

Dear Fellowship Partners,

update june 2002



Summer is almost upon us and with it schedules begin to change. But it looks as though we will be as busy as ever during the summer months here at PF. Problems aren't seasonal like our weather, so it's our intent to continue to offer support throughout the summer months. This year we are offering the series by Dr. Cloud, "Changes that Heal" for our Tuesday night group. It will consist of viewing a short video and facilitated discussion about it's content. If you were one of those who attended last summers "Boundaries" series by the same author, you know how good the teaching is and how helpful the interaction with others can be. I hope that you will consider joining us. The series begins on the first Tuesday in July at 7 PM, and is open to the general public. All you have to do is show up.

Our conference, "Homosexuality: A Compassionate Response", with keynote speaker Dan Allender was a huge success. Dan was funny and poignant. His material was more about our common human struggles with gender and relationship then being purely about the homosexual struggle. newspaper picked up the story of our conference and labeled coming to 'convert queers'. It's often sad to see how the gay community perceives the churches attempt to offer hope. But the compassion of Jesus was evident in this wonderful two-day event. You still have an opportunity to hear Dan's message. We are offering the three set tape series on our website for \$15. If you are not online, you can call the office to purchase your set.



The local gay Dan as one who was

I have a wonderful opportunity this month to travel to Quito, Ecuador to speak. We have been supporting Camino De Salida, an Exodus ministry in South America, for the last year. Ministry director, Tim Broach, had hoped to send one of his emerging leaders to participate in our Upper



Room series this past year, but things did not work out. Consequently, the ministry asked if I would come down and teach a series of workshops on leadership and ministry development. I will also be speaking in several churches and at the national conference on ministry to homosexuals. Please pray for me on my adventure to Quito from June 14th through the 24th. Also pray for my family, as this will be the longest time I have been away from them. It is exciting to see how God will use this time to encourage and strengthen ministry within the Latin American countries.

This month we begin the process of saying farewell to our interns. Each will begin the task of pursuing the next step in serving the Lord. Since this is our first year, it's interesting to see how we have all been affected by the relationships we have formed. It is going to be really hard to let go of the friendships as we know them and allow each person to proceed. Please pray that each will go out with courage and conviction to impact their sphere of influence. We are only saying good-bye until the Lord causes our paths to cross again. Our role with them now changes to providing

"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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encouragement and guidance. Our attention now turns to those interested in joining us in the upcoming year of *The Upper Room*. Pray that we will have discernment as we go through the applications we have received.



*Honoring Arlene for
her faithful service.*

This month we would like to introduce to you Arlene Nicosia. Arlene has been a volunteer with us for the past 5 years and currently works as a small group leader in our *Taking Back Ground* series. She is also one of our faithful prayer warriors.

Arlene writes, "The most meaningful part of my experience would be having the privilege of watching lives change over the course of the two year program of *Taking Back Ground*. God's healing power, and the participants willingness to submit and do the hard work that it takes to heal many years of brokenness, together, bring forth changed people. The amazing thing is that physical change occurs along with emotional change. It truly is an honor to be able to help in this transformation! God's anointing is on this ministry, so guess what happens to you when you join in?"

Thanks for your continued support. God has been faithful to see us through a difficult time for most non-profits. We want to remind you that summer can be the leanest financial times for ministries, and we ask for your prayers and continued generosity as we seek to serve God.

In His service,

ministry update

Christians are suffering from a whole range of emotional problems: anxiety, loneliness, grief over broken relationships, resentment, and feelings of inadequacy. Often they have been struggling with those problems for years. They are people in **PAIN**.

Changes That Heal, the video series beginning in July, teaches that there are biblical solutions for your struggles with depression, anxiety, panic, addictions, guilt, and that these solutions lie in your understanding certain basic developmental tasks. These tasks involve growing up into the "likeness" of the one who created you.

Dr. Cloud, the presenter, says that because we live in a fallen world, we all have deficits. Transforming the effects of the fall and growing in the image of God is not an easy task. But God has promised that the "good work" he began in us, He will carry "on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Phil. 1:6).

Please join us Tuesday nights for this powerful video series.

prayer requests

Please pray for Phil Hobizal as he travels to Ecuador. There is a great need for ministry to the sexually broken, and Phil has been given the opportunity to help make this happen.

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Pray for Kermit, Ellen, Willis, Drew, and Katie as they finish the Upper Room Leadership Program and begin to utilize those things God has shown them over the past year. Also, pray God will open the doors for 4 more interns to come and be a part of the second year's Upper Room Program.

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We continue our plans to print the *Taking Back Ground* workbook as well as develop more resources for those struggling. Pray for continued generous donations to Portland Fellowship.

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.

june calender

june 3; july1
Board Meeting

june 14; july 12
*Parents, Spouses, Family,
and Friends support group.*
7 p.m.

june 4, 11, 18, 25
Open Group Meetings
Come and learn more about
Portland Fellowship. 7 p.m.

june 14 - 24
Phil Hobizal in Ecuador

june 6
Intern Farewell Meal

july 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Changes that Heal
Summer video series. Open to all.
Please join us, 7 p.m.

july 29-30
Director's Day - Exodus N.A.
Phil and Jason will be attending

*Check website for additional updates
throughout the month.*