

505 E. Boydstun, Rockwall, Texas 75087 972-722-1905 www.dayspringdiscipleship.org

Teaching – Equipping – Training Ministering

Brenda Cox, Executive Director

November 2009

"...the Dayspring from on high has come to give light to those that sit in darkness..." --Luke 1:78-79 Newsletter

Echoes of Thanksgiving

I listen to echoes at times. Knowing that it does me well to think on things that give sustenance to the soul. Those half-forgotten phantoms of the past that echo through the mind and touch the heart with shades of warm to remind me from whence I came.

I listen now to the warm of summer dreams and barefoot days and running in the wind and feeling evening grass that cooled my feet when summer days were hot. I felt, somehow, closer to the earth when summer dreams were my best friends and we chased lightening bugs in the evening glow; skipped rocks across mountain streams and sang the country songs that echo still through canyons of my soul.

Rope swings hung from big oak trees and we wound up tight then spun free in dizzying swirls till the earth and sky were one. We held the hand of God as we waded into October mountain rivers that shocked the body and marked the soul in baptism. And suddenly winter-wonderlands beckoned the mittens and coats and turned our world into a fairyland where snowmen grew overnight and came alive to dance in our dreams and almost as quickly melt into the spring.

They are echoes now. The faces of family and friends that conjure in my heart those touches that have made me what I am. Those times when God bent down and graced my world in holy wonder; a kaleidoscope of shifting scenes, shading me forgiven or comforted, splashing my world in bold chips of faithfulness at the very moment of despair; hues of His truth... vibrant patterns of His presence.

My kaleidoscope has come around to where I am today.

Listening to the echoes of my past, the Ebenezer's of my soul, where God and man moved in broken rhythms across my world, forming unexpected beauty and holy patterns in the tunnels of my storms.

Glad that I was there—once upon a time, twirling through autumn leaves; chasing after rainbows... racing the winds toward tomorrow.

> But glad, too, that I am here. Listening to echoes of the past that have caught up with me in the sacred now.

Listening to echoes of thanksgiving. It is a source of quiet. It is a source of bounty for my soul.

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Garden Receives Visitors from Far and Near Seeking to Create Prayer Gardens

Over a year ago a woman from North Richland Hills read of our prayer garden in the Metro section of the Dallas Morning News. That article sparked a vision in her heart, and she began raising money for a prayer garden at her Methodist Church there. Twelve thousand dollars later, she and her sister from Oregon recently visited the Dayspring prayer garden for ideas on creating their gardens. By "their" gardens, we mean that her sister from Oregon is also seeking to replicate much of what she saw in the Dayspring garden on a site she owns in Oregon. Interest has also been expressed by a ministry in Kaufman.

We are thrilled at the possibility of helping others create their own prayer gardens that can serve to draw people nearer to God through prayer and personal healing. We look forward to working with these and others as the Lord brings them to us.

Aging Prayer Garden Signs Refurbished

The unusually rainy weather and summer heat took a toll on the scripture signs along the path of peace and elsewhere in the garden. Now suddenly they look new again thanks to the generous heart and skillful hand of Lonnie Townsend who has re-finished all the wooden signs in the garden. What a boost it has given not only to the garden but to us. We are also grateful to Emmaus church for putting the many signs back up for us.

It is these wonderful gifts from the heart, both great and small, that keep us going. Thank you, Lonnie, and thanks to all who give in support of the work of Dayspring.

Recent Notes from the Chapel Registry

"Just driving around Rockwall and discovered this place with my daughter and husband. I will come back often! Thanks to whoever thought of this beautiful place to connect with our Creator." Melanie

"It is so beautiful here. I've never seen anything like it. I hope almost every person will come to know this place." Darbie (age 10)

"God is present in this stillness." Pat

"On August 21, 2006, after a time of prayer and waiting on the Lord, my life was forever changed right here in this chapel." Billy Ray "Mystery" Series Concludes Year With The Mystery of Time 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Evening, November 10

RSVP if attending

Join Brenda for an evening of conversation on time as a mystery unique to earth. Explore the interactions of an eternal God within the constraints of our time-bound world.

This is the concluding conversation for the year on the Mysteries of God. The response to this "conversational" experiment has been strong, though it has decreased somewhat recently. Though we are reassessing, at this time, plans are to continue this "Mysteries" series next year with talks on the **mystery of longing, the human mystery** and the **Divine mystery**. Look in next month's newsletter for our final decision on the continuance of this series in the spring.

The December Conversation on *Prayer* has been Re-scheduled for Tuesday, January 19.

The series of prayer conversations will continue regardless of the decision on the "Mysteries" series.

Reserve your Place at the Table for the

Dinner Book Club's Discussion of "Relax and Let God"

Friday, November 13 7:30 p.m.

Enjoy an evening of soup and bread, good fellowship and stretching conversation

Mark Your December Calendar

Thursday December 17 7:00 p.m. for an Evening of *Christmas Caroling, Gift Bags and refreshments following*

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Teaching Ministry Audio Now on Website

Some of Brenda's best-received teachings are coming on line: Now up are The Incarnate Life study, three Conversations on the Prayer of Communion, three Conversations on the Mysteries of God, and many of the Sunday morning chapel lessons on the Beatitudes.

We invite you to listen and let others know who might be interested in hearing these selections on our site. **Click the teachings/download tab near the top of the menu** to listen on-line or right-click to download to your computer.

On-line Audio Teachings

The Incarnate Life

Christ becoming flesh in us and dwelling among men today.

The Beatitudes

A stairwell bringing us down into an interior renovation. From the womb of the Beatitudes is birthed the rest of the Sermon on the Mount.

Conversations on the Prayer of Communion

The prayer of communion is a prayer of "Presence." It is a prayer that can change our lives profoundly.

From The Mystery of Earth

"We are looking at the possibility earth may not be just 6,000 or 11,000 years old...that it might be so beyond our comprehension that it may stagger us. The Bible gives us hints at the possibilities...these wisps and whispers can never be used as a basis for doctrine, but they can be used as a basis of imagination, spiritually... and of awe."

From The Mystery of the Universe

"The idea here is to blow off the shutters from the windows through which we see God and dare to let Him be so much greater than we shrink wrap Him to be. When we bring God into our world and reframe Him there then we lose some of the awe of God... He asks us to come out of our ant holes and into His great, vast space and meet Him there."

From The Mysteries of Eden

"I look forward to these conversations on Mysteries from His Sacred Hand because they stretch us out and expand our thinking. I think they expand our soul...they expand how we see God and how we understand what He is about with us."

Two "Conversations" Series to be Offered as CD Gift Sets

Two sets of 3 CD's each on *Conversations on the Prayer of Communion* and *Conversations on the Mysteries of God* will be available by mid-November as gift sets. The cost for each set of three is \$12.00. The "*Mysteries*" set includes the Mysteries of Earth, the Universe and Eden.

You may listen to these on our website to better know if these would work as gifts for you.





is also available for \$10.00 For orders of 4 or more the cost per book is \$7.00

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, November 3, 7:00 – Classics Book Club – Bonhoeffer's Cost of Discipleship

- Tuesday, November 10, 7:30 Conversation on the Mystery of Time
- Friday, November 13, 7:30 Dinner Book Club Relax and Let God

Tuesday, November 17, 7:00 - Classics Book Club

*Thursday, December 17, 7:00 – Christmas Caroling

*No other events are scheduled for December



We're Not Looking for a Pot of Gold but...

we do need a dollar or two and ask

Your Prayerful Consideration Financially. The Economic Squeeze in the Country is Finally Squeezing us.



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and grandeur.

The many stops on your visit offer tantalizing glimpses into a world of adventure and mystery Touring our Website

Your tour will take you to ... out of this world places where you will see *Reflections of God*, discover His Fingerprints and enjoy a heavenly excursion into magical creations accompanied

by music and the Manuscripts of God.

Meet unforgettable characters: Oswald Chambers, Hudson Taylor, Amy Carmichael, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Jeanne Guyon, Henrietta Mears and so many more....



Visit historic landmarks in Christianity: the Reformation, the Great Awakening, the Moravians....

Discover lost civilizations...



Sodom and Gomorrah

Egyptian Chariot remains in the Red Sea

The evidence for Mt. Sinai in Saudi Arabia

... and the recovery of ancient ruins from past calamities in our SAFE pages: Safenotes and Scripts and Stories

Visit our gift shop for photos of the tour and

Browse our Library of **Recommended Reading** in **Pilgrim of the Soul** where you will...

explore inner caverns...



...and hidden recesses of the soul:

"A deeper life awaits the pilgrim of the soul. It is a life of followship and obedience, of confusion and frustration and yet amazing encounters with Him..."

Experience majestic vistas of a rich and dynamic life.



"Deep in the recesses of each of us is a hope that life can be brim full and running over..."

Take the challenge to climb lofty crags of sacred adventure.



"For the spiritual pilgrim...the journey ever is toward a holy mount..."

Listen in on **conversations of mystery and prayer** and on teachings from an ancient manuscript.

You and your family and friends are invited to come sip New Wine and Taste the Adventure of Life Lived in the Mystery of Another World.

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