



The Bible Students Retirement Center

Fairview, OR • SPRING 2023

Chairman's Message

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore." (Psalms 133:1-3)

Not only do we as brethren of the Lord dwell in unity of thought and spirit, but at the Bible Students Retirement Center an added blessing is the physical closeness from which we benefit. For this we continually give thanks to our heavenly Father for founding and sustaining the BSRC.

An unusual snowfall hit us on December 23rd, causing some tree damage, but we were spared serious property damage and meals were delivered to the residents for two days.

The Winter Newsflash, distributed to the OldRon mailing list in February, contained a brief account of the Christmas and New Year's activities and blessings. This Newsletter provides more details.

The Board and residents wished a hearty and blessed welcome to both Br. Terry Meyer (from California) and Br. James Black (from Portland, OR). Terry arrived in October 2022 and James in December 2022.

In addition to the upcoming convention of the Associated Bible

Students of Portland on June 17-18, the Portland Area Bible Students will host their convention at the BSRC for the first time on August 19-20, 2023. It is with joy and anticipation that we at the BSRC welcome our brethren to worship in convention under our roof.

Br. David Christiansen finished his course on December 4, 2022, after an extended illness. David and his wife Joanna were regular supporters of the BSRC over the years. He also served as a Board member from 2008-2013. His late mother, Sr. Beverly Christiansen, was a resident at the BSRC for several years. Br. David will be missed, and we extend our condolences to Sr. Joanna.

With the BSRC nearing 40 years of operation, the infrastructure continues to need maintenance and upkeep. The Planning and Construction report will provide information concerning the latest projects going

on at the Center. Admissions and available units will also be addressed in this Newsletter.

The Spring Board meeting was held February 23-24 via Zoom.

The June Board meeting will be held onsite on June 14-15. The BSRC Annual Membership meeting will be held in person and via Zoom at the BSRC on Friday, June 16. All BSRC Members are invited to attend. Members will be sent an email with the Zoom link two weeks before the meeting. If you would like to receive an email with the Zoom link and we do not have your email address on file, please notify Membership Chair Tami Wesol at ttwesol@comcast.net.

Respectfully submitted,
Br. Michael Costelli, Board Chairman



A HELPING HAND

We know many brethren are on fixed, limited incomes, but the Lord provides for His own. Due to the generosity of others, special arrangements are available for brethren with limited income and assets. We currently have one unit in C-Building available for the subsidy – a studio for a single brother or sister. Qualifying residents pay 20% of their income towards their rental payment. For example, a brother or sister with a monthly income of \$1,000 could rent a studio unit at a cost to them of \$200/month (20% of \$1,000). For those seeking subsidy, please be aware that only certain units qualify. To qualify for a

subsidized rental arrangement, an applicant:

- must not own any real property (house or land)
- must not have fixed or liquid assets in excess of \$20,000 (if a single person) or in excess of \$25,000 (if a couple).
- must not have sold, traded or given away any real property for less than fair market value within the last 2 ½ years.

If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact the Admissions chair, Nannette Nekora. All inquiries will be held in strictest confidence.

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Planning and Construction

FEBRUARY 2023

Our roofing project is now complete! We started this project in the summer of 2020 with Buildings A & B, along with some remedial roof work on the Main House. In the fall of 2022, using the same contractor, Buildings C, F and H were completed.

We are pleased to announce that the stairway on the South end of Building C has now been extensively rebuilt by our Handyman, Br. Tim Sochacki. Using pressure treated lumber for durability, he added a new center stringer support, replaced existing stringers, added support posts and risers to every step, and extended the concrete landing. It looks good and will last many years.

One section of the paved walkway around the Center had experienced some root damage, requiring approximately 300 sq. ft. of asphalt be removed and repaved. Sr. Arleen Battaglia, our Operations Manager, solicited bids to have that done and the Planning and Construction committee approved a local contractor for the job. The area repaired is much improved.

While maintaining the underground irrigation system, Br. Tim discovered that the main 2" supply valve feeding the entire irrigation system was leaking. Replacing the valve meant shutting off the water supply and draining all the water from the entire complex. To streamline the process and reduce the risk of contamination, Br. Tim coordinated with residents Br. Jim Tower and Br. Bill Facker to isolate each building by closing each of their respective main shutoff valves. This allowed the water to be "held" in each building until after the valve was replaced. The main supply line was then opened and flushed before each building's isolation valve was opened. The contractor commented to Sr. Arleen that the effort of our brethren greatly reduced the time to drain the system and minimized the downtime. The job was completed in one day.

"Through whom all the body, being rightly formed and united together, by the full working of every part, is increased to the building up of itself in love." Eph. 4:16 (BBE)

Br. Ed Heidelberg
Planning & Construction Committee Chair

Welcome to Our Newest Residents



Br. Terry Meyer

Br. Terry Meyer arrived on Friday afternoon, October 28. He previously lived in a remote area of northern California for 34 years. He and his late wife, Sr. Carlene, traveled to conventions and visited brethren over the years. He is very excited to be living at the Center and will be an asset with his helpful and friendly manner. On November 19 the Center hosted a Meet and Greet so that all the residents were able to get acquainted with Br. Terry.



Br. James Black

Br. James Black is the son of Br. Jerry Black and the late Sr. Judith Black. He joined the Navy right out of high school and served six years. While in college after leaving the Navy, he was seriously injured when a speeding police car crashed into his car while Br. James was stopped at a traffic light. He consecrated after recovering and eventually worked at The Dawn. He finds the BSRC a safe, loving, and trusting environment. A Meet and Greet was held February 11.

BSRC Belts Out Yuletide Cheer

It had been over two years since a Christmas celebration that included guests was held at the BSRC and the brethren were in no mood to let an opportunity slip away, especially since the Retirement Center had reopened to visitors in May 2022. December came and everybody was anticipating the “trifecta” of events that would usher in the season. These were Sr. Kathy Brooks’s Candlelight Dinner, the Christmas Eve Open House, and the BSRC Christmas dinner. And the people came... brethren from within and outside the BSRC, their spouses, their children and their grandchildren. This was the best gathering of brethren in a long time.

The first event was the Candlelight Dinner hosted by Sr. Kathy Brooks. Approximately fifty-four brethren attended and feasted on scrumptious chicken marsala, followed by a Christmas musicale in the chapel. The singing, under the direction of Br. Nathan Austin, consisted of solos, duets, and choral groups with

interspersed scripture readings. The singing made those walls reverberate, something that hasn’t happened in over two years!

The Christmas Eve Open House consisted of a standing-room-only crowd that gathered in the dining room to sing selected carols and enjoy a light meal afterwards. Br. Russ Wojcik gave a history of each carol and the sometimes peculiar circumstances that made the song so prominent. For example, many brethren were surprised to find out that *Joy to the World* was not originally written to be a Christmas song but rather to herald the second coming of the Lord. The author, Isaac Watts, wrote this song in 1719 and based it on the 98th Psalm. In 1839, Lowell Mason adapted and arranged this song into a melody. Is it any wonder that *Joy to the World* (Hymn 144) is set apart from the Christmas songs (Hymns 345-350) in our hymn book?

Christmas Day started out with a noontime presentation of Handel’s

Messiah - The Biblical Message behind the Masterpiece. This video was seen in the chapel, carried over the internet via Zoom, and viewed over the closed-circuit TV channel 981/982 at the BSRC. At 1:30 p.m., the brethren gathered in the dining room where Br. Dan Wojcik gave an overview analysis of the passages of Handel’s *Messiah* that pertained to the annunciation and birth of our Lord. A dinner, cooked by Sr. Janet Wojcik, consisting of prime rib and all the fixings, was served and enjoyed by all who attended. The enthusiasm of the brethren in celebrating this season, along with the camaraderie displayed, made for a memorable occasion for the brethren. Yes, Yuletide Cheer was belted out with all the enthusiasm that comes at this time of the year!



Candlelight Dinner



Christmas Eve Open House



Annual
Membership Meeting
to be held via Zoom
on June 16, 2023



Handel’s Messiah &
Christmas Dinner



Admissions Report

Occupancy

We are so pleased to have welcomed two new brethren to the BSRC complex since the summer of 2022. Br. Terry Meyer from Georgetown, CA [Sacramento Ecclesia] moved into Unit F-9 at the end of October. Br. James Black from Tualatin, OR [Associated Portland Ecclesia] moved into Unit C-5 in the early part of December.

Trial Visit

If you think you might be interested, we invite you to come to the Center for a trial visit. You may come for one to two weeks. The purpose of the trial visit is for you to get a good feel for what life is like at the Center, try out a unit, and decide if the Center is right for you. Such a visit also gives you an opportunity to meet the Resident Community, and for them to meet and fellowship with you. The lodging for the trial visit will be at no cost to you. We will also include a free noon meal Monday to Friday during your stay. You'll also be able to try out your own kitchen to prepare your breakfasts and other meals while at the Center during the trial visit.

BSRC Complex

All the BSRC units are in a gated community, which includes a quarter-mile walking path. The Main House sits at the center of the property and is a gathering place and often a hub of activity. It includes the commercial-style kitchen and the dining room where BSRC employees prepare and serve the main meal at noon, Monday to Friday. The Chapel or meeting room is part of the Main House Complex for meetings of both area Ecclesias.

Waiting List

For any of you who are interested in moving to the Center in the future, think about having your name put on our waiting list. Refer to our website to see the types of units and their floor plans. When a unit becomes available, we will contact you. Having your name on the Waiting List does not commit you to moving to the Center.

Contact

Sr. Nannette Nekora, Admissions Chair
Email: npnkora@aol.com
Telephone: (310) 454-5248.



Sunset at the BSRC

AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY

- ✿ **F-Building: 2 bedroom** / Full kitchen with dishwasher / 1 full bath / \$791 per month / Second Floor / 1,090 sq. ft. unfurnished / Open concept Living-Dining Room with vaulted ceiling / Separate laundry room / Large private balcony with lovely view of the landscaped courtyard / All on one level / Access to unit via our new elevator or stairs
- ✿ **F-Building: Studio** / Private kitchen / full bath / \$444 per month / Second Floor / 500 sq. ft. unfurnished / Access to shared washer & dryer on the same level / Private balcony with view of the courtyard / Access to unit via our new elevator or stairs
- ✿ **C-Building: Studio** / Private Kitchen / full bath / \$405 per month / Second Floor / 500 sq. ft. unfurnished / Access to shared washer & dryer on the same level / Private small balcony / Access to unit via our new elevator or stairs / Unit qualifies for reduced rent depending on your financial situation

Be sure to view the BSRC Video
at the following private YouTube link
(which we ask should only be shared with brethren)
<https://youtu.be/CgVp7TIYnj0>

NEW WEBSITE ACCESS

Web address:
www.TheBSRC.org

NEW password:
[The year of our Lord's Return]

This website is a private site only for brethren. Please do not share the password with someone outside the brotherhood or on social media.

Call us with your
questions & comments

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