



**PORTLAND**  
fellowship

**Dear Fellowship Partners,**

**update** december 2006

My staff and I love the ministry God has given us to do at Portland Fellowship. We humbly acknowledge that without your friendship and support, this work would be much more taxing. Because of your gracious giving, each of us are able to fulfil God's call on our lives and minister to those with genuine needs for sexual and relational healing. As the Christmas season approaches, each of us would like to share a few words with you.

**catherine chapman** women's ministry director

Greetings from the Chapman Family! We love vacations and this holiday season. We have two trips planned, one with friends to Mt. Hood, another just the three of us exploring Victoria, BC, for a week. In these times away we are able to reconnect with each other and with our Lord as we delight in the beauty of His creation. I am continuously humbled by the fact that while God didn't have to surround us with beauty, and He chose to lavish His love on us through the grandeur of this world. We pray that you too will experience His glory this season through the love of people as well as through the gift of His beauty in the created world.

**jim thompson** internship manager

If Pat and I were to circulate one of those newsy Christmas letters, it would be mostly book reviews. Whether it's advancing years or what, much of our adventure this past year has been through reading. Our evening fare has included great novels, mysteries, documentaries, poetry, and plenty of English comedy. We look forward to a book study group each month, and hold our own with some pretty fanatical book-lovers. But there are things more important than reading – yes! It will be no surprise that we look forward to celebrating Christmas with all of our family – with special attention to the grandchildren. (And a new granddaughter – to be born into our youngest sons' family – is expected to arrive in time for the holidays.) God has blessed us in many ways this past year, not least of which is coming to know so many in the PF family. We pray for you much joy as you celebrate the coming of our good and gracious Lord Jesus.



**drew berryessa** ministry assistant

Merry Christmas! This year my wife Suzanne and I will be celebrating our third Christmas season as man and wife, and our first as mom and dad to our beautiful baby girl Elaina Grace. She brings so much joy to our lives, and is truly the greatest gift we could ever have been given. This season will bring a lot of traveling for us, as our families are 3 and 6 hours away, respectively, and the new experience of traveling with a six-month old has us both wondering if renting a U-Haul for the season would make our lives a bit easier. (It is amazing how someone so small can have so much luggage!) As I watch my daughter experience her first Christmas this year, I am grateful to all who support this ministry. Without your generosity, we would not be able to offer as effectively, hope and healing to those who come here for help. May God richly bless you this Christmas season as you have blessed so many others!

**steve baliko** hiv/aids support; internship assistant

Darla and I have had a fantastic 2006! Much of this year has been spent getting ready for our wedding, and now enjoying the wonderful gift from God which is marriage. Throughout the past 12 months we have seen God richly bless us and remind us of the incredible wealth of relationships has given us in friends and family.

“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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As we prepare to share our first Christmas together, we are reminded about how much of our Christian walk involves waiting and anticipating the work of God in and around us. Just as getting ready for marriage was amazing and difficult, so also we will have great days and tumultuous times as we seek His face. May all of us rest in the strength that God provides as we follow Him through seasons both familiar and foreign. Our Lord Jesus Christ brings us new life in the form of a faith that grows and always invites us to move closer to Him.

and myself, **jason thompson**

I just came back from a standing appointment with my three-year old son, Trevor. We get our hair cut together every month or so, and as we walked out of the Kidz Cutz Shop he says, "Thanks daddy for taking time from your work to get our hairs cut together". My heart simply melted with joy and gratitude. As Amy drove off with a wink and a smile, I headed back to the office, and was reminded once again how blessed I am to have a wonderful family *and* be able to serve in this powerful life-changing ministry.

There are many who come to mind when I think of our personal supporters, friends, and encouragers. I am grateful for those who take time from their lives to send a note of encouragement, or give generously a portion of what God has given them. Specifically, I am thankful for a friendship with a family from Seattle. Your prayers and gifts are invaluable. I am thankful to those individuals who have invested in PF since the beginning years - your faithfulness is an example to us all. I'm thankful for the many churches that include us in the missions giving and not just with a check that goes out each month, but a real love that reminds us that we are not alone in this work. And I'm I am thankful for the offerings that are given by the men and women that I have never even personally met. You are all amazing. My staff thanks you, my family thanks you, and I thank you.



Executive Director

Please consider Portland Fellowship as prepare your year-end giving. Many thanks!

**to the following churches and organizations who invited us to share this year, we thank you...**

- Trinity Fellowship
- Multnomah Bible College
- Southwest Hills Baptist Church
- KPDQ Radio
- Hillside Christian Fellowship
- George Fox University
- AWARE
- Rolling Hills Community Church
- Harvest Community Church
- Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
- Chinese Baptist Center
- Stone Church – Yakima WA
- Foursquare High School Camp
- Living Waters – Medford OR
- Pregnancy Resource Center
- Oregon Church Of God
- Liberty Ridge

If you are interested in a staff member or intern coming to your church or group, please give us a call.

### thanks

to Doug and Laurie, thank you for the use of your cabin to work on our curriculum

to the churches and individuals who continue to support PF with their finances, prayers and encouragement. We are enabled in our efforts because of your gifts.

### prayer

for each of our staff members - that they will be refreshed this Christmas break.

for the *Taking Back Ground* participants - Pray all will be safe during their month off and they will all return for the second section beginning January.

for those in our friends and family group. In the midst of this season, pray that they would find peace and joy beyond the pain of broken relationships.

for the leaders of the *Taking Back Ground*, that they would get good rest during the break between sessions.

**portland fellowship** is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 nondenominational organization. We are exclusively supported through private donations, support services, and offerings. Thank you for your gifts.

### december calender

#### december 6

*Multnomah Bible College*  
Speaker: Jason Thompson

#### december 9

*Leadership Appreciation Dinner*  
PF staff will serve a special dinner to our Taking Back Ground Leadership Team. 6 p.m.

#### december 5 & 12

*Open Group*  
To learn about Portland Fellowship or to hear from men and women walking in freedom, come to our open group. 7 p.m.

#### december 18

*Family and Friends Group*  
If you have a loved one involved in homosexuality and want guidance, encouragement and support, *Third Monday of each month: 7 p.m.*

#### december 19

*TBG Christmas potluck and games*  
Those involved with Portland Fellowship are welcome to join us for an evening of food and games. *Evening begins at 7 p.m.*

Check website for additional updates at [www.portlandfellowship.com](http://www.portlandfellowship.com)