

COMMUNITY COMMUNIQUE

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Winter Season Brings Activity

During the months of November, December, and January we of the International Community of Christ have been quite active. For example, we have observed the Christmas-Epiphany vigil and all attendant activities during the Yuletide season, participated in a great many ecumenical and interfaith events, many of which we planned and facilitated ourselves, and we have initiated several forms of outreach involving many of us here at The Church in travel throughout the region and abroad.

The liturgy alone has generated a great deal of the work during the winter season with The Church holding no less than ninety-plus services and assemblies of members, these along with regularly scheduled work crews and special team projects. The “boxed” listings of these services are often overlooked by readers, but they include services on Saturday mornings in the Chapel of the Holy Child, Wednesday noon communions in that Chapel, Pannuches meal rites on Saturday evenings – twice each season, Friday morning services in the Chapel of the Roses at Steamboat Priory, second services at select churches each Sunday at Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary, and Sunday Sunrise Divine Services also at the Sanctuary. Of course, there must be added to those listings the additional special services that also take place.

Fortunately this year we have not had too many snowstorms and icy streets, which might have necessitated cancellations or made traveling difficult; and so, our annual Christmas-Epiphany vigil was well-attended each morning for two weeks with Sunrise Divine Services held at the Church of New Epiphany.

Interfaith and ecumenical events were also extensive, these along with the ongoing chaplaincy program at St. Mary’s Hospital, numerous luncheons, ordinations, installations, memorials, and the like. Readers might also like to know that the Chancellery staff has been working hard on outreach projects, advertising, publications, web sites – the works, with weekly meetings and continuing enrollment of students in the Jamilian University of the Ordained. In addition, work and improvements never cease at Steamboat Hot Springs Healing Center & Spa, at Bishopstead, and at the Sanctuary. A special article in regard to the Sanctuary water project is also presented in this issue.

Another feature is an article submitted by Consociate Bill Bartlett. Reverend Bartlett offers much insight on our Second Advent religious teachings and those of Buddhism and Hinduism, for example. In addition to being head of the Nevada Buddhist community, Bartlett also leads the aforementioned Chaplaincy Program at St. Mary’s.

In terms of travel: Head Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. traveled to Las Vegas where he attended a legal seminar; Cardinal Bishop Sean Savoy attended a conference at Berkeley on behalf of the AEF&OSC; I attended the Third Annual International Sound Healing Conference in Santa Fe held in November; and, in January my wife, the Reverend Amanda Buchanan, and I met with a group of designers and researchers in Martinez, California, to discuss the new sound, light, and color healing technologies we are designing, building, and hoping to install at the Healing Center. That technology was revealed in my recent book published by The Music Guild, and a review of *SONA: Healing with Wave Front BIOresonance* by the Right Reverend Ileana Isfan is this issue’s “Insight” Book Review.

Thus we continue to be blessed by the Light and are grateful that our members here and around the globe remain devoted and strong in following and helping to disseminate the Teachings of Light, especially during these hard economic times.

COMMUNITY COMMUNIQUE

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*Communications, Publishing &
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Church Celebrates 28th Christmas-Epiphany Season

Community Observes Services and Events During Days of Special Blessing

During the winter season the resident congregation, ministers, and visiting Consociates observed the traditional thirteen-day vigil of the 2008–2009 Christmas-Epiphany cycle. Daily Sunrise Divine Services were held at the Church of New Epiphany at Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary along with other observances and private celebrations held in the Chapel of the Holy Child and at the Rectory-Abbey.

The “Twelve Days of Christmas” cycle began on Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25, 2008, and continued through the morning of Tuesday, January 6, 2009. On Christmas Day, following that morning’s Sunrise Divine Service at Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary, a public communion service was held in the Chapel of the Holy Child at 11:00 AM. The Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr. officiated, assisted by the Right Reverend Sean Savoy as scripture reader, the Right Reverend Roger Weld as lector, the Right Rever-



STEPHAN FUELING

The sun rising at the Sanctuary on January 3, the tenth day of the Christmans-Epiphany vigil.

end Ileana Isfan as cantor, and the Right Reverend Rebecca Willis as reader.

On Sunday, December 28, and Sunday, January 4, second services were also scheduled at the open-air Sanctuary Churches of the Christian Churches, End Times, Races of Man,

and New Covenant. Regularly scheduled services in the Chapel of the Holy Child on Saturdays and Wednesdays and the Friday morning communion in the Chapel of the Roses at Steamboat Hot Springs were also observed.

Officiating each morning at the Church of New Epiphany was the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr., accompanied by the Right Reverend Sean Savoy, and the Canons of The Church assisting in assigned rotation. Music for all services was provided by the Jamilian Handbell Choir, directed by the Right Reverend Gary Buchanan on keyboard, and with the Right Reverend Elizabeth Reece playing harp.

Each year the Christmas-Epiphany season is a period of high devotion for all those present at services and is always blessed with special solar manifestations, as recorded in the Prophecy of the New Covenant, and within which are described similar manifestations in 1980, 1981, and 1982. The 1980 occurrence is recounted in that book as follows:

“On that day, when all had gathered

Continued on next page



STEPHAN FUELING

The Jamilian Hand-Bell Choir accompanied the liturgy of the divine service at the Church of New Epiphany during the twelve-day vigil of the Second Advent Christmas-Epiphany Season. From left to right: Rhys Andrews and Amanda Buchanan, Elizabeth Reece on Harp, Michael Spohn, Jonathan Kanzelmeyer, Marie Walters, and Michael McIntyre playing bells, and Music Director Gary Buchanan at the keyboard.

at the Sanctuary, they had observed a display of brilliant light while the sun assumed strange and wondrous shapes. All had observed the transformation of the sun into geometric configurations: from a circle to a square, to a shape of six sides and then to one of eight sides, and, finally, to a pinched or trefoil figure, a clover-leaf of three lobes progressing to a four-lobed shape. The eyes of the beholders filled with awe at this phenomenon. And they described the event as the Sun of Epiphany, for this was the handiwork of God."

The final prophecy given in that same text explains, in part, the significance of the "Sun of Epiphany."



A gingerbread chapel built for the children during the Christmas-Epiphany season.

"With God's Appearance in the Spiritual Sun, the human species has access to Creative Powers. These Powers, when put to use by the spirit, allow humans to transcend the material universe which is undergoing change, and to penetrate the spiritual universe. As the material sun that supports all biological life feeds the brain and nervous system, so the Spiritual Sun supports all spiritual life and feeds the spirit and its conscious life. Man is more than a biological species in contact with mutable life forces; he is the bearer of the human spirit, and the spirit has the potential to communicate with Divine Intelligence which shapes and molds Spiritual Consciousness."

The Annual Children's Tea

This year's annual Children's Tea was hosted at Bishopstead on Sunday, January 3, 2009, at 3:00 PM. As is traditional within The Church of the Second Advent, the event began with a prayer and blessing over the children and their parents and guardians in attendance. Officiating was the Right Reverend Ileana Isfan, assisted by the Right Reverend Elizabeth Reece. Following communion and anointing with the aspergillus (sprinkling instrument), all children assembled in the Rectory-Abbey's dining room for tea and sandwiches. The repast was then followed by the annual breaking of the piñata and the later disassembling of the gingerbread house.

Santa Visits on Epiphany Eve

On the evening of Monday, January 5, 2009, Epiphany Eve was celebrated at the Rectory-Abbey on Carmel. The annual event included the lighting of the Candles of Remembrance accompanied by the music of the Assembly, played on the piano and harp by the Right Reverends Gary Buchanan and Elizabeth Reece, respectively; a welcome delivered by the host, the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr.; the singing of "Grant Life unto Me" as all in attendance held hands; the annual Epiphany Eve banquet; and the traditional visit and bestowing of gifts by Santa Claus and his reindeer. A large number of ministers, families, and friends were in attendance.

As is the custom, just after dinner the younger children are escorted upstairs to bedrooms to await the sound of the jingling bells and foot clops of Santa's reindeer, indicating his imminent arrival. Upon hearing these sounds, the children are led out onto the interior balcony overlooking the living room, where they can see Santa carrying in his bags of goodies and placing them before the large fireplace. Just as the final bags are emptied, all the children cheer and voice their good-byes to the jolly old elf. Following Santa's depar-



The Right Reverend Elizabeth Reece tunes her harp in preparation for sunrise service.

ture, they then all rush downstairs to receive their presents.

The Passing of Jamil Remembered, January 29-30

On the evening of January 29, 2009, at 7:00 PM, the vigil of the passing of Jamil the Child Christ was observed with the annual service held in the Chapel of the Holy Child. The vigil was initiated on this same evening in 2008, and is followed with a Sunrise Divine Service the next morning at the Church of New Epiphany, Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary. As recounted in the book *Jamil: The Child Christ*, the Child of Light and Messenger of God returned to the Worlds of Light at midnight, January 29-30, 1962, in Yungay, Peru. The new service serves as a memorial to The Child's passing and conforms with the cycles inherent within the Sacred Calendar of the Second Advent Church. Officiating was the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr., assisted by the Right Reverend Sean Savoy. Music director, the Right Reverend Gary Buchanan, accompanied the service at the organ.

Pannuches Observed

During the winter of 2008-2009, Saturday evening Pannuches meal rites were

Continued on next page

Pipeline to Transform Desert into Oasis

Construction Provides Foundation for Future Projects

The Building and Maintenance Department began construction in August on a major pipeline that will bring much-needed water across the south Sanctuary of Prophecy. Announced by the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr. in the spring, the project aims to put The Church's substantial water rights to beneficial use, a requirement of Nevada's complex water laws.

"The Community's future plans at the Sanctuary rely on the success of this important addition to our infrastructure. By making this investment now, we are guaranteeing that future generations will benefit by our foresight. In so doing, we continue to safeguard a valuable asset of The Church, which has been maintained over the past three decades as a foundation of things to come," the Head Overseer said.

The Church's water rights are valuable and necessary for the Sanctuary's development. "Quite simply, without water, we cannot build. This water is the basis for all housing, community centers, churches, shrines, groves, gardens and landscaping we envision for the future – far and near," Bishop Savoy said.

The pipeline will serve as a major artery for the Sanctuary, capable of providing fresh desert water for both major and minor improvements.

Under the direction of the Right



The Reverend Ted Staver operating a bulldozer to dig a trench for the new water pipeline at the Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary with Steve Larson assisting.

STEPHAN FUELLING

Reverend Peter Foust, with technical and other assistance from the Reverends Ted Staver, Herman Aggenbach, and Reano Castell, the project, which was originally slated to begin earlier in the year, was delayed slightly while components of the final design were modified and improved. The water distribution system will bring approximately 17.144 million gallons of groundwater annually from a well off of Argonaut Way to the Sanctuary's main storage tank near the Chapter House and Cathedral Church of the Americas, a distance of almost three quarters of a mile.

Reverend Foust explained, "Our first plan was to put in one large pump to take the water up to the Chapter House tank. But the increase in elevation – 500 feet – generates pressure that is hard to work with. The cost for the system would also be more expensive. So we decided to break the line into three pressure zones, with water tanks and booster pumps along the way. To run the pumps, we're installing electrical lines which will also serve the upper Sanctuary." The electrical plan, designed by the Reverend Aggenbach, will easily be able to be converted to green power, taking the Sanctuary off the power grid.

With the assistance of a water planning expert, the project plan has been fully documented for compliance with state requirements. Reverend Foust, expressing his appreciation to those who have contributed toward and supported the project, said, "Thank you for all your fantastic support. Come and visit your water project any time!" ❖

CALENDAR from previous page

observed in the Chapel of the Holy Child on November 8 and December 27, the 44th and 45th observances, respectively. Each Saturday evening service was officiated by the Head Bishop, Gene Savoy, Jr., and followed the next morning with Jubilee Sunrise Divine Services at the Church of New Epiphany at Red Rock Consecrated Sanctu-

ary. On November 8 Bishop Savoy was assisted by Cardinal Bishop Sean Savoy, and on December 27 by both Cardinal Bishop Savoy and the Right Reverend Ileana Isfan. The addition of Rev. Isfan initiated a new custom in the Church; i.e., that of recognizing the Order of the Matriarchs during the Pannuches meal rites. ❖

Andean Explorers Foundation & Ocean Sailing Club

Sean Savoy, president of the Andean Explorers Foundation & Ocean Sailing Club, attended the 49th annual meeting of the Institute of Andean Studies in Berkeley, California, held January 9 and 10. This is the second IAS meeting that President Savoy has attended.

IAS was the vision of John H. Rowe (1918–2004), American anthropologist and archaeologist, who founded it in 1960. As stipulated by the articles of incorporation, the primary purpose of the Institute is "... to organize, sponsor, and assist field, museum and library research and study in archaeology, history, linguistics, ethnology and biology of the native peoples of Colombia, and of that area of South America which was formerly the Inca Empire, and which presently comprises northwestern Argentina, northern Chile, and the countries of Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia; to publish a journal and issue other sundry publications reporting the results of such research; to sponsor meetings and conferences for the purpose of discussion of results of such research and the problems pertaining thereto."

IAS holds its annual meeting in early January in on campus at the University of California at Berkeley, and publishes a journal, *YawpaPacha*, dedicated to the study of the Andean past. The Institute has no connection to the University of California or any other agency of the government of the United States. The Institute of Andean Studies is an independent, not-for-profit organization.

This year's meeting is the second such gathering that President Savoy has attended. While in Berkeley, he had the opportunity to meet with colleagues in Andean studies such as American explorer Vince Lee, anthropologist Douglas Sharon, British researcher Keith Muscutt, archaeo-astronomer Bernard Bell and others. Also present at the meeting was AEF&OSC medalist Penelope Berliner of New York and underwater



Courtesy of STEFANI SCHATZ

Hindu leader Rajan Zed (left) and The Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr. (right) attend a reception for The Reverend Stefani Schatz (center) following her installation as rector of Trinity Episcopal Church.

documentarian and AEF&OSC associate Haig Jacobs, originally of England but now of the United States.

Ecumenical & Interfaith

ORDINATION EVENT

The Interfaith Community was invited to attend the Ordination and Installation of Neal Terrence Anderson in the Great Room of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northern Nevada (UUFNN) in Reno, on Sunday, November 9, at 6:00 PM. Head Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. represented The Church and the Nevada Clergy Association. Clergy were invited to participate by vesting and processing.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL WELCOMES NEW RECTOR

Members of the Interfaith Clergy were invited to attend the installation of Stefani Schatz as the new Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Reno on Saturday, November 15, 2008, at 5:00 PM.

Head Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. attended on behalf of The Church of the Second Advent and participated in the interfaith portion of the service by presenting Reverend Schatz with a book of

interfaith prayers. He also attended the reception following.

ANNUAL INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

On Wednesday, November 26, 2008, at 7:30 PM, the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service was held at The Church of Latter-Day Saints (Stake 1095) in Reno.

Attending on behalf of The Church were Head Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr., the Reverend Bill Bartlett, the Right Reverends Robert Petrovich, Elizabeth Reece, and Sean Savoy, Sylvia Ontaneda-Bernales, and the Reverend Barbara Whitney.

Gene Savoy, Jr. and Bill Bartlett helped plan and host the event. Savoy gave a reading from the Dead Sea Scrolls (Thanksgiving Hymns), and Bartlett represented the Buddhist tradition with a reading.

BISHOP ATTENDS SCHOOL EVENT

On Thursday morning, December 18, 2008, Head Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. attended a program presented at Reno's Roy Gomm Elementary School entitled "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

Continued on next page

The first grade teachers of Halla and Zoe Wand-Mansfield, Mrs. Will and Voorhees, asked if Bishop Savoy would make a presentation to the class on The Twelve Days of Christmas as celebrated in the Church of the Second Advent. Savoy had previously made a similar presentation when his daughter, Sonya, was in the same class in 2004.

RECEPTION FOR HINDU LEADER RAJAN ZED

On Wednesday, January 7, 2009, at 3:00 PM, a luncheon honoring northern Nevada Hindu leader Rajan Zed was hosted by the Nevada Clergy Association at the India Kabab & Curry Restaurant in Reno. The reception was to celebrate Zed's recent visit to the European Parliament in Brussels where he had been invited by EP president Hans-Gert Pottering to discuss Hindu and interfaith issues before the membership. The EP has 785 members from 27 countries representing some 492 million people globally.

Attending on behalf of The Church were Head Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr., the Reverend Bill Bartlett, and the Right Reverends Robert Petrovich and Sean Savoy. Gene Savoy, Jr. was also instrumental in planning the event.

Speakers included Susan Lisagor, representing Senator Harry Reid; Dr. Milton Glick, president of the University of Nevada, Reno; Barbara Slater of the National Association of Inter-Church and Inter-Faith Families; the Reverend John Auer of Reno's First United Methodist Church; Chief Michael Poehlman, Reno Police Department; Swami Sitaramananda, director of Sivananda Yoga (Grass Valley, California); Kadir Basaran, outreach director of the Sierra Foundation; Nicholas Frey, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; Thomas Honesco, Nevada Coordinator of the Art of Living Foundation; Richard Siegel, regional president of the American Civil Liberties Union; Marcus White, representing the City of Reno; Lonnie Feemster, president of the Reno-Sparks NAACP; Tom Spille of the River School; and Bishop Randolph Calvo, Catholic

Diocese of Reno.

ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING MEMORIAL

On Sunday, January 18, 2009, at 3:00 PM, the annual Martin Luther King memorial service, entitled "Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembered," was held at the Second Baptist Church in Reno. Attending on behalf of The Church were Head Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr., Sonya Savoy, Sabrina Savoy, Sophia Savoy, Ms. Lisamarie Wand, Zoe Mansfield-Wand, Halla Mansfield-Wand, the Right Reverends Robert Petrovich and Elizabeth Reece, the Reverends Bill Bartlett and Barbara Whitney, Miles Walters, Marie Walters, and Brittany Rodriguez.

Head Bishop Savoy not only presented community awards and helped plan the reception following, but for the first time served as a member of the Northern Nevada Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, having previously served on the planning commission created by the Nevada State Legislature several years ago. Whereas, the Reverend Onie Cooper (see below) has been head of the commission since its initiation, Savoy is being considered as the next head of that body.

The Music Guild

The Music Guild has been experiencing great success following upon publication and dissemination of Right Reverend Buchanan's recent book, SONA; Healing with Wave Front BIOresonance. Copies of the book have now been distributed on five continents and are available online at the Community Guilds web site, i.e., <http://www.communityguilds.org/music.html>.

During the week of November 14 through 21 Buchanan attended the Third Annual International Sound Healing Conference hosted at the La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and worked in the conference bookstore where the book and CDs were offered. He also met with distinguished researchers and sound

Continued on next page

SUNDAY DIVINE SERVICES

RED ROCK CONSECRATED SANCTUARY

Officiating Minister
The Right Reverend
Gene Savoy, Jr.

Concelebrating Minister

The Right Reverend Sean Savoy

*Assisting Canons**

The Right Reverends

Reano Castell, Carol Ann Crabb,

Peter Foust, Ileana Isfan,

Robert Petrovich, and Roger Weld

Music Director-Canon

The Right Reverend
Gary Buchanan

2008-09	Church	Time*
Nov. 2	(NSH)	
9+	New Epiphany	6:45
16	New Epiphany	6:53
23	New Epiphany	7:01
30	New Epiphany	7:08
Dec. 7	New Epiphany	7:15
14	New Epiphany	7:21
21	New Epiphany	7:25
28+	New Epiphany	7:27
Jan. 4	New Epiphany	7:28
11	New Epiphany	7:27
18	New Epiphany	7:25
25	New Epiphany	7:21

* Indicates service time, not sunrise time.

+ Jubilee following Pannuches Meal

++Bishop Sean Savoy officiated in place of Bishop Gene Savoy, Jr.

Assigned Canons of The Church assist in rotation at the Communion Table with the Head Bishop and Cardinal Bishop

(NSH)= No Services Held. Services were suspended on this date due to inclement weather.



Courtesy of GARY BUCHANAN

Colleagues Adam Reed (left), Gary Buchanan (center), and Erik Larson (right) gather at the Santa Fe International Sound Healing Conference.

healers, gave away complimentary copies of the text to those people, and shared the research and developments taking place at the Community's Healing Center at Steamboat Hot Springs.

In early January, Buchanan and his wife Amanda met with a group of long-time colleagues in Martinez, California. The group anticipates establishing a company to design and manufacture new instrumentation for healing with light, color, and sound. These included Erik Larson of Sonic-Age America, LLC; Adam Reed of Dendera Corporation; Richard Skalsky of Palo Alto (whose donation to The Music Guild last summer made the publication of *SONA* possible); and Steve Satra, a designer of professional and consumer audio equipment for over thirty years. Preliminary prototypes are expected within six months, with final products commercially available within one year.

Outreach

As part of The Community's ongoing outreach programs, free copies of *Jamil, Child of Light: Messenger of God*, have been offered by postcards recently mailed to members of The

COMMUNION SERVICES

APOSTOLIC CHANCELLERY

The Chapel of the Holy Child

Saturday

10:00 AM

Officiating Minister

The Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr.

2008-2009	Assisting Ministers	2008-2009	Assisting Ministers
Nov. 1	Rebecca Willis (L) Jo Ann Hainline (C) Stephan Fuelling (R)	Jan. 3	Roger Weld (L) Elizabeth Reece (C) Gabriel Kanzelmeyer (R)
8	Carol Ann Crabb (L) Ben Hubbard (C) Gabriel Kanzelmeyer (R)	10	Rebecca Willis (L) Francine Petrovich (C) Michael McIntyre (R)
15	Roger Weld (L) Vickie Hewlett (C) Rhys Andrews (R)	17	Gary Buchanan (L) Nola Slevin (C) Shane Grady (R)
22	Gary Buchanan (L) Gary Huss Sr. (C) Shane Grady (R)	24	Reano Castell (L) Robert Roy (C) Rhys Andrews (R)
29	Reano Castell (L) Herman Aggenbach (C) Michael Tamburello (R)	31	Peter Foust (L) Michael Spohn (C) Jalayne Grady (R)
Dec. 6	Peter Foust (L) Bruce Kanzelmeyer (C) Jalayne Grady (R)		
13	Ileana Isfan (L) Greg Klinedinst (C) Jonathan Kanzelmeyer (R)		
20	Robert Petrovich (L) Dorothy Kubiak (C) Claudia Grady (R)		
27	(NSH)		

(L) = Lector, (C) = Cantor, (R) = Reader

(NSH) = No Services Held. Services were suspended on this date due to inclement weather.

Association for Research & Enlightenment based in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The A.R.E. was founded by the late Edgar Cayce and has become a globally recognized healing institution and library/repository of spiritually oriented publications.

Response from the mailing has been productive, with many new applicants applying for enrollment in the Jamilian University of the Ordained Academy Program.

Priory

At the Steamboat Priory, the Production Studio and AEF & OSC building has now been totally renovated. The Right Reverend Roger Weld has repaired the facade, roof tiles, and has painted the entire structure. Alongside the masonry



ROGER WELD

The newly renovated production studio.

and fine woodwork for the entry stairs earlier accomplished by Right Reverend Peter Foust, the building, located directly across the street from the Healing Center, is now a most beautiful facility.

Continued on next page

SUNDAY OPEN-AIR COMMUNION SERVICES

RED ROCK CONSECRATED SANCTUARY

Sanctuary of Revelation & Sanctuary of Prophecy

2008-2009	Church	Time	Officiating Minister
Nov. 2	(NSH)		
9	New Philadelphia	8:00	Rhys Andrews
	New Qumran	8:30	Barbara Whitney
16	New Mt. Tabor	9:00	Greg Klinedinst
	New Mt. Carmel	9:30	Ben Hubbard
	New Mt. Hebron	10:00	Herman Aggenbach
23	New Ephesus	9:00	Reano Castell
	New Pergamos	10:00	Gary Buchanan
	New Smyrna	10:30	Peter Foust
30	Americas	8:30	Nola Slevin
	End Times	9:00	Ileana Isfan
	Christian Churches	9:30	Elizabeth Reece
Dec. 7	New Mt. Tabor	9:00	Larry Coesens
	New Mt. Carmel	9:30	Robert Roy
	New Mt. Hebron	10:00	Stephan Fuelling
14	(NSH)		
21	New Covenant	9:00	Carol Ann Crabb
	Americas	9:30	Jo Ann Hainline
	Races of Man	10:00	Rhys Andrews
28	Christian Churches	9:00	Michael McIntyre
	End Times	9:30	Ted Staver
	Races of Man	10:00	Gary Huss Sr.
Jan. 4	New Covenant	9:00	Reano Castell
	Races of Man	9:30	Ben Hubbard
11	New Mt. Tabor	9:00	Vickie Hewlett
	New Mt. Carmel	9:30	Mary Foust
	New Mt. Hebron	10:00	Vickie Hewlett
18	New Mt. Tabor	9:00	Greg Klinedinst
	New Mt. Carmel	9:30	Michael Tamburello
	New Mt. Hebron	10:00	Herman Aggenbach
25	(NSH)		

SPECTRUM from previous page



Courtesy of NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Amanda Marie Walters sitting at her desk at the Nevada State Legislature.

Youth & Family

Early in January Amanda Marie Walters was accepted into the Carson City Symphony (See <http://ccsymphony.com>) as a member of the cello section. Her grandfather, church music director the Right Reverend Gary Buchanan, has also joined the french horn section. The orchestra rehearses each Wednesday evening in Carson City under the direction of David C. Bugli. Maestro Bugli is also assistant conductor of The Foundation Orchestra of the Andean Explorers Foundation & Ocean Sailing Club, of which Buchanan is founding conductor.

The upcoming Carson City concert is scheduled for February 22, 2009, in the Carson City Convention Center. This will be Marie's debut performance with a full orchestra. Selections on the program include Robert Schumann's "Symphony No. 1," "Fingal's Cave Overture" by Felix Mendelssohn, "An Elegiac Prelude" by Hugh Downs, and a contemporary work, "Concerto for Bass Trombone" by Eric Ewezan.

As an acolyte of The Church, Marie also plays in the Jamilian Handbell Choir for all services as well as attending to the needs of ministers at all Church functions. In addition, Marie continues as head of the Nevada Youth Legislature, which meets during regularly scheduled sessions at the Nevada State Capitol. ✕

COMMUNION SERVICES

APOSTOLIC
CHANCELLERY

The Chapel of the Holy Child

Wednesday 12:00 Noon

2008–2009 *Officiating Minister*

Nov. 5	Michael Spohn
12	Reano Castell
19	Rebecca Willis
26	Sean Savoy
Dec. 3	Roger Weld
10	Vickie Hewlett
17	Gary Buchanan
24	Carol Ann Crabb
31	Barbara Whitney
Jan. 7	Robert Petrovich
14	Peter Foust
21	Ben Hubbard
28	Francine Petrovich

FELLOWSHIP SERVICES

STEAMBOAT PRIORY

The Chapel of the Roses

Friday 9:00 AM

2008–2009 *Officiating Minister*

Nov. 7	Reano Castell
14	Mary Foust
21	Ileana Isfan
28	Carol Ann Crabb
Dec. 5	Gary Buchanan
12	Rebecca Willis
19	Roger Weld
26	Peter Foust
Jan. 2	Barbara Whitney
9	Gene Savoy Jr.
16	Vickie Hewlett
23	Sean Savoy
30	Ben Hubbard

From the Archive

WINTER 1998–1999

Compiled by Robert Petrovich

On November 14, the resident Community gathered to remember Mary Ellen Tinner, the wife of Ben Hubbard, with Ben and his family at a memorial service at the Chapel of The Holy Child.

The Community celebrated the Emancipation of Gary Huss Jr. on December 26.

In a Christmas concert held at the University of Nevada, Reno on December 22, the Great Basin Brass Quintet gave the premiere performance of the “Grand Suite for Brass” and “Christmas Carols” composed and arranged by The Church’s musical director, the Reverend Gary Buchanan.

In January 1999, basic renovations to the Steamboat Spa building neared completion after a period of many years as the exterior back wall of the building was finally prepared to receive a coat of stucco.

Insight

***SONA: Healing with Wave Front BIOresonance* by Gary Robert Buchanan, Reno: The Music Guild, 2008**

By Ileana Isfan

What a “vibrating” piece of work is man...(with apologies to William Shakespeare: Hamlet, act II, scene 2, 303–312) such an extremely complex bundle of interrelated parts, each beating to its own drummer.

The ancients taught that all parts of creation are “reconciled into a greater whole through the power of harmony” (Plotinus). We now know that this is no less true for a living entity, both within itself and within a greater environment that expands out to the edges of the universe. Every entity constantly absorbs and emits pulses in different frequen-

cies of vibration. These waves of energy vary in length, density, amplitude, etc., so when the “conductor” directs all the “information” (energy is a carrier of information) from all the sources, the resulting “symphony” may be pleasant or dissonant, resulting in an entity in various degrees of health in mind, body, and spirit. Basically, this concept is the foundation of Buchanan’s work in bioresonant healing.

All body parts have signature frequencies, and in a healthy body its bioresonant frequencies are in tune; illness results from less than optimum resonance. Musicians are not the only ones who love good music!

Logically, then, improvement in health should be possible by supplying the missing or inharmonious tone with health-giving counterparts to restore bioresonance. That is what Wave Front Bioresonance, Cymatic Therapy, does. In *SONA*, the range of problems or conditions in body systems is impressive, as may be seen in appendix 1, considering the relatively short time this science has been in discovery and in use.

Had we been less enamored of the “miracles” of modern pharmacology (and there have been many), and less hasty in discarding ancient wisdom teachings and practices, healing with sound, light, color, etc. (all forms of energy), we might have arrived sooner at an understanding of Wave Front Bioresonant technology. There have always been, and still are, individuals “graced” with extrasensory “senses” – individuals who have understood bioresonance intuitively and could perhaps even have seen what’s “between the trees.”

Inevitably, in a postmechanistic age, with increased levels of consciousness and more “miraculous” discoveries in science, interest in alternative medicine and the healing arts is increasing. For this development we need to thank concerned individuals in many disciplines who have given generously of their time and energy, as evident in the variety of information in *SONA* and its ramifications, to make new healing mo-

Continued on next page

dalities practical working systems. Undoubtedly, their personal lives were enriched by this generous giving for the benefit of others. Buchanan and his compilation of information in *SONA* is one of these people.

Personal ethics and observance of a higher spiritual law have encouraged him to give freely of his many years of research to all those interested in the concepts and knowledge given in *SONA*. The idea that "God heals, and the Doctor takes the fee" (Benjamin Franklin) is losing its appeal in the new paradigm shift in Consciousness. Buchanan is one of the pioneers promoting this idea, which might be called an aspect of true brotherly love.

Buchanan not only gives an astonishing amount of information that provides the basis for bioresonant healing, he gives specific details for its use, i.e., codes, Cymatic commutations for individual or specific body systems and conditions, lists of Cymatic Therapy practitioners, and a wealth of other information for those who may be interested in Wave Front Bioresonance.

Considering the amount and quality of information in one book, *SONA* is a landmark publication. It bridges the intimate areas between science as a science of things and a science of Consciousness. The concepts in *SONA*

"SONA presents the interface of physics and biology with a glimpse into psychophysics. It indicates a bridging of science and religion, or more specifically, spirituality."

provide provocative ideas concerning the interconnectedness of the human as an individual being and as a vital part of the universe. It will encourage creativity in minds of young and old as it confirms a guiding force for order.

In a more practical sense, the con-

cepts in *SONA* are bound to have a profound import on medical and therapeutic thinking because scholars are being compelled to embrace a new physics/metaphysics with a better understanding of quantum theory/relativity. *SONA* presents the interface of physics and biology with a glimpse into psychophysics. It indicates a bridging of science and religion, or more specifically, spirituality. The relationship of the physical and nonphysical (called "spiritual") energies cannot be inimical in a holographic universe (or something of that order). Remember the old song where the "headbone is connected to the legbone," etc? They were on the right track.

Another aspect of healing, and a very important one, is the role of intuition and belief (two important elements in miracle healings, which have and still do occur). The recent wide acceptance of the view among scholars that the macroscopic, the microscopic, and the "unseen" are all connected by Consciousness has infused the medical field with tremendous creative potential. To the generally accepted view of the unseen, Buchanan adds a new twist – that multiple variations of vibratory forces are streaming in from outside the body/outside the world as well. A serious consideration of the universe as a whole of interconnected things, a hologram, cannot be ignored. Buchanan takes this concept further to indicate changes or effects that may be "seen" from a "holographic view" of an entity and its life while intimately being part of a posited nine dimensions or realms of universal existence. See chapters 33 and 34, touching on philosophy, religion, and the emerging Consciousness.

Conscious intent and level of belief are necessary "asides" if you wish to understand the greater "Isness" of a human being and its relationship to its cosmic environment. Healing a living organism requires more than a superficial or fragmentary knowledge of what the organism really is, and the transcendence of artificial boundaries imposed by academic specialization. Fortunately, the inclusion of such material in the text is made possible by the

advancement in interdisciplinary studies, as well as in general education, of "new" ideas. Thanks to an increase in the level of Consciousness in the world, the door is opening wider to learning about the mysteries of the universe. *SONA* shows light streaming in through

"The relationship of the physical and nonphysical (called 'spiritual') energies cannot be inimical in a holographic universe (or something of that order)."

a tear in the veil of our inextricably conditioned belief system of an inadequate materialist philosophy.

The easiest way for advanced logical beliefs to gain credence in a show-me society is the evidence of a positive result. There has been sufficient positive evidence in several countries that healing via Wave Front Bioresonance therapy undeniably brings positive results.

The world owes a debt of gratitude to the courageous men and women who have contributed to the success of the advancements to this science of healing. Buchanan clearly identifies and credits the contributions from many sources.

The range of subjects covered in *SONA* is not only fascinating but should qualify for the curriculum of a graduate course in physical and nonphysical (spiritual) health. It should also provide the stimulus for some "detour" studies. Cosology would not be a minor study, but a science of life. One might even possibly learn to see what's "between the trees!"

SONA is a compilation of Buchanan's thirty-five years of research into healing with light, color, and sound. Copies of the book may be ordered at <http://www.communiguilds.org/music.html>.

Continued on next page

Perspective

By William S. Bartlett

The moon came to me last night
with a sweet question.

She said: "The sun has been my
faithful lover for millions of
years.

Whenever I offer my body to him
brilliant light pours from his
heart.

Thousands then notice my hap-
piness and delight in pointing
toward my beauty.

Hafiz, is it true that our destiny is
to turn into Light Itself?"

— Hafiz, *Sufi poet*

Is it our destiny to become Light Itself? This is a profound question, a fascinating and perhaps a haunting question as well. How is it that the subject of Light rarely, if ever, is addressed in our temples, synagogues, mosques, and churches today? Most of us on the path have spent too much time neglecting the question Hafiz spent a lifetime with.

I am reminded of a sign at the end of the pavement on an old country road that read, "Choose your rut carefully. You will be in it for the next 30 miles." There is some folksy wisdom in such advice. Ignoring the teachings on Light seems to me to be like choosing one's rut unwisely. In the early part of the last century Albert Einstein stated, "All I want to do is study light." He intuitively seemed to know that the sacred mysteries of science and religion are to be found in Light.

Having some familiarity with the major scriptures of the world I find that the teachings of Light always appear embedded in the texts. As an example for Christians, it is hard to ignore that the main theme of John's Gospel is Light! In Hinduism and Buddhism the word for ignorance is *avidya*. *Vidya* means understanding, or "made of light." *Avidya* literally means the "lack of light" and thus describes one who has lost his or her way. These eastern teachings tell us that wandering in the dark results in suffering, or lack of enlightenment.

As a Jodo Shinshu (Pure Land) Buddhist priest and seeker, I, along with millions of others, have chanted the Nembutsu daily. It is the mythical story of Hozo Bosatsu¹ becoming Amida Buddha, the Buddha of Compassionate Light.

The first two lines of the well-known Pure Land Shoshinge (Nembutsu chanting) translate as follows. "I rely upon the Nyorai² of Immeasurable Light. I take refuge in Inconceivable Light." So after meditating for five mahakalpas (billions of years or a very long time) Hozo became Amida, The Universal Buddha. Because of his great vow to save us all, Amida-san "radiated immeasurable boundless Light, unimpeded, incomparable, majestic burning Light. Amida's pure Light of Wisdom, unceasing, indescribable Light that surpasses the sun and moon illuminating its rays on all sentient beings."

In Thich Nhat Hanh's book, *Living Buddha, Living Christ*, he writes that the Living Buddha "is always shining, always enlightening trees, grass, birds, and so on, always emitting Light. It is this Buddha who is preaching now and not just 2500 years ago."

Hanh, a Zen Buddhist priest, makes the most important point I know of concerning religion and spirituality. It does not really matter what happened millennia ago if it has no relevance for the present moment. Who really cares unless that Light is shining now, calling us to awaken to our destiny?

The enlightened Christian mystic, Angelus Silesius, made this very same point four hundred years ago.³ He writes, "Of what good is Gabriel's message to Mary, if he cannot give the same message to me." He is referencing Gabriel, an angel of Light that gave Mary the message⁴ 2000 years ago about being blessed among women, as she would give birth to the Divine. From his perspective Silesius is saying unless I can awaken, unless I can give birth to the Cosmic Christ as well, the message to Mary means little to me personally.

Buddhists believe the very same thing. It is for us to awaken now, and an individual's enlightenment eons in the past matters little. Buddhists speak of

Upaya, or skillful means, that may be used to achieve this Light or Awakening, often called attaining Nirvana or attaining the Pureland.⁵ The idea of skillful means or techniques comes up in every religion I have ever studied. It raises the old and debated question of faith versus works; do I do it, or is it done for me? And what is the *It* that needs doing?

An often-quoted line from the *Dhammapadam*⁶ tries to explain the Buddhist path in terms of what it is that needs doing. "To do good, to shun evil and to purify the mind," is the advice of Shakyamuni, the historical Buddha. However, serious Buddhists know these three admonitions are out of order. Purifying the mind is the main issue, the hardest to attain, and the *It* we are talking about. To do good and to shun evil will follow if the Adept is successful in purifying the mind, bringing

"The enlightened Christian mystic, Angelus Silesius, made this very same point four hundred years ago. He writes, 'Of what good is Gabriel's message to Mary, if he cannot give the same message to me.'"

pure Light to the spiritual eye⁷ of enlightenment.

Buddhists are of two minds on how to do It. The Theravada tradition (often called *Hinayana* Buddhism) suggests we must do it — this purifying of the mind — by our own diligent and seemingly heroic efforts. This can take many, many lifetimes. After the first few centuries of Buddhism, we see the rise of the much larger *Mahayana*⁸ branch of Buddhism that says there is help available. Inherent here is the idea of Bodhisattvas (literally, Light Beings) that help us do it.

In Japanese Buddhism this debate is framed as *Jiriki* (Self-Power) and *Tariki* (Other Power.) Amida, Vairocana, and

Continued on next page

Dainichi are Buddhas of *Tariki*. In fact, Vairocana and Dainichi are the great Sun Buddhas who shine on us, and Amida's forty-eight rays of incomparable Light are examples of that Other Power that beckons us to the Light.

I am usually in the middle of this debate about how enlightenment is accomplished. A good Buddhist is often advised to seek the Middle Path. On one side, it is said that all one must do is believe (as in the case of many fundamentalist Christians, among others) or chant the Nembutsu (some Purelanders) and, on the other side, that you must achieve this *It* (spiritual enlightenment) by your own deeds (Theravada Buddhism), which can take years, or lifetimes, of meditating and chanting.

At the risk of introducing a saint from yet another religion, I offer something said by the great Hindu sage Ramakrishna. He advises, "The winds of grace are always blowing. Our duty is to lift our sails." Just as easily, we could say that the rays of Amida's Light are always beaming down on us, or the Sun of Righteousness is always shining on us, but we must be able to utilize the Light. We are told in Taoist and Buddhist circles that our duty (our *It*) is to learn as well how to circulate⁹ the Light and to share it with others. That sharing, by the way, is essentially the task of the Bodhisattva, or Being of Light.

In Ramakrishna's sailing metaphor, the wind of grace may be blowing, but if we do not know how to lift the sails we have no means of arriving at our *It*, our destination. In the same way, without the mystical techniques and practices taught by the Adepts of Light, we are not able to utilize the intelligence factors in the Light of the Sun.

I visited this whole issue of faith and works some years ago when I was invited to speak at an Episcopal church. From the lectionary (liturgical book of scriptural readings) I found that the Gospel reading for the week was the Parable of the Ten Virgins¹⁰. I almost canceled as I reread the verses that frankly had always troubled me. It is the story of ten wise and ten foolish virgins (that is, young women) who were to wait for the Bridegroom. The Bride-

groom of course is the One who invites us all to the Cosmic Wedding and the Great Banquet we may think of as the Worlds of Light. The wise ones took some extra oil for their lamps to use while waiting for the Bridegroom.¹¹ The foolish ones didn't. As the Bridegroom was delayed, their lamps began to burn out so they asked to borrow oil from the wise virgins, who said no. The Bridegroom came at midnight while the foolish ones were off looking for lamp oil. When they returned late for the wedding banquet, they were not admitted. It had always seemed to me that the Bridegroom (the Divine One) who held the Banquet (in the Pure Land, or the Worlds of Light) would have chastised the wise virgins who had not

"In Ramakrishna's sailing metaphor, the wind of grace may be blowing, but if we do not know how to lift the sails we have no means of arriving at our It, our destination."

shared, rather than denying entry to the foolish ones who were tardy at his arrival. But as I reframed – or perhaps decoded – the parable in my mind, I saw the meaning had to do with preparedness. The wise virgins were ready. They were the Adepts who had spent their lives in preparation to become Light, as Hafiz suggests. It was not a matter of being stingy, of not giving your coat, too, when someone asks for your shirt, but really a teaching concerning not being able to do another's spiritual work for them.

Jewish mysticism also focuses on Light, with its teaching of "ancilla animae," literally, the spark of the soul. That spark is fanned into full flame by a Divine source, like Shekinah, the Light of Divine Wisdom. Adepts know that the Divine Breath that breathes life into all is a metaphor for the Light that awakens the sparks into brilliant blaze.

Here again, the Spark must be prepared to expose itself to the Source. Hafiz is right. It is our destiny "to turn into Light itself" But some effort on our part seems to be required. The Bridegroom is near. He who has ears, let him hear. In the poem below Hafiz wants to let us know that the Light, the Kingdom/Queendom of God, or The Pure Land, is here among us in this present moment.

The sun's eyes are painting fields again.
Its lashes with expert strokes are sweeping across the land.
A great palette of light has embraced this earth.

Endnotes

1. *Dharmakara Bodhisattva* in Sanskrit
2. *Tathagata* (one who comes from thusness or Buddha)
3. Angelus Silesius is best remembered for his short mystical poetry that expresses his exquisite and personal relationship with that Light we call God. He was born in 1624 in Breslau and died in 1677.
4. Luke 1:26-38
5. The Pure Land as opposed to the Polluted Land. Another way for mystics to express this is the Fifth Dimension of Light (Pure Land) as opposed to the Third Dimension of delusion (the polluted world of matter).
6. The *Dhammapada* is thought to be the oldest text that contains words of the historical Buddha. It means something like the Path of Dharma or Truth or Light.
7. I cannot resist comparing this with Christianity, where Jesus is quoted "If thine eye is single, thy whole body will be full of light."
8. *Mahayana* means "large vehicle or raft," which can ferry many to the yonder shore of Amida's Light. *Hinayana* means "smaller vehicle or raft" suggesting that it is for the very few.
9. See *The Secret of the Golden Flower* for more details.
10. Matthew 25:1-13.
11. From the Second Prophecy to the Americas, chapter 28: "The light has gone out of the ancient religions as from a lamp without oil for men have lost sight of the sun. No religion can survive if the Light be extinguished." ❖

On December 25, 2008, the Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr., Head Bishop of The Church, delivered his Christmas Day message, which appears below.

Good morning and Merry Christmas. Those of us gathered together in this Chapel dedicated to the service of God are drawn together from many faiths, but we are all one in the family of God.

We celebrate today as the birthday of the man Jesus. For twelve days, we of The Second Advent Church celebrate the Christmas season, which culminates on the thirteenth day, which is January sixth, the day of Epiphany.

Epiphany comes from the Greek meaning [literally, “shining forth,” in the sense of] “manifestation,” or “appearance,” and in the early Church, January 6 was the day that commemorated Jesus’ baptism at the Jordan by Saint John [the Baptist]. The day celebrates the “shining forth,” or revelation, of God in human form in the person of Jesus Christ, his manifestation as the Son of God to the world. The date of Epiphany on January 6 was very early fixed, and ancient liturgies speak of *Illuminatio*, *Manifestatio*, *Declaratio*: *Illumination*, *Manifestation*, and *Declaration*. The Gospel of Matthew [3:13-17] says:

“Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?’ But Jesus answered him, ‘Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.’ Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’”

And the Gospel of Luke [3:21-22] says: “Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit de-



ROGER WELD

The Right Reverend Gene Savoy, Jr., Head Bishop of The Church.

scended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved, with you I am well pleased.’”

But a very important line has been deleted from both Matthew and Luke—one which is substantiated by other ancient scriptures more authoritative than Matthew and Luke. The line reads: “Today [or, This day], I have begotten you.” Let’s read this again: “You are my son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased. *This day, I have begotten you.*” [Emphasis added]

In the ancient Christian Church, just as in Buddhism, this divine event—this “appearance,” or “epiphany”—was a manifestation of Jesus’ immortal nature. The day commemorated the incarnation of Jesus as Christ, the moment when God appeared in Divine Light and ordained Jesus His son in Spirit. Thus, Jesus was given a new birth by God the Father. So we know that Jesus was not “born” the Son of God, but became the Son of God when the Word, the Logos, incarnated within him, giving him new life of spirit. This was a fundamental concept in the Messianic, or First Advent, Church: that Jesus became Christ incarnate. And this is why Epiphany and the Christmas-Epiphany season is so important to us, because it represents and symbolizes the birth of spirit—the epiphany of the Conscious Soul.

I made the reference to Buddhism because while Buddhists celebrate the birthday of Siddhartha Gautama on April 8, the day of his “enlightenment.” The day when he became the Awakened One—Bodhi Day—is honored on December 8 at sunrise. And, of course, we do this in the Second Advent Church. We honor the birth of the man Jesus on December 25, the old Roman festival of the Unconquered Sun, but more importantly, we celebrate Jesus’ spiritual birth—the day when the Word of God entered into him and he assumed the Holy Office of Christ. This we do on January 6 as a promise of the spiritual rebirth we are all heir to in the Second Advent of God’s Appearance.

In Hellenistic times, an epiphany of the divine in a person was a common theological concept. The celebration of Epiphany originated in the ancient Church, where it later included a commemoration of Christ’s physical birth in the Eastern Church. In Rome, however, by the middle of the fourth century, Christ’s physical birth was being celebrated on December 25, according to the Philocalian calendar.

A winter festival was the most popular festival of the year in many cultures. Reasons included the fact that less agricultural work needed to be done, as well as the expectation of better weather as spring approached.

The twenty-fifth of December was the Roman festival marking the birth of the “unconquered sun,” the *natalis solis invicti*, which celebrated the winter solstice and the lengthening of days. This celebration allowed several solar deities to be worshipped collectively, including the Syrian sun-god Elah-Gabal. It was also observed as the birth date of the god Mithras—the “sun of righteousness” and patron god of the emperors—who, 500 years before the birth of Christ, was born of a virgin in a cave. We know that it was also connected in the Roman world to the Saturnalia, a time of merrymaking and the exchange of gifts. Charity was also emphasized as part of the Roman new year.

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The festival was placed on the date of the solstice because this was the day that the sun reversed its southward retreat and proved itself to be “unconquered.” Several early Christian writers connected the rebirth of the sun to the birth of Jesus. John Chrysostom wrote, “They call it the ‘Birthday of the Unconquered.’ Who indeed is so unconquered as Our Lord...?”

Northern Europe celebrated a winter festival called Yule, held in late December and early January, and its traditions had a major influence on Christemasse, or Christ’s Mass.

In the old Christian calendar, November 28 through January 6 was observed as the Festival of Lights, a vigil for the birth of the Cosmic Christ. Japanese Shintos honor the sun goddess Amaterasu on December 22. In ancient Egypt, December 21 to December 25 was the festival commemorating the birth of the god Horus by the goddess Isis; and in the Hopi nation, December is celebrated as a time of purification and renewal. So we can see that this time of year is universally recognized as a time when we come out of the darkness into light.

The contradiction between the Greek and Roman churches led to a great debate in the fourth and fifth centuries, which culminated in the Eastern Church accepting the twenty-fifth of December as Christ’s birth and the Western Church celebrating Epiphany as the day the Magi visited the infant Jesus.

In The Second Advent Church, we honor both days and celebrate the Christmas-Epiphany season from December 25 through January 6. We commemorate Christ’s birth in physical form, but, as we have said, more importantly, we solemnize his spiritual rebirth.

Therefore, the message of the season is life of spirit. That was the essence of Christ’s teaching. And this is what the Christmas season represents: life, birth and rebirth—the cycle of renewal.

The lights and trees we display this time of year have always been symbols of everlasting life. In ancient Egypt, China, Israel, and the Celtic lands, evergreen trees, wreaths, and garlands

were symbolic of eternal life. To us in The Second Advent Church, they also represent the True Light of God and the Tree of Life.

In the Middle Ages, Christmastide, or the period from the night of December 25 through the morning of January 6, was a period of continuous feasting and merrymaking. Twelfth night, or Epiphany Eve, as we call it, was forever solidified in popular culture when William Shakespeare used it as a setting for one of his most famous stage plays. In those times, Christmas was overshadowed by Epiphany.

American colonists brought their version of the Twelve Days over from

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England and adapted them to their new country, adding their own variations over the years. The modern-day Christmas wreath, for example, originated with these colonials. A home-made wreath would be fashioned from local greenery, and if fruits were available, they would be added. Making the wreaths was one of the traditions of Christmas Eve; then they would be hung on each home’s front door on Christmas Day, the First Day of Christmas, through the morning of Epiphany, when a special Epiphany cake was baked and all the remainder of the edibles from the previous twelve days consumed.

As said, this was a time of feasting, merrymaking, and otherwise celebrating the season. Sometimes gifts were exchanged each of the twelve nights and a candle lit each morning of the twelve days. And the evening before Epiphany was celebrated as the biggest night for dancing and gift giving.

However, after the Revolution, Christmas and the Twelve Days fell out of favor in America, because it was considered an English custom. It was not until the 1820’s, when anti-British sentiments were fading that people began to worry that Christmas was dying out. Writers, including Washington Irving and Harriet Beecher Stowe, imagined Christmas in Tudor days as a time of heartfelt celebration, and efforts were made to revive the holiday. Charles Dickens’s book, *A Christmas Carol*, played a major role in reinventing Christmas as a holiday emphasizing family, goodwill, and compassion (as opposed to communal celebration).

Latin nations also have various forms of celebrations for the Twelve Days of Christmas, the most popular being the cooking of traditional foods to celebrate Epiphany. In Hispanic America, a Rosca de Reyes—a king cake—is baked. In France, a Galette des Rois is baked with a small china figure of the Christ-child inside. In some countries, children polish and leave their shoes by the doorstep, bed, or tree, ready for presents, before going to sleep on the eve of January 6. And in Italy, the tradition of La Befana, whose name is taken from the word epiphany, is the bringer of gifts who arrives on the eve of Epiphany.

With the onset of more Americanized and secular traditions throughout the past two centuries, the traditions of the Twelve Days of Christmas have been largely forgotten. Indeed, contemporary marketing and media tend to espouse the erroneous belief that the Twelve Days end on Christmas, rather than begin on it. However, we of The Second Advent Community have held to our own favorite ways to celebrate the Christmas-Epiphany season.

We are all both mortal and immortal beings. And as we feed our physical bodies we must also feed our spiritual bodies. Listen to the message conveyed by these words from the Odes of Solomon (Ode 38) that we recite at Christmastime.

“I rested in the spirit of the Lord: and the spirit raised me on high. And made me stand on my feet in the height

Continued on next page

of the Lord, before His perfection and His glory, while I was praising Him by the composition of His songs.

"The spirit brought me forth before the face of the Lord: and although I was a son of man, I was named the illuminate, a son of God. For according to the greatness of the Most High, so He made me: and like His own newness He renewed me, and He anointed me from His own perfection.

"And I became one of His neighbors; and my mouth was opened, like a cloud of dew. And my heart poured out as it were a gushing stream of righteousness.

"And my access to Him was in peace; and I was established by the spirit of His kingdom. And I went up to the light of truth which preserved me. And it became to me a haven of salvation and set me on the arms of immortal life."

Love begins in our family life, reaches out to our friends, and embraces our neighbors. Like a seed it must be planted before it can grow. If we can express love as we do at Christmastime throughout the whole year, we will begin to live the life exemplified by Jesus.

So let us each examine our hearts. The world and our flawed mortal natures take away our ability to love one another at times. This inability harms the spirit. Each one of us should strive to rise above the limitations of the physical world and embrace the spirit, which is expressed by love. By so doing, God comes to each of us, adopting us as His son or daughter; for we are all children of God.

In lighting the candles today in remembrance of those who have gone on to another life, let us place our trust in God who is the author of our spirit and soul. When death claims our physical bodies, it is the spirit and soul that endure and go on to a higher world if we can but experience the rebirth of spirit that we celebrate on January 6. But if we not love, our spirits fade like a flame, ultimately going out. Love kindles and brightens the spirit and the soul. By loving we are made eternal, for God is Love. Love binds us to those departed, to those about us

INVOCATIONS & INTERCESSIONS*

APOSTOLIC CHANCELLERY

The Chapel of the Holy Child

Nov.	1	Bonnie Nelson	Jan.	10	Linda Beals+
		Sister Mary Margaret+		14	Joan Allen+
		Stephie Petrovich+			Dick and Norma Gimmick
	8	Ken Broda			Charlotte Lawson+
	12	Ken Broda		17	Dick and Norma Gammick
		Susie Hilton & Her Husband			Charlotte Lawson+
	15	Susie Hilton & Her Husband			Loren McIntyre+
	19	Joeann Ault+			Stephen Heuer
		Linda Beals		21	Stephen Heuer
	22	Joeann Ault+		24	Murray & Joann Larson
		Linda Beals			Robert Hughes
		Elsie Green+			Mariana Bridgi Da Costa+
		Charles L. Reece+			Randal Houston
		Rev. Laurie Chappelle		28	Randal Houston
	26	Murray Larson			Cheryl Shafer
		Margaret Staver		31	Cheryl Shafer
	29	Murray Larson			Betty Whitney+
		Margaret Staver			Les Ligitt
		Mary Daniles Bunch+			
Dec.	3	Linda Beals			+ In Memoriam
		Marshall Crawford			*These appeals are made upon request.
	6	Linda Beals			
		Marshall Crawford			
		Hope Aguilera			
	17	Nancy Lee			
	20	Nancy Lee			
		Bonnie Nelson			
	27	Irene Roy			

while we live, and it binds us to God. For if we do not have love, compassion, and kindness in our hearts, how can we ever hope to know God? There is no enmity so hard that goodness cannot melt it.

Therefore, on this day commemorating the birth of Jesus, let us make a renewal to exemplify what he taught. This, I believe is the message of the Christmas season: to open our hearts, forgive the transgressions of our brothers and sisters, and love one another. To quote a line from one of the late Bishop's previous Christmas sermons: "All men and women everywhere may shine forth as the Sun of Righteousness if they but live and exemplify the love of God in their daily lives."

We should be proud of our accomplishments in this Community. Christmas is a time for celebration. So let's celebrate! Let's celebrate our Teaching; let's celebrate our fellowship; and let's celebrate our love for one another. The world is crazy place. It is hard to find the friendship and the fellowship and the love that we experience in this

Community—in spite of our familial difficulties sometimes.

As we close out 2008 and enter the new year, we announce 2009 a Jubilee Year. We announce the fiftieth anniversary of this Church from 1959 to 2009. Now that is something to celebrate!

This Community is moving forward, and we are growing. We are no longer concerned with merely surviving—those days are over. Not to say that we won't have our ups and downs from time to time. But let's celebrate the fact that we are here, we are established in this world, and that we are a beacon of light to those who seek the Light.

We have many exciting times and projects ahead. We have our journey to Greece and the Greek Isles—one of the largest trips ever undertaken by The Church. And we are making plans for additional development at the Sanctuary and at Steamboat. Speaking of which, I believe that Peter and Ted deserve a big hand for their work on the Sanctuary water project—also Herman

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Baptism

Correction: This announcement should have been included in the Summer 2008 issue.

The baptism of Jacob Provost, grandson of the Reverend Francine Petrovich, took place at the Roman Catholic church of St. Lazare, Quebec, on Saturday, July 19, 1:00 PM (EDT). Jacob was born April 9, 2008, to Mireille Chabot and Félix Provost, son of the Rev. Petrovich who was a long-time resident of Reno, Nev., before returning to his native Quebec.

Following the christening, Jacob's grandmother read a special poem dedicated her to the new baby boy, titled "Cher petit enfant Jacob":

Cher petit enfant, précieux joujou
qui s'inscrit au livre de la vie.
Cher petit enfant, étincelle d'un
coeur pur reflétant l'amour au
grand jour.
Cher petit enfant innocent, humble
et bon qui aime et adore tout ce
qui se présente à lui:
Cher petit enfant caressant avec
beaucoup de douceur et de
tendresse les beautés de ce
monde.
Cher petit enfant respirant une
chaleur nouvelle qui
réconforte par sa présence.



Reverend Francine Petrovich (left), Right Reverend Robert Petrovich (right), and Félix Provost (center) holding Jacob Provost at his baptism.

Courtesy of FRANCINE PETROVICH

Cher petit enfant, à la peau de soie
qui nous comble par ce regard
perçant de lumière.
Cher petit enfant aux mille fascina-
tions qui chante la vie à grand
débordement.
Cher petit enfant aux yeux
lumineux d'espoir regardant la
vie avec beaucoup d'ambition.
Cher petit enfant qui apporte une
fraîcheur semblable à un léger
vent d'été.
Cher petit enfant, souffle fragile du
nouveau – né qui pleure des
larmes d'argent.
Cher petit enfant, merveilleux
cadeau de la vie qui se donne
avec tant d'amour.
Cher petit enfant naïf qui réveille la
joie de vivre en chacun de nous.

Cher petit enfant qui rêve à ce
monde fantastique auquel
chacun a sa place d'amusement.
Cher petit enfant qui pleure des
larmes d'argent, laisse l'amour
t'envelopper à nouveau.
Cher petit enfant aux lèvres sucrées
de miel, embrasse la vie à grand
éclat de rire.

In attendance at the ceremony were Jacob's parents, godparents Martin Provost and Marie-Claude, paternal grandfather Michel Provost, and the Rt. Rev. Robert Petrovich.

Bishop Attends Seminar on Lobbying

Head bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. attended a seminar in Las Vegas, December 2–4, 2008, on how to lobby the state legislature and state regulatory agencies. The purpose of the trip was to learn how The Church might be able to realize a change in the current property tax exemption law, applicable to churches and other religious organizations, thereby avoiding future legal entanglements and suits. The bishop reports that much was learned about how state regulatory agencies function, especially in regard to facilities such as Steamboat Springs Water Works. The

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and Reano. And Roger, too, for the wonderful job on the building at Steamboat.

We will be forming some committees for planning and design of the Sacred Columbarium, as well as the monastery at Red Rock, which will serve as residences, refectory, chapel, and library for those of you who wish to participate. But I emphasize that now is the time to move forward. We cannot afford—or should I say: you cannot afford—to wait another twenty-five years for the next phase of building at the Sanctuary. I don't know how we will do it, but where there's a will, there's a way.

Allow me to close this Christmas message with these words from the Gospel of John [15:9-15]:

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you ser-

vants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father."

I wish you all a very merry Christmas, a happy Epiphany, and a joyous New Year, filled with God's many bountiful and beautiful blessings. Let us go forth from this place with renewed resolve to take the message of the Second Advent to all the world in greater power and glory, each of us shining like the Sun of Righteousness, and striving to exemplify Christ in our daily lives. ✠

entire trip was financed by private donations.

Charlotte M. Lawson Passes

The mother of Tobin Oberhoulser, Charlotte M. Lawson of Frankfort, Indiana, passed away at 15:51 P.M. on January 12, 2009.

Second Advent Calendar Published

For the first time in the history of The Church of the Second Advent, a calendar has been published for the year 2009 and made available to all members. The lovely publication, measuring 11 x 17 inches, may be opened and hung up and includes an abundance of full-color photographs taken and/or chosen by Stephan Fuelling.

The calendar also contains all major dates relevant within the last fifty years of The Church's history, as well as dates for those following the Cosolargy 3 schedule from the Academy texts. Those wishing copies should contact the Chancellery.

Rev. Bill Bartlett Receives Certification as Chaplain

In early winter, the International Community of Christ, as an "Ecclesiastical Endorser" of the Association of Professional Chaplains (See www.professionalchaplains.org/), sponsored Rev. Bartlett's certification to that body. Bartlett leads the chaplaincy program at St. Mary's Hospital in Reno, a program in which the Reverend Deaconess Rhys Andrews and Consociate Jonathan Kanzelmeyer participate as volunteer chaplains.

National Association Appoints Bishop Savoy as Advisor

In January 2009, the National Association of the InterChurch and Interfaith

Families appointed head bishop Gene Savoy, Jr. as a spiritual advisor. (See www.naiifonline.org/)

Sanctuary to Have Sacred Columbarium

Planning is under way for the design and construction of the Sacred Columbarium at Red Rock Consecrated Sanctuary. Further details will be forthcoming in future editions of the *Community Communique*.

Japanese Mission Thriving

Following the establishment of The Church's mission in Japan (discussed in previous issues of the *Communique*) under the guidance of Bishop Yukinori Matsushita, the community there continues to prosper and observe services.

In a communication with the head bishop in early February, Bishop Matsushita conveyed the following message, which has been edited for clarity:

Dear Bishop Savoy and Community,

We hope everyone in Reno is well and having a good New Solar year with the new condition!

At last we have found and moved to the new home of the Cosolargy Institute of Japan (CIJ)! HooooRaayay!

The room is on the third floor of an apartment building, and we are at the east end. We can do Sunrise services at this place from the windows facing east, and we have done it already! We have set a room like a chapel, and the other room can be opened to expand the space in Japanese style. We have Tatami-mats on the floor. We also have one more room with wooden flooring used as an office. There is also a space for lectures in the kitchen/dining area.

Although we had been looking

for a separate building for the Institute, this apartment will serve our purposes for the moment. Also, it is just two minutes' walk from my flat and about ten minutes' walk in the other direction to our Sunrise service area of the Kohrasan Mountain!

We started working at the new office on January 28, and have had several functions since. On January 29, we celebrated the 'Remembrance of Jamil,' and listened to the tapes of *Jamil, the Child Christ*, afterward we read the Japanese translation until midnight. We then observed a midnight vigil until 1:00 AM on January 30.

From 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM on January 30, we held the first meeting of the Institute with the Japanese members of the International Community of Christ. We continued to read from the Japanese version of *Jamil, The Child Christ*.

On January 31, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM, we held the first public presentation of Cosolargy for a group in a restaurant at Saga-Ken. There were nine in attendance.

The first Sunday Sunrise Divine Service was held at the Center on February 1 at 7:20 AM. In the afternoon, from 2:00 PM to 5:30 PM, we completed the readings from *Jamil*.

On February 2, Second Advent Day, a Sunrise Divine Service was held on Kohrasan Mountain at 7:30 AM.

We are starting to keep records of all events, including these.

We are getting things for the Center, so it will be ready for you to come for a visit. So this is just to let you know the good news.

In Light+

Bishop Yukinori Matsushita. ☩

The *Community Communique* welcomes mail from readers. Please address your correspondence to the Editor, 643 Ralston Street, Reno, NV 89503. Letters may also be faxed to (775) 332-3086 or sent by e-mail: communique@communityofchrist.org. Letters become the property of The Church and cannot be returned. Letters may be edited for space and clarity and may appear in subsequent issues.