



The Abraco

Vermont Tres Dias Newsletter

December 2013

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Secuelas

December 14th
Northfield Bible
Northfield, Vermont



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Prophecy and Fulfillment

Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Luke 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Presidents Letter



Dear
Community,
Last month's
Secretariat
and Secuela
was surely a
blessing. Our

Lord is so awesome. With over 65 in attendance, and so much moving forward within the Secretariat, it was a spiritual shot in the arm. Committees that have been vacant were filled, decisions were made; we accomplished much in just a short time, even though we went overtime. All looks so promising. It's just so awesome how our Lord moves. The presence of the Spirit was overwhelming.

Finally we adjourned and moved up to the sanctuary where the singing and fellowship became a mountain top experience. We welcomed our new Pescadores with loving open hearts and one could tell and almost envision our Lord's Spirit working amongst us. He is so wonderful, we were surely dwelling in the "Real World" at that point. The night had to end but not without a circle of prayer and thanksgiving - hand_2—

and hearts clenched within our Lords endless love.

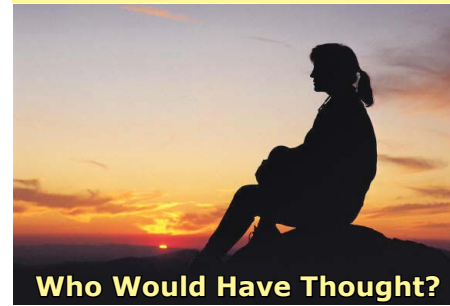
Tres Dias has and always will be a defining part of my life. My prayers are for a revival of Tres Dias and protection of all people involved, worldwide. We are one in our Lord and we are the tools for the Lord to raise up leaders in his church. We are Tres Dias. Remember always to pray, for nothing happens without prayer. It's just our Lords way for us to be one with Him. Ask for discernment, and ask for His will in all things.

Finally, I hope to see many of you at the December Secuela pot luck and Yankee swap in Northfield. May the Peace of Christ be with you all, and may you have a Blessed Christmas. I love you all.

Richard Chamberlin
President



Reflections



Who Would Have Thought?

by Bernadette Tracy

Of all the great minds that have thought their great thoughts throughout the history of mankind, there is not a one that could have ever conceived of the magnificent, yet simple redemptive plan of God to save us from ourselves. It has been said by many an atheist that the Gospel, the Good News of the Christian faith is simply too simplistic and not worthy of the brilliance of any so called higher being. Doesn't this all the more bring you into the full realization of the privilege of knowing that you who were once darkness have been called into His Kingdom of Marvelous Light? And that you who were a far off, have been brought near through the drawing of the Holy Spirit?

When I think about God's

plan, it is clearly evident that its origin is truly divine in nature. Who amongst us could possibly have demonstrated the foresight to perfectly balance the wisdom, humility and love that it took to fully answer the weighted demand of both mercy and justice in the eyes of God? It is incomprehensible to our mere mortal minds that the King of Glory would become flesh, taking the form of an infant and be born of a woman. We could not fathom that the Eternal One would so unselfishly step out of eternity into the limits of time to walk amongst us. How do we wrap our minds around the humility of the Son, the Triune God, to say, "Yes Father, not my will but thine", in response to the cross? How is the depth of His love, a love that is so sacrificially compassionate that it saved us from our sin possibly measured in human terms?

But truly of all the wondrousness of God's plan, it is the simplicity of it that reflects its true brilliance. He knows our bend towards self reliance and the pride

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that so easily besets us. He sees how quickly our minds are blinded by the darkness of deception. He knows that despite how highly we think of ourselves, and how wise we appear in our own eyes that we are but dust and helpless to save ourselves. So, in answer to our plight He made The Way, through a plan that only He could have thought up. He alone had the foreknowledge to share it with us before it even came to be through His word. The necessary sacrifice was One that He alone could provide. It was only through the drawing power of His Holy Spirit that we were able to respond. Even the faith that it took to believe unto salvation He provided.

So, who would have thought? Certainly not a one amongst us. Left to our own devices we would still foolishly be trying to conjure up ways to save ourselves. And so as we reflect upon the perfection of the plan He so graciously provided and look forward to this Christmas Season, let us bow our hearts in humble awe to

The One whose thoughts we could not think, having done for us what we could not do ourselves, out of a love we could not possibly comprehend.

Decolores, In His Love,

Bernadette

Documents Online

Don't forget, you can get important documents like applications, sponsor forms and brochures on the web-site: www.vttresdias.org, under the "Info" tab. or by contacting Peter and Janet Smithers, phone 728-9639, or email pj_smithers@comcast.net



Vermont TD Web Site

www.vttresdias.org

Visit the link, check it out. Get monthly information about Secuela sites, and maps for directions. Find PDF files of Brochures, Applications, and Sponsor forms. Send your feedback to pj_smithers@comcast.net We would love to hear from you!!

Mary's Dream

I had a dream, Joseph. I don't understand it, but I think it was about a birthday celebration for our son. The people in my dream had been preparing for about six weeks. They had decorated the house and bought new clothes. They'd gone shopping many times and bought many elaborate gifts. It was peculiar, though, because the presents weren't for our son.

They wrapped them in beautiful paper and stacked them under a tree. Yes, a tree, Joseph, right inside their homes! They'd decorated the tree with sparkling ornaments. There was a figure like an angel on the top of the tree. Everyone was laughing and happy. They gave the gifts to each other, Joseph, not to our son. I don't think they even knew him. They never mentioned his name I had the strangest feeling that, if our Jesus had gone to this celebration he would have been intruding. How sad for someone not to be wanted at his own birthday party! I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible Joseph, if it had been real!

The Tree of Knowledge

The Bible contains 3,566,480 letters, 773,746 words, 31,102 verses, 1,189 chapters, and 66 books. The Old Testament contains 39 books; the New Testament, 27 books. In point of length, the average word of the Bible contains fewer than five letters. About forty men were engaged in the writing of the Bible, from 1500 B.C. to A.D. 100. These men wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. (2 Pet. 1:21). The word "Jehovah" occurs 6,855 times, "Lord" occurs 1,853 times. The middle chapter and the shortest is Psalm 117. The middle verse in the Bible is Psalm 118:8. The middle book of the Old Testament is Proverbs. The middle verse of the Old Testament is 2 Chronicles 10:15. The shortest verse in the Old Testament is 1 Chronicles 1:25; the longest, Esther 8:9. The longest verse in the Bible is Esther 8:9; - ninety words. The longest word in the Bible is found in Isaiah 8:1. The Bible holds the distinction of being the first printed book; it was first reprinted in 1450. The first Bible printed in this country was in the Indian language in 1663. This is the earliest example of the whole Bible translated and printed in a new language for the purpose of evangelization. The first English Bible printed in this country was in 1782. The first translation of the Bible made in America was printed in 1808. The King James Version of the Bible was first published in 1611. The Bible was divided into chapters by Cardinal Hugo in 1250. The New Testament was divided into verses by Sir Robert Stephens in 1551. The whole Bible, divided into chapters and verses, first appeared in 1560 in what is known as the "Geneva Bible." The Bible is the most translated book in the world. The Bible continues to be the best seller in the world. Above all things, the Bible should be studied and obeyed.

First Coming

He did not wait till the world was ready,
Till men and nations were at peace.
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,
And prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.
He came when the need was deep and great.
He dined with sinners in all their grime,
Turned water into wine. He did not wait

Till hearts were pure. In joy he came
To a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
He came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,
To heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
The Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
To raise our songs with joyful voice,
For to share our grief, to touch our pain,
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Prayer



Heavenly Father, open my eyes to You this Christmas season. Let me know your love for me. And Father, let the light of your plan begin to shine into the dark places of my soul so that I might learn its melody and sing with joy. Amen

The Christ Child

To realize that God himself came down among us, to experience and to share our weakness, is to understand something that is at the heart of Incarnation. On a strictly human level it didn't make sense, because the world doesn't understand the power there is in littleness. And when Jesus came as a helpless infant, the Herods of this world were really scared because they could and cannot deal with it. Jesus Christ, the redeemer, came as a helpless infant for three important reasons:

1. He came as a helpless child to be like one of us, so that he could speak our language, and eventually understand and forgive the sinner and feed the hungry and show us exactly what we ourselves had to do.

2. There is, however, still another reason why he came as a helpless child. He did not want to distract people from his true origin. Would he have come as a king, people would have revered him as king. He did come as a child, to point out his origin in God and from God.

The Christ Child reminds us also of the difference that exists between sugar and salt. When sugar is added to food, it draws attention to itself, to the sugar. When salt is added, it brings out the flavor of the food. It does not draw attention to itself, to the salt. Similarly, the Christ Child draws attention not to himself but to our need for salvation and to God's bottomless love for us. The Christ Child also reminds us that we are called to be the salt and not the sugar of the earth.

3. There may be a third reason why Jesus Christ met humanity as a child. He reminds us that like children we are to grow into sons and daughters of God, in his image and likeness. We are to take the nature of the dove, sweet, gentle and kind, in one word, Christlike.

"Welcome Jesus at Christmas Time, not in a cold manger of our heart ... but warm with love for one another." (Mother Theresa)



New Pescadores



Byung Lee, Essex Jct., Vermont
Shawn O'Neill, Lincoln, Vermont
William and Lidia Beaulac, Lyndonville, Vermont
Glynn Simpler Lincoln, Vermont
Lucky and Kami Dimmick, Randolph Ctr., Vermont
Robert Brinkley, Tunbridge, Vermont
David Mitchell, Colchester, Vermont
Jared Allard, Lyndonville, Vermont
John Mierop, Lincoln, Vermont
Paul and Brenda Moses, E. Randolph, Vermont
Lucas Hayward, Corinth, Vermont
Steve Shanks, Williston, Vermont
Felicia Post, So. Royalton, Vermont
Joan Monk, Coventry, Rhode Island
Debbie Kendall, Randolph, Vermont
Michele McMahon, E. Thetford, Vermont
Shirley Huang, Randolph, Vermont
Brenda Berry, Brookfield, Vermont
Judye Feldman-Dinger, Waltham, Massachusetts
Lisa Woods, Bethel, Vermont
Janet Messier, E. Randolph, Vermont



Fun December Secuela

It's December and time to celebrate one of the most beautiful holidays of the year! It's time for all of us to spread those CHRISTmas feelings, LOVE, JOY, HOPE and PEACE to our family, loved ones and people all around us. It's time to make everyone feel the warmth of CHRIST's love by sharing the story of His birth, singing Christmas Carols, continuing your traditions, and remembering the precious Christmas memories of your past and present. Vermont Tres Dias and Northfield Bible Fellowship want to invite you to share with us a time of fellowship, food and fun on Saturday December 14, 2013 at 6:30 to 9 We will start the evening with a pot blessing dinner so bring a favorite Christmas dish to share, maybe a casserole or dessert that you make every year as a tradition. We will do some singing, have special music, maybe share some special Christmas memories. We will also have a Yankee Swap. This has been quite comical in the past. The gifts will be placed under the tree and we will play a game to see

who ends up with those gifts. You don't need to be elaborate with these gifts that you bring to exchange. Remember that this really isn't about the gift under the tree but the gift that was given us on that night so very long ago. Come and enjoy the warmth and love of CHRISTmas with your fellow pescadores. If you have any questions please call me at 603-787-6119 or email me at shampoogirl97@gmail.com.

DeColores,

Barbi Langdon

Find us on Facebook

or connect via the VTD web site at: www.vttresdias.org



Upcoming Events



Clip & Save

Secretariat at 5:30 PM Secuelas at 6:30 PM

Secuelas:

**Dec 14 Northfield Bible Fellowship
Pot Luck followed by a "Yankee Swap"
Bring a gift (\$5 range) to share**

(Maps and directions may be found on the web site)

Carpool to Secuela . . . its great fun and fellowship



Decolores!

Vermont Tres Dias

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