

February 29, 2008

Pray4Alhambra@juno.com
Alhambra@KingdomCauses.org

www.KingdomCauses.org

kingdom  causes

Alhambra



Church Pastor of the month:

Pastor Donald Smith, Senior Pastor of The Grace Place (Alhambra Seventh-Day Adventist Church). He is passionate about partnering together for God's purposes in Alhambra, he is a bridge builder in Alhambra and is leading the Grace Place church in being a blessing to the city. The Grace Place has a community center open to the public that provides clothes, food and other necessities for those in need. He is also a fan of the Oakland Raiders (please don't hold that against him).

Alhambra Fact of the Month

Did you know that Alhambra has a retreat center?

The Sacred Heart Retreat Center provides a place of peace, prayer and refuge for people to come closer to God in the midst of the city. The Retreat House is directed by the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles, who follow the way of prayer, sacrifice and love.



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Our **MISSION** is to be catalysts that *inspire, connect and mobilize* people toward personal and community transformation by bringing God's hope, love and shalom to all in the city of Alhambra.

Our **VISION** is to see Alhambra transformed as God's people live out the Great Commission in Alhambra and as people of good faith and people of good will work together for city transformation; to see God's Kingdom come to Alhambra as it is in Heaven.

Inspiring people to pray for Alhambra, to have a Kingdom paradigm and to share stories of what God is doing in Alhambra

We pray together: "God's Kingdom come, God's will be done in Alhambra as it is in Heaven"

Matthew 6:10. Pray 4 Alhambra **February 2008** Prayer focus: **Homes/Families.**

Prayer points are distributed to every Alhambra Church monthly in English, Chinese & Spanish and can be downloaded @ www.kingdomcauses.org/alhambra



Love is stronger than Death

Love is stronger than death... a powerful statement. Jesus died on the cross for love—His love for humanity and desire to sacrifice on our behalf. He died to show His love which conquered death. Death did not and never does have the final word. Jesus demonstrated to us that love is stronger than death and love conquers all.

As we live in Alhambra—how do we make this belief a reality? Sometimes we overcome with our circumstances; we feel defeated and overwhelmed, wanting to give up. But death does not have the last word. Love always prevails.

Let us stand together for love. No matter what the circumstance, let us choose to love. When people use words of hate, let us love. When we feel abandoned, made fun of, homeless, forgotten, weary, desperate, lost, forsaken, like victims or failures, like giving up—remember the LOVE always prevails. We chose to love—to love others, ourselves, and our city even when it is difficult to do so. Love is patient, love is kind, it is not self-serving, it always hopes, perseveres. Love can bring transformation to Alhambra. Let us live to love our city by looking at our neighbors with kindness, by offering help to those in need, by smiling as a token of love. Love is always stronger than death. Let us choose to love.

Connecting the Church and engaging the Church and City

All are invited to the 2008 Alhambra
Multi-Church **Good Friday** Service

Friday, March 21, 2008 @ 7:30pm

Host Church: The Grace Place

(Alhambra Seventh-Day Adventist Church)

Senior Pastor – Rev. Donald Smith 220 S. Chapel Avenue

Alhambra, CA 91801 626/289-6137 **Free children's program (ages 4-11)**



"Love is stronger than death"

Romans 8:31-39 ...Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? ... For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The service will include: musical presentations, reflections, worship in a variety of expressions, art exhibit, time to fellowship with those from different Alhambra churches.

Prayer requests:

- For a volunteer coordinator to oversee the delegation of work and unity/team building among the many volunteers.
- For a part-time/full-time associate catalyst to share in the visionary/leadership work of KCA.
- For full funding, more partnership from local churches, businesses and individuals.
- For BELIEVE mentoring program—for our mentor trainings and for matching of mentors/students.
- For the Good Friday service to be a diverse reflection of the churches of Alhambra.
- For every home in Alhambra to be blessed.

Upcoming Events:

- **Prayer Walk**— please come join us as we prayer walk downtown Alhambra, asking for God's blessings and love for Alhambra on Palm Sunday, March 16, 2008 from 1-2:30 pm.
- **Good Friday Community-wide Service** March 21st 7:30 pm at the Grace Place (Alhambra Seventh-Day Adventist Church), 220 S. Chapel Avenue, Alhambra, 626/289-6137. Everyone is welcome!
- Please check the Kingdom Causes Alhambra home page for a listing of local Alhambra churches Easter Services!
- **Children's Room at the Alhambra Police Department**- We are renovating/re-decorating the children's room that is used as a place of comfort and play for children in sometimes difficult and crisis situations. We have a wish list and we need volunteers. Please let us know if you want to help!

Much to be thankful for There are so many local heroes in Alhambra who are making a difference in their community. It takes just one to make an impact. God's love is being made known in Alhambra through the lives of individuals who love the community through their lives. We want to highlight just some of those local heroes who have put others before self and sought to give to Alhambra, to be a blessing. Kingdom Causes Alhambra gives thanks to God for:

- **Glenn Wong, Alhambra resident**, who volunteered many hours in the KCA office to set up the database of hundreds of volunteers, donors and partners of Kingdom Causes Alhambra. Many thanks Glenn for your hours donated/given to Kingdom Causes Alhambra!!
- **Winnia Lam and the Missions Committee at Alhambra True Light Presbyterian Church** (pictured right) who hosted a breakfast on 3/2 before church services with the monies raised being donated to Kingdom Causes Alhambra and the local work of community transformation. What a creative way to mobilize members of the church to be involved locally. They worked diligently as a team to enlist the help and partnership of the church.
- **Members of First Baptist Church of Alhambra** who have signed up to volunteer with Kingdom Causes Alhambra. Over 30 members of the church have expressed a desire to volunteer in a variety of areas. We are thankful for the generous support and partnership of First Baptist Church and the blessing they are to the community of Alhambra.
- **The newest member of the Kingdom Causes Alhambra Leadership Board: Sharon Gibbs** (Alhambra Chamber of Commerce/Business Outreach). She has outstanding organizations skills and a great eye for detail. She understands the business community and we hope to build good partnership for the good of Alhambra.



Mobilizing people around key Kingdom issues

Please get involved in one of the task forces:

1. **Alhambra Faith Community Emergency Preparedness Task Force**—meets quarterly (3/30, 6/29 and 9/28) on Sundays 3-4:30 pm at Bethany Church. Co-Leaders: Chaplain Phil Hilliard and Chaplain Mary Glenn.
2. **Mental Health Task Force**—Meets 2nd Sunday monthly from 2-4pm; please see website for info. Chair: Dr. Christine Wong. Member of the mental health task force will be facilitating the Alhambra Faith Community Emergency Prep Task Force—offering training on how to care for people spiritually in times of crisis.
3. **Youth Task Force/Believe** mentoring program for at-risk youth; BELIEVE Directors John Lewis and Mary Glenn. If you are interested in being a mentor—please contact us at the Kingdom Causes Alhambra offices.



Kingdom Causes Alhambra Contact Info:

Catalyst Mary Glenn
20 W. Commonwealth Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
626/825-6432 pray4Alhambra@juno.com
www.kingdomcauses.org/alhambra
Kingdom Causes is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit
community mobilizing organization.

How can you partner with Kingdom Causes Alhambra?

Kingdom Causes Alhambra relies on the partnership of the local community to meet its monthly budget which includes staff salaries and local program funds.

The 2008 monthly budget is \$5,498. (Last year we made almost 80% of budget!) We are grateful for individuals, local churches (ATLPC, Bethany Church, Carmel of St. Teresa, Chinese Bible Missions Church, Emmaus Lutheran Church, 1st Baptist Church and 1st United Methodist Church & Foundation) and businesses who have partnered financially.

We are fully operational but 45% funded and we need your partnership to keep this work going.

Would you please consider joining the monthly partner/support team? **Please make checks payable to Kingdom Causes Alhambra.** (To give online: www.kingdomcauses.org/alhambra click on donate). **Thank you!**

\$5,498

\$2,468

Do not think that love, in order to be genuine, has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired. Mother Teresa