziness or ignorance of the harmful Satan-inspired “spirituality” and moral corruption that pervades American culture. Order at your local bookstore, call 1-800-917-BOOK, or see www.spirit-wars.com on the web.



New Member Spotlight — Special Edition (continued)

(Continued from page 10)

Commander who oversees the Academy in his senior year. He became more than a fighter pilot flying F-16's. Among other military accomplishments, his recent attainments include instructing for Air Force fighter weapons, commanding a fighter wing, and target selecting for Kosovo bombing. Now as a Inspector General of the Air Combat Command in Langley, he and his wife live in Virginia. They boast four children: Moriah, Micah, and the twins Cassandra and Carrissa. They worship the Lord together in a

PCA church located near them.

After the child rearing years, Laverne and Robert traveled twice around the world. The first adventure's goal was missionary visitation. Teaching for four-month stints in two separate seminaries—one in Hong Kong and the other in India—was the ministry highlight of the second journey. Their willing hearts that prepared them to engage in the matters of life wherever God placed them identify them as priceless servants. Praise God for utilizing his people in every profession

and at all ages to minister to the needs of those around them, making an impact in the world through His enabling power. As the love for Christ and zeal to ultimately glorify God was the stabilizing factor in this family, may this legacy continue not only in this line but in each of our generations to come. All praise to our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer



*The Newsletter of
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Sermons preached at Faith are available via download from the church website, on audio tape, and in printed form through the church office.

To request sermon tapes, please contact Eunice DeSoto or call the church office at (253) 752-7601. The tapes are available for a suggested donation of \$2 each.