



# The Torch

Spring 2011

## New Commitments

### Important Dates

July 1-31	Registration Due \$20.00 fee
Aug. 1	Late Registration \$40.00 fee
Aug. 8-17	Staff Orientation
Aug. 17	Dorms open
Aug. 18	Student Orientation
Aug. 28	Welcome Banquet
Sep. 5	Labor Day Outing
Sep. 8-10	Summer Revivals

To welcome a new brother or sister into the body of Christ through baptism is one of the most joyous experiences a church can have. Spring Vale was blessed to have seven students baptized during this past school year: Alexandria Albert, Hadassah Albert, Sarah Baker, Jordan Bustos, Mariah O'Neal, Zachary Patchen, and Blake Whisman.

Quarterly revival services, a curriculum which focuses on a Biblical worldview, Sabbath School curriculum such as "True U" and "The Truth Project," and the Understanding the Times class, along with morning and evening worship, provide an environment in which young people can learn about Christ and be drawn closer to Him.

The students at SVA have to the opportunity to compare and discuss different worldviews in a Christ centered environment, which helps to equip them with a logical defense for their faith.

Students are also prayed for daily, as well as having the opportunity to discuss spiritual issues with

staff on a one-to-one basis. These seven students, along with those who made a decision to be baptized at home, are a product of a school dedicated to leading young people to Christ and equipping them to be Christian leaders and workers when they graduate.

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Baptism at Hopkins Lake L to R: Zachary Patchen, Omar Mellado, Blake Whisman, Harold Whisman, Pastor Tim Hinds, Colby Hinds, Sarah Baker and Jordan Bustos.

## Honors Club Heads East

Students who were on Honor Roll for two or more quarters this year were invited to attend the Long Honors Trip to Niagara Falls, Canada. Leaving campus before the sun was up, the students piled into vans and began the six hour drive. Accompanying the kids on the trip were John and Amy Marlin and John and Christie Camero. The group arrived at their Canadian hotel in Niagara Falls around 11:00 A.M. and immediately wanted to get started walking around the city.

The first place they visited was the majestic Niagara Falls. The students

were amazed at the beauty of God's creation and His power through the power of the falls. After many photo-ops, the group headed downtown to shop and sight-see. They had lunch at Boston Pizza where they enjoyed pizza and arcade games. The first day ended with a game of glow-in-the-dark mini golf and a Ferris wheel ride with a view of the falls all lit up. The whole crew was ready to hit the hay after the long day, so once everyone got off the Ferris wheel, they drove back to the hotel and were asleep before anyone could say "Go to sleep!"

Breakfast at IHOP energized the group for the day ahead. The Marlins and the Cameros then took the students to Ripley's Believe It or Not, where they were all amazed at the insane things that were displayed there.

Once they left the museum, everyone got back into the vans and began the voyage back to Spring Vale. Although the two-day vacation was over, the students and staff were all very thankful that they were able to experience the wonder and majesty of god's creation. What a wonderful trip to Canada and back!



Back L to R: Mathew Rowden, Ben Noble, Doug Camero, Molly Nienhuis, Evan Schmitz, Devin Caswell, & Zac Patchen.  
Middle L to R: Jaanai Del Toro, Hadassah Albert, Stefanie Kendrick, Emily Curran, Mrs. Christie Camero, Amber Noble, & Taylor Morrow.  
Front L to R: Kyle Schmitz, Amanda Miller, Kyle Brisendine, Rachel Klopfenstein, & Mr. John Camero.  
Seated L to R: Elizabeth Baker & Cathryn Caswell.

## Whirly Ball Anyone?

Early on the morning of May 10<sup>th</sup>, a group of seventeen students went to Ann Arbor, Michigan for the Short Honors trip. The activity was Whirly Ball, which is a combination of lacrosse, bumper cars, and basketball played by two teams of five. All of the students enjoyed bumping each other

around and having a little rivalry with each other and the staff.

While two teams played Whirly Ball, the other students headed off to the arcade to play "Dance Dance Revolution" or watched the current Whirly Ball competition. When time was up at the Whirly Ball

Center, they headed out for lunch at Chipotle for some appetizing Mexican food. The group returned to campus as 5:00 P.M. Everyone had a great time and is looking forward to next year's short honors trip.

## A Dream Come True

This year's Jr./Sr. Banquet was held on May 8th at the Longway Planetarium in Flint, Michigan. Everyone enjoyed the dinner of chicken, roast beef, pasta, and other great food eaten in the area surrounding the planetarium dome. The area was a little dark, but the walls were glowing with planets, constellations, and other cool things you could see at night and in space.

Following the meal, the students and staff went inside the dome for the main program which included the presentation of the Junior Class' gifts to the Seniors, the announcement of the Valedictorian and Salutatorian, which were Seniors Emily Curran and Steven Roman respectively. Also, for the first time, we had a "Jr./Sr. King and Queen". This year's king and queen were Devin Caswell and Liz Baker.

The evening's program

ended with a slideshow put together by one of the Juniors and a light show that was a really awesome experience.

After the banquet, many of the students and staff went cosmic bowling at the Capital Bowl, which was really fun.

The Junior Class and their sponsors worked very hard to make this one of the best banquets ever, and their hard work really paid off. Junior Nate Arend remarked, "Everything

worked out to plan, and I heard from some people that it was the best banquet in a long time. So that's pretty awesome."

Liz Baker, commented, "Jr./Sr. was a blast! The Junior class and their sponsors did a great job at planning a fun-filled evening full of laughter and great memories. Thank you so much Juniors for making my last Jr./Sr. Banquet a night I will never forget!"



Junior Class of 2011



Senior Class of 2011

## "Gillian's Island"

"Just sit right back and enjoy a tale, a tale of a fateful trip. It starts when two young ladies meet, and board Skippie's small ship. It's supposed to be a relaxing tour, but they end up lost at sea. They join a group of castaways, similar to the ones on TV. There's Gillian . . . and the dude, a movie star . . . the billionaires and Carrie Ann . . . all on Gillian's Island." This year's Grad Play was entitled "Gillian's Island" written by Warren Sager.

The Drama Class, under the direction of teacher John Marlin and student director Nathan Arend, worked hard to memorize their lines and build the set for the play. The actors in

Gillian's Island were as follows: Amber Noble as Carrie Ann, Emily Noel as Pepper Grant, Sarah Chesney as Gillian, Mathew Rowden as the Dude, Jaaciel Sanchez as Skippie, Isaac Coulson as Mr. Powell, Katie Nienhuis as Mrs. Powell and Jordan Bustos as the Captain. The theme of the play was how God provides for us and answers our prayers. In spite of curtain problems, the cast gave an excellent performance.

The cast and directors would like to thank the Owosso Church of God for last year's VBS items, the Owosso Community Players for sharing their costumes, Bruce Noble for the

boat that went out to sea, the make-up and hair crew made up of Liz Baker, Azalie Belnavis, and Stefanie Kendrick, Myers Lake Campground for the loan of life jackets, and Owosso Subway and Dominos Pizza for providing food for the cast and crew. Last, but not least, a big thank you to Mrs. Marlin for her help and encouragement.



# The Seniors Visit Our Nation's Capitol

On April 26th, the Senior Class of 2011 began their senior class trip. Following lunch and prayer for safe travel, the senior class and their sponsors loaded the tour bus and set off for Washington, D.C. During the trip they watched movies and talked to pass the time. The Chase Suite Hotel was a welcome sight for the weary travelers.

On Wednesday, they visited the National Achieves of the United States where they viewed The Declaration of Independence and the U. S. Constitution. The Library of Congress was next on the schedule. On the first floor were two huge Bibles, and it was wonderful to think about God's word being in our nation's capitol.

Following lunch they went to the capital and viewed a short video on the history of America, and then went on a guided tour of the building. It was very interesting to see the statues for each state and listen to how they got there.

The rest of the day was spent visiting various statues and monuments including Jefferson Memorial and the Marine Corps statue.

On Thursday the group visited the World War 2 Memorial and the Washington Monument. After lunch, the student were on their own for the rest of the day. One of the more popular exhibits was the Holocaust Museum which gave the student an idea of the terrible suffering experienced by those in the Nazi extermination camps.

Dinner that evening was provided by the Murillo family. The group was very thankful for the wonderful meal they provided and the chance to swim in their pool. Friday the seniors started off at the Air and Space section of the Smithsonian. Following the Smithsonian, they hurried over to Arlington Cemetery to watch the changing of the guard at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The students were amazed by how

disciplined the soldiers were.

The afternoon activities included more time at the Smithsonian, and visiting the Abraham Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam Memorial.

Sabbath was spent at the church in Maryland where Bruce Noble gave a sermon on being more like Abraham. The seniors stayed and hung out with the Maryland youth at the church and enjoyed a delicious lunch and dinner.

Saturday night they played Ten Pin which was a new experience for most of them.

On Sunday, the seniors left Washington, D.C. for the indoor water park Kalahari where they were spending the night. Finally, on Monday, they packed up to return to campus. Senior class trip was great, and the Seniors want to thank Jim, their bus driver, Pam and Bruce Noble, and Beverly and Kevin Caswell, their sponsors, for all their hard work and support.



Seniors on the Capitol steps L to R: Ashley Briggs, Azael Garcia, Rachel Klopfenstein, Devin Caswell, Zac Patchen, Taylor Morrow, Sydney Candelario, Sarah Baker, Elizabeth Baker, Ariana Fauth, Steven Roman, Emily Curran, Azalie Belnavis, and Sydney Shelton.



Back L to R: Sarah Baker, Azael Garcia, Zac Patchen, Ashley Briggs, Emily Curran, Rachel Klopfenstein, and Azalie Belnavis.  
Front L to R: Steven Roman, Devin Caswell, Taylor Morrow, Ariana Fauth, and Sydney Shelton.

# The Class of 2011

Graduation weekend is always a time of excitement mixed with sadness. This year's graduation was no different. The weekend began with Friday evening services. Matt Ijames (Class of 1999) presented the message after specials by John and Christie (Vlad) Camero (Class of 1993), Sydney Candelario and Rebecca Manso, and Norm Caswell and his granddaughter Jessica Caswell (Class of 2010).

Sabbath was a full day of activities beginning with the Baccalaureate service with special guest speaker Omar Mellado. A special presented by the Patchen family was a rare treat. Potluck lunch, followed by Year-In-Review

and the Sound/Action concert in the evening, filled out the days activities.

Graduation began at 10:00 A.M. Sunday morning with the Seniors walking into the gym to "One Day" by Matis Yahu. Steven Roman began the program with the salutatorian address followed by Emily Curran's valedictorian speech. Director Mark Caswell gave the Commencement address. The favorite part of the service is the Blessing of the Class by pastor Max Morrow. It is great to see each graduate surrounded by family members lifting them up in prayer.

A slide show of the seniors was followed by special

presentations as follows:

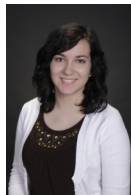
Student of the Year to Steven Roman, General Conference Scholarship award to Emily Curran and the Spiritual award to Steven Roman. Zachary Patchen, Student Body President, presented Mr. Patrick Siddens with the SVA Staff of Year award for his eight years of service as Business Manager.

Finally, each graduate went forward to receive his/her diploma. Everyone took the time to go through the receiving line to congratulate each graduate before heading up to the cafeteria for a reception.

Congratulations to the SVA Class of 2011!



Elizabeth Baker  
Oregon



Sarah Baker  
Oregon



Azalie Belnavis  
Florida



Ashley Briggs  
Michigan



Sydney Candelario  
Texas



Devin Caswell  
Michigan



Emily Curran  
Oregon



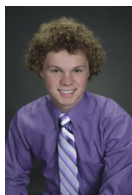
Ariana Fauth  
California



Azael Garcia  
Texas



Rachel Klopfenstein  
Indiana



Taylor Morrow  
Michigan



Zachary Patchen  
California



Steven Roman  
Texas



Sydney Shelton  
Michigan