

Pastor's letter for January 3, 2009

Dear Friends,

Happy New Years to everyone!!

It is hard to believe it is the New Year again. It seems like time goes by faster every year. I thought some of our kids were getting ready to graduate from high school not to long ago. Here we are with several grand children already graduated from high school. I think that means that Shirley is getting older, me being 39 and all.

Well, it is 2009 anyway, no matter who is what, and I pray that it is a better year for you than 2008 was. Not that 2008 was so bad, but it is always good to look forward to the future with a positive attitude. If you allow Christ to walk with you in your life, it can't help but be better!

We have some exceptional speakers coming at the end of January. On the 18th we are having our Mission Center President – High Priest Deb Crowley in to help kick off part II of our journey for Alaska Branch. To have her scheduled this early in the New Year is pretty unusual, as she can be booked about 6 months in advance. So that's exciting. Our new program for this year has a lot of new things added to it that we haven't done before and some that we have. Having Deb here to help us to start off the New Year is a real honor.

On January 25, 2009, we are having Apostle Stassi Cramm from World Church coming in. She is booked for a year in advance, so it was a miracle that I was able to catch her, this early in the year. Especially, since I didn't ask her until I saw her at Mission Center Conference in November 2008!! She is a great speaker. She is bringing a special class for Sunday school as well. So that's exciting. If you have not heard her before you are going to want to be here then and join us for potluck afterwards.

Best part is POTLUCK both Sundays. I didn't just say that, did I? That is a fun time because we get to talk about everyday life with our guests. We hear some of the funny stories on how they cope with daily life, as their positions are pretty demanding. You find out they're just ordinary people trying to do their part to bring Jesus Christ to the people and make life a lot better for others. That's what it's really all about "helping each other"!!!

In the scripture: Christ telling the Parables,

“ [Mat 25:38] Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee; or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

[Mat 25:39] When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in; or naked, and clothed thee?

[Mat 25:40] Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

[Mat 25:41] And the king shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”

It is bye for now, and I hope to see you all next month. You're invited to join us Sunday mornings and share in Jesus Christ.

Pastor,

Richard Blair