

Victory *Christian Ministries* **December 2008-January 2009**



News From Cuba



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Below is an email that we received from Rev. Manuel Delgado Pastor of Iglesia Bautista "Comunidad Cristiana Emanuel."

"Healthy Lunch"

Saturday morning, October 18th, we held a delightful activity with children and young people who were born beginning in the year 1993. The day featured a healthy lunch which focused on avoiding foods which have been treated with chemicals. Youth and adults from the church prepared the food, served tables, and helped the youngest children to eat. This activity was part of the celebration of World Food Day, which was officially held on October 16th. We hope to hold similar activities again, especially during these days following the recent hurricanes, when providing adequate food has been made so difficult. I am attaching some pictures of the lunch.

Greetings,
Manolo

The following is the same email written in Spanish:

Almuerzo saludable

El sábado 18 en la mañana tuvimos una hermosa actividad con los niños/as y juveniles (nacidos a partir del año 1993) que culminó con un almuerzo saludable en el cual se enfatizó en evitar el uso de alimentos tratados químicamente. Jóvenes y adultos de la Iglesia prepararon los alimentos, sirvieron las mesas y ayudaron a los más pequeños/as a llevar los alimentos a la boca, esta actividad sirvió como celebración del Día Mundial de la Alimentación que tuvo como fecha pasado día 16. Esperamos poder realizar actividades como esta nuevamente, principalmente en estos tiempos, después de los recientes huracanes, en los cuales la alimentación se ha hecho más difícil.

Saludos,
Manolo



Latest News...

By: Vladimir Rodríguez Portal

SPECIAL 10th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT OF THE GROUP "EMANUEL"

"SONGS FROM THE HEART"



San José de las Lajas, September 25 – Saturday, September 20, 2008, Group "Emanuel" gave a special concert marking its tenth anniversary.

At this important event, members of the group were accompanied by a youth chorus and a guest pianist. They sang twenty numbers – the most stirring and evangelistic were taken from their three CDs ("Peace I Give to You", "You Want Me to Sing to You", and "Be Still and Listen").

It should be pointed out that the selection of songs – primarily targeted at youth – evidenced a broad range of musical genres. During the performance the audience enjoyed rap, reggae ton, and also ballads, salsa, and bachata. The group regularly experiments with its musical presentations and this was evident in each of its songs.

Despite the heat, the concert was a great success and provided an opportunity for informal dialogue – almost like members of a big family -- between the members of the musical "team" and those attending. Members of the audience joined the group in singing familiar numbers such as "We Have Hope" and even tried some new songs like "Be Still and Listen".

The Lord was present all the time: The three members of Group Emanuel sang, guided by the Holy Spirit. With the Lord's help and the support of the other brothers and sisters, they overcame difficulties often encountered in concerts, putting behind them the hard work of preparation, their fatigue, failures in the sound system, etc. They truly put on an excellent performance which everyone enjoyed and appreciated.

A special and moving moment: Those attending the concert contributed to a special offering for the victims of the Hurricanes Gustav and Ike, reaffirming Philippians 2:13 "for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose". It was an act of love and good will which again made clear how appropriate and important it is to follow the example of Jesus Christ in these tumultuous times.

Group Emanuel is at an important point in its artistic life. After two years without recording a new CD, 2008 saw the members complete a successful national tour and produce their latest CD "Be Still and Listen". In addition, its 10th Anniversary concert was a marvelous musical testimony and demonstrated the group's bold stand as an instrument of God in the spreading of the Gospel. The performance also made clear that musical styles such as rap and reggae ton should in no way be causes of tension in church music. It is truly possible to praise and worship God with this style of music, as these young men do ... because they sing **Songs from the Heart**.

May the members of Group Emanuel have many more years singing to the Lord. God Bless You!

Poetry in Rap

Born in Brooklyn, New York, the youngest of seven children to Puerto Rican parents, Antonio spoke very little English until starting school at age five. By age 15, Antonio and his family moved to California where he attended Dominguez High School in Compton. Upon graduating he joined the Navy and became a world traveler by the age of 21. Recounting his numerous port visits and life experiences he began writing poetry at this time in the form of rap. In 1984, Antonio moved to Tacoma Washington where he became well known for rapping at parties and local radio stations.

In 1993 he obtained a certification from Clover Park Technical College as a Media Specialist. Since then Antonio has produced several documentaries, local television programs for TV Tacoma and KBTC as well as countless PSA's (public service announcements) and promos.

In 1997 Antonio was offered a scholarship to attend one quarter at Tacoma Community College's Bridge Program. The Bridge program is a collaboration between TCC and The Evergreen State College and where Antonio's creativity will meet a Liberal Arts education. Being exposed to more historically accurate information and studying writing styles, Antonio began writing Spoken Word pieces to interpret what he had learned. He was given full credit by his instructors as he applied extensive research, critical

thinking skills, and creative self expression to the materials provided. As a result Antonio's writing evolved and his rap evolved into spoken word. He's written several powerful Spoken Word pieces. In them Antonio addresses life's struggles, Spirituality and Politics. He completed his memoirs in 2003 and graduated from The Evergreen State College Tacoma Campus with a Bachelors of Arts Degree in 2004.

Today Antonio Edwards is one of the areas most sought after Poets. He has been delivering powerful Spoken Word performances in and around Tacoma for the past five years. Venues include but not limited to: Universities, Coffee Shops, Restaurants, Public Schools, Churches, Festivals Cultural Celebrations, Funerals, Birthday Parties, Anniversaries, Bus Stops and Street Corners.

Below is one of his poems:

We represent GOD, when we
walk into a room
Despite of what we've done
Or anything we've consumed
You see, GOD is always ready to
start over
Always ready to re-zoom
Grace and Mercy
For those of us late to bloom
In any and in all directions
Always seeing his face when we
will look at our reflection
The Spirit of the Lord God is
upon me
And because God has anointed
me
I will preach good tidings to the
meek
He has sent me to bind up the

broken hearted
Proclaim liberty to the captive
Open the prison to those who are
bound
More than a conqueror
Lord use my voice as the sound
That made the walls of Jericho
come down
Father I heard you loud and clear
When you said, Son incline your
ear and hear the words of the wise
And apply your mind to my
knowledge
For it will be pleasant if you keep
them within you
Make them ready on your lips
So that your trust may be in the
Lord
I have taught you today
Yes, even you
Have I not given you excellent
words of knowledge and counsel?
Given you the ability to move
mountains with faith that weigh
less than an ounce full
Son and daughters of God why are
you still doubtful
And to those of you
Who I have chosen to keep my
house full
In order to lead, you must first
learn to serve and follow
Otherwise you'll have a congrega-
tion
Who souls are hollow
My job and my career
Those are things I am paid for
Serving God and his people
Is what I was made for
My life through Jesus Christ has
been bought and paid for
So that means
The unfathomable, the unimagin-
able is what's in store
As we all walk through Heavens
gates
And then there will be more.

Antonio Edwards Jr.
2008



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December 2008



January 2009

Tuesday 2nd 6:30 PM

Shilo Inn Tacoma

7414 South Hosmer Tacoma
253-581-6373

Sunday 7th & Monday 8th 7:00 PM

Faith & Vision Ministries

At Lifegate Foursquare Church
307 East Main Street
Auburn 253-850-1300
Pastor Jack Bernard

Cuba Mission Trip Dec 28—Jan 11th

JANUARY

Tuesday 13th 6:30 PM

Shilo Inn Tacoma

7414 South Hosmer
Tacoma 253-581-6373

Cancelled



Sunday 18th 10:00 AM

Rainier Springs

@ Boys & Girls Club 64th & McKinley
Tacoma 253-223-4522
Pastor Bob Clark

Sunday 25th & Monday 26th 7:00 PM

Faith & Vision Ministries

At Lifegate Foursquare Church
307 East Main Street Auburn
253-850-1300 Pastor Jack Bernard

Tuesday 27th 6:45 PM

Hill Residence

5919 Lagoon Lane
Gig Harbor 253-265-6575
Cynthia Hill

Parking is limited

Our office telephone number is #253-581-6373 Office hours Monday—Tuesday 10:00—3:00 pm