



PEAS-Talks!

People Engaged in Acts of Service
Outreach Newsletter

Volume 1, issue 3
North Cascade Seventh Day Adventist Church

December 2008
800 Peacock Lane, Burlington, WA 98233, 360-757-7577

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Christmas Baskets and Angel Tree

Think Christmas! Long tables, lined with traditional stuffing, potatoes, and turkeys. Loads of your favorite friends and family. A shining tree decorated with sentimental ornaments and gifts sparkling beneath.



Alana and Sebastian Escalante carefully choose which food to give their gift family.

The PEAS

There were once three peas who lived in a pod. They looked at each other and at the walls of their pod and decided that the whole world was green. Summer slipped away, fall came, and the pod split wide open. To their dismay, the peas discovered that not only was the whole world not green, but that most of it was varying shades of brown. There were even some other shades of green. In panic, one pea took hold of the edges of the pod and tried to pull them back together again so that its world could be all green again. A second pea slipped out of the pod and became just a brown as it could as fast as it could so that no one would notice. The third pea looked at the walls of the pod and at the world outside and decided that ***its particular shade of green was precisely what the world out there needed.***

*Remnant in Crisis, by Jack Provonsha, 1993, Review & Herald, p. 169

Now set a different scene, a Christmas for someone else – a family in need of real Christmas spirit. Last month, 27 teams of church members filled the youth house, choosing boxes of food, then delivering them to needy families in the area. We will do it all again, plus more, for Christmas!

Look in the lobby. There is a Christmas Angel tree, which we will use to bring joy to many children. Our annual Christmas tree has sprouted in the lobby, hung with special ornaments listing gift needs for families.

Just pick up an ornament (or two!) and donate the listed

gift at the church (wrapped, with the ornament attached, please.)

Each family we sponsor will need shoes, clothes, toiletries, and toys for the kids. Practical things are great – socks, McDonalds gift certificates, etc.

We will also be assembling baskets of food for these families, like we did with the Thanksgiving baskets. Please plan to attend

the packing and distributing “party” on December 20th!

The Pathfinders, Adventurers and Youth will be gathering food beforehand, and if you also want to donate, that would be wonderful.

Please check the bulletin insert for further details or call Lanita Penninger, 428-8923, or Carol Atkins, 757-0967 if you have any questions.

BLOOD DRIVE TODAY!

More Outreach Opportunities...

Friendship House Dinner

When: 1st Wed/month at 3:00-6:00

Contact: Lydia Apt, 826-4374
OR Your Sabbath school leader
1008 S 3rd St, Mt. Vernon
Our church serves supper the first Wednesday of each month. The Friendship House is a women/children's house and a men's residence. People are given up to 90 days' shelter and help to get back on their feet, find a job, and save enough money to get their own apartment.

Family Shelter

When: As needed,
Contact: Cindy Hartley 595-2947
We served Thanksgiving dinner at the shelter for the families. Great fun was had by all, and it was fun to meet the families.

For Christmas, Lyle Whisenand will play Santa for a Christmas party we're hosting there on Dec 22nd. The 6th graders will create a pinata, shelter kids will decorate cookies while they wait to talk to Santa, and we're putting together goody bags so each child will receive a gift. We'll also supply craft supplies so the shelter's kids can make their own decorations for their tree and common area.

Cold Weather Shelter

When: Nights below 25degrees
Contact: Tressa Farnsworth, 424-9146

We held the training for area church coordinators, and are getting up and ready for those cold nights. There is a big need for on-call volunteers. There will be a couple days' notice when our shelter opens, which will be helpful for volunteers.

Blood Drive

When: December 6, 8:00-1:00
Where: NCSDA church
Contact: Vicki Jacobs, 707-2506
It is planned for today! Please visit the RV in the parking lot!
Thanks to those who give today.

Kingdom Assignments

When: ongoing
Contact: your church friends!
There are over 170 church members who accepted assignments! Please check with your friends if you have not received an envelope to see what great projects they are starting! Please pray for the work that is being done. If you want to listen to the Kingdom Assignments, they are available online or on cassette at the office.

Oil Changes for Single Moms

When: **March** 2009
Contact: Jeremy Schmidt, 855-7614
TIME CHANGE! Get Connected Sabbath School plans to give free oil changes to area single moms in **March**.

Spruced Up Thrift Shop

When: Ongoing
Contact: Jacira Lopes, 755-1141
Please attend a special constituency meeting at the church on Dec 19 at 6:00 (soup provided) to find out exciting new programs and plans for our church-sponsored thrift shop!

Skagit Adventist School/ Skagit Adventist Academy

When: Ongoing
Contact: Tiffani Holbrook, 755-9261
K- 8th grade classes visited several nursing homes around the area for Veterans Day, bringing handmade cards, singing and visiting the residents. The residents loved the songs and the kids met real war heroes!

SAS participated in Operation Christmas Child, creating a big stack of boxes to donate to world children.

SAS and SAA will adopt eleven homeless families to buy gifts for at Christmas. That's up from four classes/families last year. It is thrilling that all classes decided to get involved this year!

REMEMBER
Pick up your PEASCorp. T shirt and wear it when we are out in the community!
It is a great way to start up a conversation!
Get to know the people around you.....

Thanks for Helping!



Church members line up to organize baskets



Rebeca and little Bruce Prince load a box together



Bjorn Stickle and Brian Fish muscle in the T.P.!