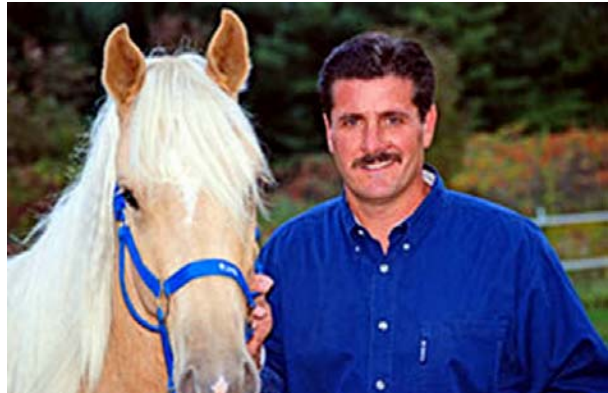


# SONLIFE NEWS

**SonLife Community Church**

[www.SonLifecc.org](http://www.SonLifecc.org)

**April 2008**



*The Tillinghast Family with parents Scot and Deb, along with Jaci, Josh, Matt, and Kati, will be at SonLife Community Church on May 4th to demonstrate horse whispering and how it is similar to how God works with us.*

## **Horse whisperer here for Cowboy Sunday May 4**

Finally, the horse whisperer and his family is almost here. Members of SonLife have four weeks left to invite our friends, our fellow-workers, and even strangers to this unique event and give them a chance to be introduced to the ways in which God works with each of us.

Yes, the horse whisperer will be exciting for us, but **Cowboy Sunday** gives us an easy

### **Note from the Wise's**

*The phrase "it takes a village" has become quite a catch phrase in contemporary society. Many years prior, though, the apostle Paul expressed a similar thought...we are the body of Christ and every believer is an integral part of that body. Each person's cooperation and service with their unique giftedness allows the "Body" to function in a healthy, productive way.*

*During the Easter weekend, we were blessed to see the Body come together and function as one...the blending and serving of each other brought about a beautiful picture of the Body of Christ.*

*As we continue*

*A heartfelt thanks for those who served so faithfully without a visible reward. God sees...we see...and we are grateful for you!*

*Because He Lives,*

*Pastor and Gilda*

chance to work on God's Great Commission to us...spread the Good News. Each of us needs to make sure that we invite 20 people each and then follow-up to remind them 2 to 4 days before May 4th.

When we do our part, invite and get our guests there, it is up to others and the Holy Spirit to bring them into God's Kingdom.

The Horse Whisperer coming in May is Scot Tillinghast, the founder of Faith Step Ministries. He and his wife work and minister at a New York residential facility for troubled teens and use horses as part of their work there.

Faith Step Ministries and its unique message has been featured at ranches and farms across the United States. Scot has a God-inspired gift to work with skittish or troubled horses, convincing them that compliance frees them to live in a loving social relationship with people.

Audiences are spellbound as Scot leads the animal, sometimes with only eye contact or slight body movement as a cue to the horse, into a state of complete trust and submission.

Throughout the demonstration, though audiences are asked for as much quiet as possible, Scot speaks through his lapel microphone to let the people know exactly what is happening,

sharing why and how this majestic animal is responding to his leading. He translates the presentation into a life lesson about people and how God works in our lives, often leaving men and women, young and old alike, in tears as they reflect upon their own life or the life of someone they know.

Scot had owned and operated a successful Massachusetts construction firm prior to working with teens.

Now Scot, Deb and their children, Jaci, Kati, Josh and Matt, are all part of the Faith Step Ministries team. Putting their hand to the plow they travel throughout North America relating to people through the ministry, sharing their own stories of how God has worked in their lives.

Today after church, or at the church chat, please pick up the materials which will make it easy to invite people. There will be some brochures to hand out, some posters to place in stores and other bulletin boards. You can also ask to send e-mail brochures and we will e-mail one to you that you can forward to your friends, relatives, acquaintances, etc.

We are also looking for people to assist with the ushering and parking for that day. Please contact Pastor Marshall to volunteer.



*SonLife's new, bright and spacious kitchen is the cause for joy from Linda Larsen, Estrella Knudson, and Ann Wiseman when it was used for the first time on Resurrection Sunday.*

## Resurrection Sunday celebration



(Above) Valaree Luck and the Youth Group perform in a Human Video which she choreographed. (Top right) The Praise and Worship Team sing. The celebration was started by a church breakfast (right) and after church, the children had an exciting Easter Egg Hunt (below). (Bottom right) Jadine and her puppet made another incredible presentation during the service.



*The Shepherds (right), an advisory group to the pastor, meets periodically to plan for the church and its growth. At the February meeting, they met at the home of the Wise's to work on the Easter Sunday and Horse Whisperer programs as well as the continued physical changes in the church building. They are also developing a plan to grow the church through more public outreach.*



*(Top) Linda Larson, Estrella and Glen Knudson, and Jan Wiseman and (bottom) Lee Still, Gilda and Marshall Wise, and Craig and Linda Larson.*



*Not shown in the photos are Bob Still, Pete Frost, and Ann Wiseman who was taking the photos.*

## **HomeBuilders meets again next Saturday, April 12th**

The HomeBuilders' group continues to meet in April on Saturday the 12th at Pete and Inge's. We are studying Sacred Marriage by Gary Thomas. Gary starts the book with a quote from Socrates: "By all means marry. If you get a good wife, you'll become happy. If you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher."

It gave us a good laugh, but it clearly indicates that marriage is not easy, because a marriage is a covenant between two different people with different personalities, hopes, dreams, and desires who are living together, 24/7. Gary states that he believes that God uses our marriage joys, struggles and challenges to grow our faith and bring us closer to God, and in the process we will grow closer to one another. In April, we will review Chapter 2. We are excited about studying this new book.

Some time ago, I received a newsletter from Family Life with the following related illustration that I want to share with you. I pray that it will touch you the way it touched me!

*"Years ago our family went on a vacation to Yosemite National Park. As we walked among giant Sequoia trees, we found one that was particularly enormous. A sign at its base read: "The Faithful Couple." A park ranger explained that this was actually two trees. Some 1,500 years ago two trees sprouted as seedlings about 15 feet apart. After some 800 years, their trunks grew close enough to touch, and began to fuse with each other. We all looked up, and sure enough, 40 or 50 feet above our heads we could see the two trees reappearing.*

*I thought, what a perfect symbol of a godly family. The members are fused together as*

*one, yet each has his or her individual identity. As they grow upward in their relationship with God, they grow closer to each other, and are able, like the mighty redwood, to withstand life's storm because they are one.*

*That's the key to a great marriage—a commitment to growing closer to God. To experience this, however, you first must make sure you are part of God's family—that you have received Christ as your Savior and Lord.”*

Any one that is interested in joining HomeBuilders', feel free to give Pete and Inge Frost a call for more information (410-860-2411).

## **Ladies Team**

On April 22nd we will continue with the study of the Book of James, Session 7 "Getting Perspective". This session will look at our attitudes; not just toward others, but also toward God, and how we look at the future. James will show us how we can change our attitudes with Godly resources. In preparation, read James 4: 11-17. If you are not yet attending Ladies' Team yet but are interested, come join us for Bible study, food, fellowship, and laughter! We will meet at 6:30 pm and start with food!

## **Women of Faith**

This year's theme is "Infinite Grace" for the main event; the theme for the pre-conference on Friday with Patsy Clairmont, Anita Renfroe and Jan Silvius is "I Second that Emotion." Prepare yourself for lots of laughter but also tears because these ladies have a god-given ability to touch our hearts with both emotions.

The special guests for the main event are Nicole C. Mullen and Max Lucado! All and all, this is a conference you don't want to miss! The dates of the full conference are September 12 - 13, 2008.

There are 5 tickets remaining. Please see Inge for more information or if you are interested in purchasing a ticket. The tickets are \$99 each. A warm thank you to all those that helped with the selling, making and buying of the Easter Eggs. The proceeds will help defray the hotel costs.

## **Sunday School studies**

Rachel Alexander is teaching the younger Sunday School attendees and the following are their lesson topics for April:

- April 6 Rahab and the Spies
- April 13 Crossing the Jordan
- April 20 The Battle of Jericho
- April 27 The Gibeonites trick Joshua

Estrella Knudson and Michelle Digby are working with the older Sunday School group and they are discussing God's Workers.

## **Promise Keepers**

This year's theme is "Manhood '08- Let the Truth be Told!" Plans are being made to attend this conference in Atlanta, Georgia, July 31-August 3, 2008 (this includes travel time.

The actual conference is from Friday evening through Saturday afternoon). "The "Manhood '08" program is aimed at equipping men to get a handle on their life and mission, amidst a shifting culture that is sometimes outright hostile.

Promise Keepers intends to deliver the message that a real man loves God more than anything else and is willing to progressively receive his help in becoming more like Jesus in how he thinks, lives, and relates to others this side of heaven. So, how are you doing in your daily walk? *Are you responding in the Spirit or in the flesh?"*

See Pete Frost if interested. Tickets are about \$90 each. Travel and hotel costs will depend on number attending.

### **SonLife seniors**

Please continue to remember our seniors, Mildred Ware, Doris Bebee, and Frances Mischler, in your prayers for health concerns and general struggles with growing older. A warm “thank you” to those that continue to reach out to them and invest their time in our seniors’ lives. Cards or visits are always appreciated.

### **Report from the missionaries**

#### **Jim and Marianna Peipon with the Ukraine Medical Outreach**

Seems like spring has arrived early in the Ukraine. It is hard to believe today the temperature is in the mid-50s. Talk about spring fever, it definitely has hit Kyiv.

Talk of spring reminds us of renewal and new birth. Our God is, indeed faithful. We thank you for your faithfulness in both financial and prayer support. We definitely feel this encouragement. We have seen growth in several areas of ministry. The number attending the medical Bible study is increasing. The doctors who attend our English class emphasizing articles of medical ethics and stories from the Bible are beginning to ask questions about Christianity and Christ.

March will be a very busy month with lots of travel outside of Kyiv. We travel to Lutsk to prepare for the UMO mission trip in October with Caring Partners International. We will travel to Dnipropetrovsk to meet with medical students to prepare for the first all-Ukraine medical student conference in August. At the end of the month, a medical team will spend a week in the Vinnitsa Oblast teaching and laying the groundwork for improving the care to orphans with disabilities through the Ukraine.

All of this plus consultations with three couples adopting children in the Ukraine and Marianna’s regular visits to the hospital to love the kids with HIV/AIDS and to teach them about the love of Jesus who will never forsake them, will make for a very busy March.

Prayer for our stamina to remain strong and for wisdom to devote our time to those tasks God has prepared in advance for us to do. May we be His instruments in assisting health care professionals become more compassionate, competent and Christ-like.

### **Upcoming SonLife Events**

- April 12 HomeBuilders, 7 p.m., Frost’s
- April 22 Ladies’ Team, 6:30 p.m., church
- May 4 Cowboy Sunday with a horse whisperer, 10 a.m.
- July 31-Aug. 3 Promise Keepers, Atlanta, GA

### **This is your newsletter...item deadline April 30th**

This is your chance to tell the rest of the church about others in the church and yourself. Your own spiritual insights are welcome also. E-mail info and photos to Ann Wiseman at Bdenver234@comcast.net or by giving her the information at church.