

THE BULLETIN

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Celebrating a New Name



Pinecrest introduced its new name, Bethany Bible Training Center, with a dedication service on August 7 during its 2010 Summer Conference. Throughout the weekend, guest speakers Mark and Paulette Swiger, Bill Welker and Ric Vargas shared on varying aspects of Bethany's significance in the Bible.

"The home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus was a place where Jesus was acknowledged for who He was," observed Bill Welker. "It was a place where everything was planned to accommodate Him; He was the central focus. He was everything to them—He had captivated their hearts. Everything they did was planned around His needs, His desires, His wishes, His preferences. **It is God's desire to raise up 'Bethanys'—places where He can just be Lord.**"

Mark Swiger added, "It was all there in Bethany. There was not only Jesus in His teaching, devotional, and love relationship, but He was also there in faith and power."

In comparing the school's name change to John the Baptist's birth and naming, Ric Vargas said, "God has birthed something new that is about to come forth, and because of that, there has to be a new identity. I believe that there are lives that are going to be touched in this place, that will bring forth a clear declaration of the Word of the Lord; that will be able to declare, 'Behold the Lamb of God!'"

The name dedication service on Saturday evening opened with an extended time of worship, with a marked atmosphere of adoration to the Lord. Following worship, Dean Joanne Picataggi gave a spontaneous and impassioned message on the heart of Bethany, which is pleasing the heart of God. Scheduled



Bill Welker

(continued inside)

“From Bethany’s Board

Tom Worth: “We trust the Lord here for an environment at Bethany where the treasure that God has put in every earthen vessel would begin to come forth in surprising and delightful ways that would bless the Lord and would bless one another.”

Ed Szumowski prophesied during the name dedication service that God was calling His people to follow Him into the Promised Land, where He has prepared great blessings.

Several of the Board members who were unable to be present for Bethany’s name dedication also sent their greetings:

Dan Backens: “Bethany Bible Training Center is entering into a new season where the presence of the Lord will rest among His friends much like it did 2,000 years ago. In the early years of Pinecrest, a deep foundation was laid for a ‘school of the Spirit,’ and now the ministry is going to go to a much higher level as Bethany. The Lord’s presence is not coming just on occasion but will ‘rest’ among you.

“The name change is prophetic. It is in God’s time for a shifting in the work of the Lord through Bethany. The ministry will reach a whole new generation of God-chasers both in American and the nations. The best is at hand.”

Jack Buskey: “I trust the name change is a symbol of the fulfilling of the same vision with a fresh anointing.”

Dan Beaulieu: “I will always remember the name ‘Pinecrest’ with respect and honor for the great things that have been wrought in me through the years. I am also anticipating that the name ‘Bethany’ will resound to the glory of God and in the hearts of all those who attend as a place where Jesus loves to visit and abide.”

Steve Chiyka: “This weekend, we celebrate a name change. I know this is not done lightly as much prayer and thought have preceded this change. I am confident that this weekend, something is being written by the very finger of God.”

Alan Bugos: “The heart of Pinecrest has always been to be a place where the Lord will feel at home. Bethany was that place 2,000 years ago. May this Bethany, Bethany Bible Training Center, be one of those places now—and into the future.”

(continued from cover)

speaker Bill Welker later remarked that she had spoken the very message God had given him. Several friends past and present also shared their thoughts on the name change and their expectation for the future.



Mikki Vargas

Alumnus Mikki Vargas had only intended to visit, but on her drive, she felt compelled to share what she felt the Lord speaking to her about a coming move of God at Bethany. “The Lord is going to do something this year that will not be a repeat of anything that’s been done before,” she declared. “To hearts that seek, He’s going to reveal the truth. He’s going to give people in this place a desire for the truth, for His Word.”

Second Year graduate Alberto Rios from Cuba shared a vision in which he was walking around a map of Pinecrest and saw hundreds of alabaster jars—“in the chapel, in the forest, in the field, in the dorms, and everywhere. And the Lord told me, ‘Every alabaster jar from the ‘60s, from the ‘70s, from the ‘80s, from the ‘90s, has a history of a friend of Mine in this place.’”

Commenting on the name change, Joanne Picataggi said, “In a time when Jesus was hungry, He looked for figs in a tree that represented Israel at that time. He didn’t find anything to satisfy Him, so He went to Bethany, the ‘house of figs,’ and there among His intimate friends, He was ministered to and found satisfaction. Our prayer is that the Lord will also find satisfaction here among His people at Bethany Bible Training Center.”



Joanne Picataggi



Jack Picataggi

In closing, President Jack Picataggi prayed, “Lord, tonight we want to identify with what You have spoken the name of this place to be. We accept that name You have given us, for this day, for this time, and we bow to the purpose You are calling us to, that we will do all that is within us to make this place a Bethany for You. **We dedicate this name to You, Lord, that You can have Your way and move here however You please.**” ♦

NEWSFEED



The Addos

Stephen ('03) and **Dessa Addo** celebrated the five-year anniversary of Hearts Ablaze Ministries in Schenectady, NY on August 8.



Rebecca Kraemer

Rebecca Kraemer ('10) biked 365 miles down the Oregon Coast from July 5-12 to raise support for her missions trip to El Arca Children's Home in Cuzco, Peru, a ministry for abandoned, abused and orphaned children.

Bethany faculty members **Rod and Wendy Levey** and children David and Hannah travelled to Techiman-tia, Ghana from July 14-29 to minister with Sampson Okyere ('09).



The Leveys

Sienna Raimonde (Sue Schultz, '77) published a book of poems, *A Place Called Return*, which emphasizes God's faithfulness through all seasons of life. She and her husband, Ed, will soon celebrate 30 years of marriage with three children and three grandchildren.

Down the Aisle

3.20.10 **David and Joy** (Babin, att. '97-'98) **Stott**



The Daldos

New in the Nursery

Elijah Nathaniel, born 08.06.10 to **Jim and Holly** (Orsini) **Carella** ('98)

Ava Joy, born 12.12.09 to **Brent and Autumn** (Schauman, '00) **Daldo**

Send us your news: info@bethanybtc.org or 315-429-8521, Ext. *826

A New Name, a New Website



Bethany Bible Training Center is pleased to introduce our new website, www.bethanybtc.org. On it, you can find news and information about the school and conferences, submit prayer requests, listen to audio messages and read *The Banner* and other devotional articles.

Check it out—we think you'll like the new look!