



Church of the Open Bible

(Church of God General Conference, Atlanta GA)
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Pastor Rex F. Cain / 440.232.3970 / February 3, 2008

WE PURSUE OUR PASSIONS

We pursue that which we are passionate about. It's as simple as that. If our passion is for material possessions then we are driven to acquire them. If our passion is for a college degree then we aggressively pursue it through education. Passion motivates pursuit.

This fundamental principle is key to spiritual life and vitality. The passion for a dynamic and intimate experience with our Creator through our Savior drives the pursuit. The passionate drive to know leads to a sincere desire for lifestyle.

Spiritual passion is not generally characteristic of the peoples and nations of the world today, but one day it will be:

"And it will come about in the last days That the mountain of the house of the LORD Will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, And the peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, "Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD And to the house of the God of Jacob, That He may teach us about His ways And that we may walk in His paths." For from Zion will go forth the law, Even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem." (Micah 4:1-2)

Pastors and church members long for people to "stream to" church, but typically people today instead stream to malls, sporting events, and theme parks. This is the passion that they pursue. But a time is coming when the Lord's literal presence will be upon a mountain in Israel and people and nations will have a passion to stream to it to learn His ways, will and word. The passion to learn the Lord's ways will lead people and nations to *"hammer their swords into plow-*

shares And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, And never again will they train for war." (Micah 4:3). Passion for the Lord's ways will overcome our aggressive war-ringing passion.

Are you passionate for the Lord? Does a driving desire motivate you to learn the Lord's ways and will? Passion motivates pursuit. If passion for the Lord burns within then it is driving you to know Him better through His word and through other spiritual pursuits.

May your passion be so kindled that you relentlessly pursue the Lord and His will and ways.

Pastor Steve Taylor / Nov. 13, 2007

Thinking about communion today and the forgiveness His blood provides ...

"When God forgives, He forgets. He buries our sins in the sea and puts a sign on the bank saying:

"No Fishing Allowed."

(Micah 7:19)

Corrie ten Boom of the well-known "Hiding Place" book and movie / survived concentration camps but lost most of her family



RUTH SCHULD will begin chemo treatments perhaps this next week - having 6 treatments, one every 21 days. I know she and Rodger and the family would very much appreciate our prayers.

ANITA CAIN had surgery last Wed. & was home the same day. In a word, all went well.

COMMUNION DEACONESSES

for today are: Marge Reed and Pam Weaver.

FORREST COLEGROVE sent us a generous check last week for our copier fund – to help repay the unexpected cost. Forrest is a close teaching friend of Fred Schuld.

ARE YOU INCLINED TO SKI DOWN A BIG INCLINE?

Well, today some of our church people are going to the Brandywine ski park to ski, ride tubes down the mountain-ette or sit by a fireplace and sip hot chocolate. What's your choice? See Steve Weaver for details. More details during church.



“Dear Friends at Church of the Open Bible, Abrahamic Designs is a project that I privately maintain to promote the interests of the member churches of the General Conference. Thank you for supporting this effort by your recent gift of \$100. It is the generous backing of people like you that keeps my ministry going. Your gift means so much. Please be assured of my deep gratitude.

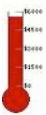
- Sincerely Yours, Frank Toth / Canada

PERU MISSION UPDATE / NEW BELIEVERS

PASTOR BEDER (Peru): “We just received word in the last few days that Pastor Beder’s condition has improved. He is able to eat again. However he definitely still needs our prayers as he continues to receive medical treatment. We have sent money several times to help with his medical expenses from our emergency medical fund. If your mission group can help with gifts to help with this expense it will be appreciated.

Bill Wachtel and David and Lynne Krogh will be going to Peru in April to work with Pastor Beder and other leaders in the church to make certain that effective ministry continues during Pastor Beder’s illness. They will also travel on to Montevideo, Uruguay to visit Mauro Apolos Gonzalez who has been in contact with us for about two years. He has been studying the Bible and shares our beliefs. He and two others with whom he has been studying have requested baptism. Mauro has a heart to serve the Lord and wants to expand his ministry. We will discuss with him plans for the development of a church in Montevideo. Mauro speaks English and Spanish. Financial assistance for this mission trip may be sent to LHI, earmarked for South America.”

David Krogh / 1-28-08 email

 **A THERMOMETER GRAPH** on the entrance door now shows we have received \$990 toward our goal of \$1300 for the new copier. Our thanks to those who have helped with a donation to offset this unexpected purchase.

Your Sunday School Board Met Last Sunday ...

- Minutes from last meeting were read and approved.
- Preprinted treasurer’s report was reviewed and approved. Checking and savings account balance totals \$1096.17
- Under Old Business we discussed the Christmas Sunday program and banquet / Emerald Ridge’s Christmas presentation / and Sunday School materials.

- Under New Business, we set April 6th for our annual church dinner outing / voted to do March-ing for Missions in March / Discussed Easter Sunday including sunrise breakfast (Marge will spearhead) / Discussed wedding showers for Andrew and Rachel Weaver's summer weddings / Set annual S.S. picnic for Aug. 24th / Next meeting Sept. 21st.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Feb. 21-24, 2008, will be a N.E. PROPHECY Conference (and Conf. business) at Brushcreek Church near Dayton with teachers: Anthony Buzzard, Bill Wachtel, Wally Winner and Arlen Rankin.

PRAY FOR: Annabelle May (7 yrs, infection), Jeff Stoneman (cancer, by Whaley), Anita Cain (surgery, 30th), Pastor Beder (cancer / Peru), Ruth Schuld (treatments), Paul Weaver (motorcycle accident), Darlene Dejak (surgery, by SMay), Ken-Kathy Cramer, Terry James (cancer, by Roper), Evelyn Pennington, Jack Hearp, Ruby Korode, Gene & Gloria Faehnrich, Edith Speer, Jacob Hinton*, Kathy Reed*, (*by Skip), W.C. & Craig Blankenship, **College students:** Andrew Weaver, Jackie Schuld, Dan & Rachel Cain (internship / teaching degree), **Shut-ins:** Evelyn Pennington **Military:** Rodger Schuld, **Those serving in other countries:** Lupe Badillo-Mexico, Tracy Zhykhovich-Russia, Beder Ucañay-Peru, Pastors in Malawi & Mozambique, Lesly Bertrand and the Pastors in Haiti. **Colleges / Churches:** RRCC, ABC, Golden Rule, Grace Brethren and for the peace of Jerusalem, Ps. 122:6; Isa. 62:6, 7

FEBRUARY 2008

11-15 Minister's Conference in GA / Pastor Cain plans to attend

21-24 NE Prophecy & Business Conference / Bruschreek Church near Dayton

Future Dates: Apr 6, Church dinner outing / Mar – Mission's Month / Aug 24, SS picnic / Sept 21, SS Mtg

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45A.M.
WORSHIP 10:45A.M.

Musicians: Frank Roper and Mark Cain

Welcome / Announcements / Prayer

Worship Hymns: Mark Cain

485 Will Jesus Find Us Watching?

476 Some Golden Daybreak

Prayer / Offering

Message: How's Your Rap Sheet Looking?

Key Texts: Ps 130; Jam 2:10; 4:17; Gen 6:5; 2 Cor 5:21; Mal 3:16, 17

Communion: Pastor Cain

482 When He Cometh