



PORTLAND
fellowship

Dear Fellowship Partners,

update february 2002

As we begin this new year we are mindful that with each day that passes we know Christ's return is eminent. But when He returns, will He find us faithfully doing those things *He* has set aside for us to do? We live in a culture that is full of opportunity. But how many of those opportunities are really just distractions? I find this quote from New Tribes Mission rather telling, "Our greatest fear should not be of failure, but of succeeding at something that doesn't really matter." This well-known verse from Romans 12 appears to speak to the need for relevancy, "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." And here's the good part. "Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--His good, pleasing and perfect will." With our minds renewed by the truth of God's word, we then test and approve those things that stand before us. As we face opportunities this year, I want to do it in light of Scripture, with wise counsel and certainty of God's leading. I don't want to do good works--I want to do God's will--His good, pleasing and perfect will.



Hours of tearing down...



and weeks of building up.

We are delighted; no, we are ecstatic to announce that our remodeling of the third floor and kitchen, has reached its end (for now). After months of hard work we were able to reach a point where our interns could move in. And they are grateful. Because of various delays, they have been living in temporary facilities. Now they are all on the same floor! I'm so grateful to all those who have prayed for us, labored with us, and financially given to this project. It is hard to completely understand the impact this program will have on the future of this ministry, but I'm confident that God is leading us in this direction. We ask that you continue to pray for our interns, as they grow in the understanding of God's calling in their lives.

You will soon be getting more information on our upcoming educational conference, "Homosexuality-A Compassionate Response" featuring noted author, Dan Allender. If you are unfamiliar with his writings, we strongly encourage you to

read some of his work. His compassion for hurting individuals is evident in the truth he brings to light in his books. Mark your calendars for April 26 and 27. Along with Dan we

"He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted to proclaim liberty to captives, and freedom to prisoners."

ISAIAH 61 : 1

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have invited Anita Worthen, author of "Someone I Love is Gay" and co-director of New Hope Ministries in San Rafael, CA to do workshops for family members. Other subjects we will present are 'Understanding Pro-gay Theology' and 'Root Causes to Homosexual Behavior'. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to be better equipped to express the love of Christ to those struggling with same-sex attraction.

Please remember us as a staff in your prayers. The amount of projects we have on the docket has stretched each one of us to our limits. No doubt, the enemy would love to have us so overworked that we lose sight of the goal-- loving and serving Christ. Pray that we will exercise wisdom in the choices we make in the coming months. We want to clearly hear the voice of God and boldly walk in the grace He provides.

Again, we thank all of you for your continued prayer and support of us. Portland Fellowship is not any one person, but the sum of many men and women devoted to seeing the healing power of Christ reach those caught up in darkness. Together we are seeing God bring restoration and healing into lives.

In His service,



ministry update

We welcome a new intern who has been with us for years. Katie Wood has moved into the fourth room in the Upper Room and is officially part of the Leadership Development Team. Katie has been a small group leader for the *Taking Back Ground* program for 2 years, and is excited about being more involved.

Jason Thompson was invited to go on the Dr. Steve radio show in January. It was a great opportunity to share about "Portraits of Freedom" written by Bob Davies, the former Director of Exodus N.A. A full chapter of the book was dedicated to Jason's story along with 13 others who have found freedom from homosexuality.

On January 22, Jason spoke during a chapel service to the student body of Western Seminary.

In March, we will be offering our annual fellowship retreat. This weekend is open to current participants of the TBG program as well as alumni. This year's retreat will be at Breakaway Lodge in Gearhart Oregon.

prayer requests

We ask for your prayers as we continue to put together our 2002 conference. *"Homosexuality: A Compassionate Response"*. Our desire is for the church to better understand this very significant issue.

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As mentioned on the left, we will be having our annual fellowship retreat. Please pray for those attending. Pray for a refreshing and encouraging time for all those who will attend.

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Continue to keep the staff of Portland Fellowship in your prayers. We desire to stay in step with the Lord's leading and cherish your prayers as we do so.

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Please pray for the ongoing work of publishing the *Taking Back Ground* workbook.

Portland Fellowship is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 non-denominational organization. We are exclusively supported through private donations, support services, and offerings. Thank you for your gifts.

february calender

february 1

Founder's Fellowship
Special reception for those who have supported the development of the Upper Room renovation project.

february 8

Parents, Spouses, Family, and Friends support group.
7 p.m.

february 5,12,19,26

Taking Back Ground
Program for men and women finding freedom from homosexuality.
7 p.m.

february 18

President's day
Office Closed

february 7,14,27

Leadership Development
Discussing fund-raising, grant writing, and newsletter development 7 p.m.

Check website for additional updates