



PEAS-Talks!

People Engaged in Acts of Service
Outreach Newsletter

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North Cascade Seventh Day Adventist Church

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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

Focus On

Kingdom Assignments

By Kristie Lindell

The Kingdom Assignments projects were a great success! These updates are just a sampling of projects through which Jesus reached into our community through our church family members!

Valentines Concert: Dean Dietrich and friends arranged a Valentine concert fundraiser. Donations of \$750 were donated to the *Skagit County Community Action Agency*. We are now working with them to find a project we could participate in within the community. Dean also purchased a "Church camera" that will be available to use for special projects and church family pictures.

Book Drive: Ken and Lisa Knudsen collected over 1,000 new and gently used books -- that is ten

boxes full! They delivered the books to the *Family Shelter* we support in Mount Vernon, where they were and are being read with enthusiasm!

SOUP-erbowl: The Youth Group collected donations for the *Friendship House*, where they not only bought and served dinner, but donated all the extra proceeds to them.

Backpacks for Homeless Adults: Peggy Fisher sent letters to all her friends and relatives, collecting \$3,000. She used the money to purchase backpacks and supplies (toiletries, utensils, socks, etc.) that would be useful for homeless people. She was able to compile 100 packs! 17 packs were delivered to the *Friendship House*, and the rest have gone and are continuing to

go to *Salt on the Street*, a program that helps homeless in Bellingham. Peggy has \$200 left, and she plans to challenge another NCSDA member to a new Kingdom Assignment!

H2O PROJECT: Twenty volunteers from the Youth group gave up their favorite drinks for two weeks and donated the amount they would have spent purchasing them to *ADRA's* clean water project, which helps purchase wells and pumps in underprivileged countries. They raised over \$550! Amazingly, \$1 can buy water for 1 person for 1 year!

Backpacks for Homeless Kids: Megan Taylor purchased backpacks and supplies and will deliver them soon to homeless children in Skagit County

More Outreach Opportunities...

Oil Changes for Single Moms

WHEN: TOMORROW!

Contact: Jeremy Schmidt, 855-7614

More than twice the single moms as last year signed up for oil changes. Supplies are purchased and volunteers are lined up to fix their cars tomorrow. The Get Connected Sabbath school members will change oil, clean and vacuum cars, as well as provide food and company to the moms and kids while they wait for their cars.

Family Shelter

When: As needed,

Contact: Cindy Hartley 595-2947

We hosted an Easter party at the shelter after school on Good Friday, and invited all the families to our NCSDA Sunday program.

Teddy Bear Packs

When: ongoing

Contact: Lillian Stutz, 757-2616

All Skagit County Sheriff and WA State Patrol units have been provided with packets containing a teddy and an afghan. They are a huge comfort to upset children in tough situations.

Blood Drive

When: May 9th, 8:00-2:00

Where: NCSDA church

Contact: Vicki Jacobs, 707-2506

Please call or email Vicki to reserve your blood donation. Hours are 9:00am to 2:00pm. We may expand the service and offer afternoon appointments, from 2:00 to 7:00pm to include neighborhood people who wish to donate.

Join a Board

Think about joining a board for a local organization, whatever sounds exciting to you! It would be a great way to become involved with the community and reach them for Christ!

Spruced Up Thrift Shop

When: Ongoing

Contact: Pat Bartelmey, 755-1141

Pat has agreed to be the new manager, congratulations! Thrift shop hours are 10-4 M-TH, and 11-3 on Fridays. **We are still selling vegetarian food.** We are in need of a Wednesday clerk (job shared by two people would work, too.) Great sale on now, 50% off all clothes and 50 cents for shoes. All Spruced Up is moved in to both sides of the space and is looking better than ever.

Cold Weather Shelter

When: Nights below 25degrees

Contact: Tressa Farnsworth, 424-9146

Soon there will be a debriefing to follow up this year's program. Since our facility was not used much this year, we are considering continuing this ministry by partnering with another church to provide a closer, easier to reach location.

Friendship House Dinner

When: 1st Wed/month at 3:00-6:00
1008 S 3rd St, Mt. Vernon

Contact: Lydia Apt, 826-4374

Each month, one NCSDA Sabbath school or group of members sponsors a dinner. Please consider which month you would like your group to sign up for in the next year. Lydia coordinates the signups.

Food Baskets

When: ongoing

Contact: Lanita Penninger 428-8923
or Carol Atkins 757-0967.

Our food baskets continue to walk out the door with needy families at about one per month. We have supplies and will keep one or two baskets made up and readily available for needy families.

Baby Packs

When: ongoing

Contact: Lillian Stutz, 757-2616

New mothers in need are provided with a basket of helpful items for a brand new baby. The Stutz' and Nick and Sue Muff just finished assembling 24 new packs and will deliver them next week. SEAMAR will get several and so will Physician's Care Family Medicine (Stickles, Fishes, Smiths!). Baby thermometers are always needed for this project.

County Fair

When: August 12-15

Contact: Dean Dietrich, 856-0828

Our church has reserved a kiosk for the Skagit County Fair. We will have space to display church brochures, show SAS movies, and most importantly, talk to community members.

World Vision

Our Outreach Committee has joined the *World Vision* network, a worldwide organization that provides corporate donations of foodstuffs, furniture, and anything that might be useful for free to members. They have a storehouse in Fife, and we can shop the warehouse once a month to collect items for church projects. If you have a truck or van and an extra day a month, we are looking for someone to accompany Pastor Tim or Pastor Ira and bring the items back.

Teen Oasis Shelter

When: Ongoing

Contact: Joan Hilde, 856-6013

The Teen Oasis Shelter serves both boys and girls ages 13-16. The house is close to the YMCA in Mount Vernon, and has just been remodeled and reopened. They need clothing appropriate for job interviews in all sizes. They especially could use white tailored shirts. There is also a need for activities to keep the kids busy. Anyone with a special skill could come teach a class, such as sewing, basic cooking, or music -- any skill building class would be great. They also would welcome homemade cookies or treats anytime.

T SHIRTS

WEAR YOUR PEASCORP TSHIRT WHEN YOU ARE OUT VOLUNTEERING – THEY ARE VERY STYLISH AND ALSO GREAT ADVERTISING! MORE SIZES JUST CAME IN. ONLY \$11!