

February 2015

Good Tidings

Monthly Newsletter of Pioneer Bible Church

“God Always Had His Hand On Me”

A Tribute to Herb Jahn

Herbert Albert Jahn was born March 18, 1923 in Grossbreitenbach, Germany. Seven months after his birth, his mother left for America and left Herb to be raised by his aging grandparents. For 15 years his loving grandparents gave him all that a small-town, country life could offer, and he loved it! His grandmother, Lydia, took him to church and taught him the Lord's Prayer, which he would recite in German every night, just as he was taught. When his grandmother died in December 1937 at age 74, Herb's Aunt Rosa and Uncle Lorenz took him to the American Consulate in Hamburg to try to get him out of the country, to America. Herb explained, "The Jewish people saw the writing on the wall and had gotten all the lower exit numbers in order to leave Germany." The first number issued to Herb by the US Consulate wouldn't have gotten him out of the country in less than two years, and he likely would have ended up drafted into the German army. Herb's Uncle Lorenz wrote many letters on his behalf, and was able to get him a lower exit number. Within 6-months, Herb was off to America!

He sailed out of Hamburg on the S.S. *New York* on June 16, 1936 at the age of just 15, speaking no English. Eight days later he reunited with his mother Klara, at the port of New York, for the first time since she left Germany. He attended high school in America, graduating in 1942. He became a clerk in a small grocery store, making deliveries to big estates all over Long Island.

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HERB JAHN IN 1944

*Happy
Valentines
Day*

Honoring the Sanctity of Life

Ronald Reagan issued a presidential proclamation on January 16, 1984 designating Sunday, January 22, 1984, National Sanctity of Human Life Day. He noted that it was the 11th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade* which guaranteed a woman's right to access to abortion.

In 2015, the observance fell on January 18, although here at PBC we recognized the event the following Sunday. Our church has made promoting the concept that life is a sacred gift from our Creator a priority. In 2014, PBC was among the top ten financial supporters to the Pregnancy Counseling Center on Main Street in Placerville.

The Pregnancy Counseling Center is an institution that touches the lives of women at their moments of greatest need. 195 women had 571 appointments at the center in 2014, and 108 clients sought other resources. The center distributed 1,089 bags of diapers and 33 baby baskets.

This month, PBC will be bringing you more ways you can help support this important institution. Even the

kids can get involved! Our children in the Awana program will be earning "Awana bucks" for scripture memorization and good behavior.

***Thou art our Father;
We are the clay, and
Thou our potter; and
all of us are the work
of Thy hand.***

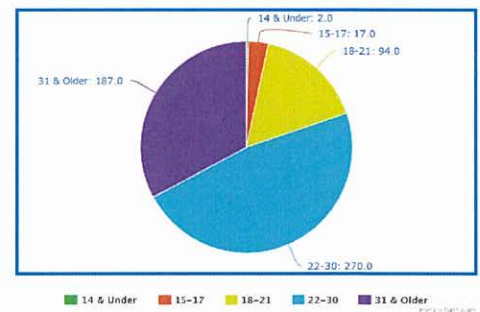
- Isaiah 64:8, NASV

They can then spend their bucks at the Awana store to fill a basket with diapers and products that will help a woman facing an unplanned pregnancy. You can contribute to this wonderful program with financial donations (made out to the Awana store), or with gifts of new, high-quality childcare products. If you would like to assemble a baby-basket yourself, see the office for a list of items to be included. Consider adding a handwritten note of encouragement. Short on time? Packages of diapers are also always welcome!



The PCS facility on Main Street

Who Does PCS Serve? Ages of Women Seeking Services



Time to Get Fit!



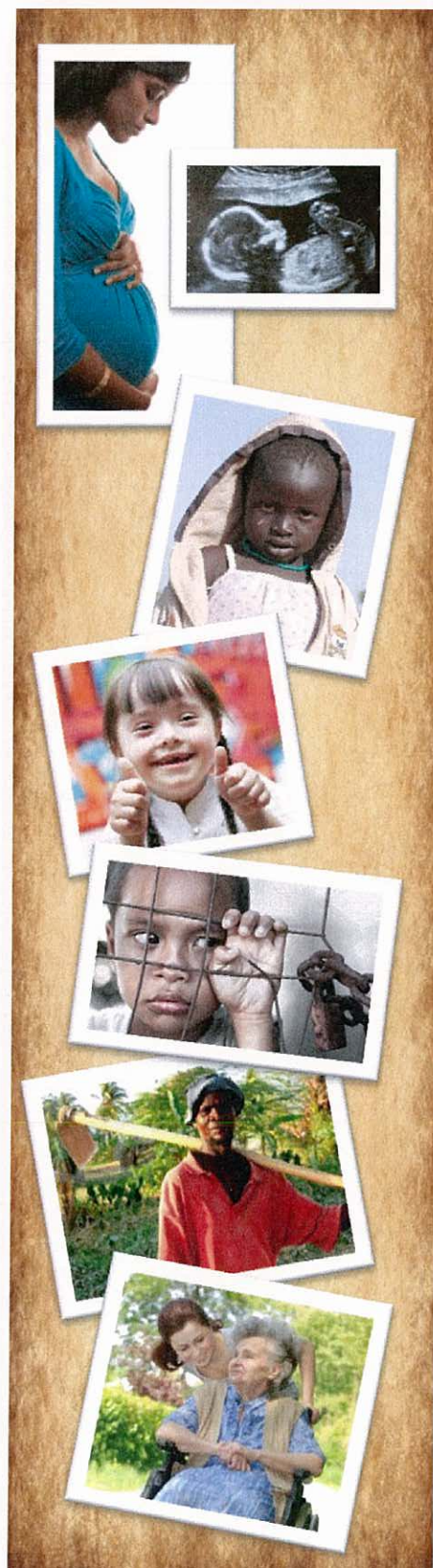
Looking for help keeping that New Year's Resolution to lose weight and get into shape? Try Sandie Hanson's new book, *Ketones Aren't From Motown: A Weight Loss Success Story*. This book packs solid advice and healthy recipes into a fun, easy-to-understand volume, which is available on iTunes, Barnes and Noble, Amazon, and Smashwords.

Sandie writes, "If you're like me, you want to lose your extra pounds with the least amount of effort. I don't have a magic pill, but I have found a way to lose fat and keep it off without feeling deprived. I am happy to share my story and if it helps you achieve your goal, then it makes my success story even sweeter."

Several people from our church have already read this book, and are applying its principles for a healthier 2015. Let's congratulate Sandie on her first book!

Six Ways to Make an Impact for LIFE

BeA*Voice*.net



Ideas for honoring LIFE at different stages

Unplanned Pregnancy

Women facing unexpected pregnancies need our love and support—not our judgment. Pledge to help a struggling mother by first caring for her needs, then helping her to see that the child growing within her has a life as valuable as her own. Connect with a local pregnancy center to learn how you might be able to serve women and children in your community! Visit www.OptionLine.org and enter your ZIP code to find a center near you.

Orphan Care

Every child deserves to belong to a forever family and each of us has our own role to play in caring for His children. We are not all called to adopt, but we are all called to *care* for orphans. You reflect the heart of God when you are a voice for orphaned children. Visit www.iCareAboutOrphans.org to learn more about how to care for orphans and children in foster care as well as adoptive families in your community.

Special Needs

Embrace those with special needs as a unique reflection of the image of our Creator. See those around you as God sees them—a special part of His great plan. To learn more about resources and action opportunities, visit www.JoniAndFriends.org, www.JillsHouse.org, and www.CampBarnabas.org.

Human Trafficking

Be a vigilant voice against the indignities of human trafficking and the demoralization of innocent men, women and children. Don't be silent in the face of injustice—be their voice! Visit International Justice Mission for ways you can mobilize your church for justice: www.ijm.org. Find more good info at www.iEmpathize.org and <http://sharedhope.org>.

Poverty

Help those who lack food, medicine and clean water. Volunteer, donate and rally others to be a voice for those less fortunate and heed Jesus' call to "go forth and do likewise" by caring for those who desperately need your help. Contact a local rescue mission, soup kitchen or Salvation Army center to learn how you can help. For global actions visit www.WorldVision.org and www.PovertyCure.org.

Elderly

Come alongside the elderly person who is lonely and in need of a friend. Pledge to show kindness to them as though they were part of your own family. Contact a local care center that cares for the elderly to see if your family and friends could come in and sing for them, spend time hearing their life stories, bring your pet for a short visit or take patients for a short walk in a wheelchair to get some fresh air. Find more ideas and training at www.CrossroadsUSA.org.

In March of 1943, Herb volunteered to join the US Army. He was assigned to the language division of the Army Special Training Program at the University of Washington where he lived in the DKE Fraternity House. For six months Herb studied the Korean language. It wasn't until Herb's commanding officer reviewed his service record that he realized Herb spoke fluent German. He was transferred to the German language program at Oregon State College. It was there he first met Elizabeth "Betty" Woodward, who would become his wife of 53 years.



From Oregon State, Herb was moved into the 70th Division. In April of 1944 this division was sent to the Saap Basin to clear the German troops out of Hagenau and other small towns, including Phillipsburg. Eventually Herb ended up in the Vosges Mountains, a small mountain range which runs along the French-German border. The following is a true story, written by Herb himself:

Sergeant Tally had come by the fox hole I was in and we talked about my previous patrols of a hill top. I told the sergeant I noticed some fox holes and asked him if anyone had reconnoitered over the top of this hill to see if there were Germans. The sergeant said he didn't know, and in the next breath, said "Why don't we go up there and take a look?" These hills were like any other hills, but at some points would rise about ten feet straight up and then be flat, like a table top. I climbed out of my fox hole, and Sgt. Tally and I both approached the rise trying to find a path that would take us to the top. We found a path, and Sgt. Tally was ahead of me as we climbed and moved over to another path, making it to the edge of that table top. Sgt. Tally was kneeling down perusing the area. I had slipped on the path and was still climbing. I heard a shot and saw Sgt. Tally hunker down and fall forward. I looked from where I was and saw German steel helmets bobbing all over the place in their holes. All I could do was get to him at the edge of that table top and reach up to pull him down. I opened his shirt, and there was a little blue hole right where he heart was, and I knew he was dead. That shot alerted the other soldiers and they all got out of their holes and climbed to see what happened. There was a collection of probably 10 guys around me and Sgt. Tally's body, and before you know it, a German machine gun opened up on the hill and shot directly at our hill from the bottom. The German machine gun sheltered in the brush at the bottom kept firing into the hillside and it cost three other lives. When that happened, I tried to make myself as small as possible under the lip—there was a sort of a lip under that table top. The mistake the Germans made was firing tracer bullets. I saw these tracer bullets come inches above me. Why they never hit me, I don't know. But as they came even closer, I made a dash for a hole and jumped in. There was another fellow in there that I didn't know, but I jumped in anyway. Because they were using tracer bullets from their machine guns, we could see they were originating down in the brush at the bottom and opposite the hill. Just about every guy in a fox hole fired at that particular point, and before you know it, the machine guns stopped. We could hear a German moaning; that guy moaned all afternoon. I almost felt sorry for him, because we had many Germans come out of their holes with their hands up, saying, 'Nein! Nein! Und Kinder!'" ("No! No! I have children!") There was a rumor going around that the Americans were trying to give themselves up to the Germans, and the Germans shot them, opened fire on them, which meant our guys were trying to do the same thing. But we were always told not to shoot them if they came out with their hands up. It was against the law."

Herb said his feet felt like lumps of clay that he had to purposely move as he marched back. He had been in the cold and snow for so long, his feet

and legs were severely damaged from frostbite. He was taken to a makeshift hospital in Plymouth, England, which consisted of several Quonset huts. The skin on his legs and feet turned black and his veins looked like road maps. Herb said some of the other soldiers looked on and made bets which toe would fall off next.

Herb was transferred to, then released from, a hospital in North Carolina in 1945. While in France, Herb and Betty had written to each other whenever possible, and renewed their friendship when he returned to America. He came back to Oregon, where the Army was closing and dismantling camp Adair where he had trained. German prisoners from the Africa Corps were loading what was left of the camp in freight cars. The colonel in charge of this project was not satisfied with those who were supervising the prisoners, and put Herb in charge. "I treated them as human beings," Herb remembered. "I bought them cigarettes and coffee, and noticed the production went up."



Herb in Bischweiler, France, Christmas Day 1944

After discharge, Herb went to art school in San Francisco. While in art school he received several awards for his designs, and won an art contest arranged through a major retail store for his design on the theme "California." Herb was hired in 1946 by Pacific Bell as an artist in the directory (phone book) department for six years, then became Art Director and then part of management. From there, he was promoted to sales manager of a crew selling advertising for the Yellow Pages, then promoted again to manager of a department which had six supervisors and covered payroll for 350 men and women. Herb noticed that most of the promotions were taking place in the sales department, so he applied to move from Production to Sales. He got the position and was made manager on a sales crew for the San Francisco directory, which Herb said "... was the toughest book to sell in our circuit." Herb received the "perpetual trophy" for top sales there. He retired from Pacific Bell in 1981, after a career lasting 35 years.

Herb and Betty were married on April 4, 1946, at Oregon State College and spent 53 happy years together. In 1981 they moved from San Bruno to a home they built themselves here in Somerset, where they both lived out their last days.

After Betty passed away in 1999, Herb met Gisela Barranger through a friend. Gisela had lost her husband Paul the same year as Herb had lost Betty, and Herb's friend decided to "get these two Germans together." It was a match. They were friends for 12 years before being married by Pastor Rob Langford on June 1, 2012.

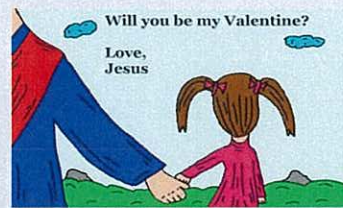


Herb passed away at his Somerset home on January 17, 2015. His memorial service was held at Pioneer Bible Church on Saturday, January 24 at 11:00 am. Pastor Rob Langford officiated. He is survived by his granddaughter Denise Rich, friend and caregiver Nicky Walker, and wife Gisela.

Sweet on Valentine's Day

Each year on February 14, people exchange cards, candy, flowers and kisses in celebration of God's gift of romantic love. This day of romance was named in honor of a 5th century Christian martyr, Saint Valentine. Many of the current legends surrounding him became popular in 14th century England, notably by Geoffrey Chaucer and his circle, when his feast day first became associated with lovers. The skull of St. Valentine

is on display in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Rome.



However, the celebration has roots in an earlier, pre-Roman era pastoral festival called *Lupercalia*, which was held every February from the 13th through the 15th. *Lupercalia* itself superseded an earlier holiday, *Februa*-- the holiday of spring cleaning-- from which the month takes its name!

Mountain Creek Middle School Band Uniform Drive

Have your children outgrown their old dress clothes? Why not donate them to the Mountain Creek Middle School's band program? The school is collecting new or gently used boys or girls collared dress shirts (in white or black), black dress pants, and black dress shoes. Sizes should range from older children's sizes to adult small. Garment bags would also be welcome. You can drop them off, clean and in a plastic bag, at the church office, or at Mountain Creek Middle School's office, Union Mine High School band room, or Sabado School of Music. If you have any questions, direct them to ssabado@pioneer.k12.ca.us, or our own Esther Dawson.

Forward Bible Camp Chapel Project



The chapel where kids meet to worship at FBC has been in dire need of remodel for some time. Partial demolition began on January 31st. The building will be given a new floor. In addition the floor plan of the structure will be altered so that in place of a long, narrow orientation with the stage at the far side of the entrance, the focus of the building will change so that fewer, longer rows of seats face the stage against a wide wall of the building, increasing seating capacity.



Bill & Nancy on their Wedding Day

February Wedding Anniversaries Of Twenty Years or More

Bob & Pat Mann- 45 years
Bill & Nancy Mack- 43 years
Jim & Wille June Eggert- 34 years
Jack & Jane Fraim- 34 years