

# The Bible Students Retirement Center

Fairview, OR • FALL 2021

## Chairman's Message

Greetings in the Lord beloved Brethren, Residents and Members of the Bible Students Retirement Center. We continue to rejoice in His provisions here at the BSRC as we observe daily His overruling in all our endeavors.

Your Board of Directors continues to meet via Zoom, pending Oregon Covid law, to conduct the routine business of the Center but anticipates returning soon to in-person meetings and fellowship. The March Board meeting will also be a Zoom meeting. Covid persists as a world-wide pandemic and still affects our day-to-day operation at the BSRC; however, our Residents have overcome these

challenges to maintain Christian fellowship and Bible study.

We are pleased to welcome two new residents for increased fellowship yet mourn the passing of a dear friend. You will find both stories further on in this Newsletter.

In our recent Board meeting it was discussed how we can best help our Brethren in their declining health-care needs and issues. We therefore adopted a *Statement of Responsibility* to be attested by all current and future residents and their designated representatives. We believe the Statement serves to clarify the position of the management, explain our limitations, limit our liabilities, and enhance the quality of life for all the residents.

Copies of the Statement can be obtained from the Operations Manager.

You are encouraged to read the reports inside this Newsletter for details of many of the current activities. Each committee is tasked with many varied aspects of running the business of the BSRC.

Proverbs 3:5,6 *Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.*

Br. Michael Costelli, Board Chairman



## Admissions Activities

We are very excited to report that we have two new residents, since June.

- Br. Jim Schucker moved to the Center on September 7<sup>th</sup>. He is settled in and comments that fellowship at the Center is like being at a convention all the time.
- Sr. Faith Blicharz moved to the Center on September 25<sup>th</sup>. She is settling in and is enjoying the opportunities of living at the Center.
- Br. Hector Maldonado was no longer able to live independently so his family moved him to Colorado Springs to be near them.
- We have added two names to our Waiting List since June, which shows that the Center is on the mind of those brethren who are thinking that they might, one day, make a move to the Center.
- We have resumed Trial Visits for those that are fully vaccinated. We had one Trial Visit this past Summer.

- Two of the units that we advertised in June are now occupied. However, we have one new style unit which should be available about January of next year. This one-bedroom style has not been available in many years.

### Coming Attraction

- Unit C5: 1 bedroom / Second Floor / \$562 per month / 668 sq. ft. unfurnished
- Open plan Living Room-Dining Room-Kitchen / 1 full bath / Access to Washer & Dryer in building / Small private balcony / Access via stairs or our new elevator / For floor plan, go to [www.TheBSRC.org](http://www.TheBSRC.org) / Unit will be available about January 2022

**Check Out Our Video at...**

<https://youtu.be/CgVp7TIYnj0>

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## New Website Access

Web address:  
[www.TheBSRC.org](http://www.TheBSRC.org)

**NEW** password:  
[The year of our Lord's Return]

This website is a private site only for brethren. Please do not share the password with someone outside the brotherhood or on social media.

# Planning and Construction

NOVEMBER 2021

New metal stairs were approved for the north end of Bldg. C and south end of Bldg. F. A bid package of drawings and specifications were prepared and consisted of demolition of existing wood stairs and foundations and construction of new galvanized steel or aluminum stairs and handrails with new concrete foundations.

Following an initial request for bids by suppliers of metal stairs and rails, from which no price proposals were obtained, a second solicitation of five additional companies was made. The assistance of *Blue Book Building & Construction Network* was used to acquire names of reputable firms. Requests for bids were furnished to:

1. Zion Metal Works, Happy Valley, OR
2. Steel Management Services, Gresham, OR
3. L & L Ornamental, Aumsville, OR
4. Aldaz Specialties, Portland, OR
5. Big C Industries, Longview, WA

To date, we have responses from Big C Industries, Aldaz and Steel Management

Services, two of which have sent price proposals, each with qualifiers. Big C furnished a price of \$125,000. Aldaz submitted a limited bid price of \$43,316 for the metal work only. At this report writing, an additional bid is anticipated from Steel Management Services. The two prices mentioned are being vetted with each of the bidders.

To date, the BSRC has received two donations totaling \$50,000. Current construction prices are unusually high due to a robust construction environment in the area, Covid material price escalations and delayed delivery dates on materials and equipment.

The existing wood stairs on the south side of Bldg. C have been closed to traffic and are scheduled for demolition. Their deteriorated condition and the addition of the new elevator make them redundant as a means of egress.

*Michael Costelli, Chairman  
Planning and Construction Committee*

## *The Holy Spirit on the "Portland Spirit"*

On Saturday, October 23, 16 brethren set sail on a two-hour lunch cruise on the Willamette River.

The ship, the *Portland Spirit*, headed south (upstream) from downtown Portland on the Willamette River to the Historic

Milwaukie waterfront and the Lake Oswego area passing Salmon Springs Dock, the Portland Ariel Tram, the Palatine Pump Station and Elk Rock before returning north through downtown. It offered views of the cityscape and wildlife as



well as luxury homes built on the river's banks with their own private docks. It also passed under several of the city's iconic bridges.

The brethren enjoyed a gourmet meal which was enhanced by a talented pianist softly playing music in the background so as not to interfere with their fellowship. The brethren thoroughly enjoyed the outing.





We've been blessed to have two new residents join us here at the Center, Sr. Faith Blicharz and Br. Jim Schuckler. On November 6th we had the privilege of welcoming both of them into our community with a lovely afternoon gathering which included delicious homemade scones and a selection of teas and coffee.

## Tea and Scones

### A Welcome for New Residents



**Sr. Faith** came to the Retirement Center over two months ago, relocating from Kalispell, MT. You may remember her parents, Br. Mitchell and Sr. Becky Blicharz. Her

natural brother, Br. Mark Blicharz, still resides in Montana. Since arriving at the Center she's enjoyed meeting residents she's never met before as well as renewing old ties with those she's known over the years. Sr. Faith says that "Being among the brethren everyday is a rich blessing!" and that "It's also good to fellowship again with the brethren in the general Portland area, after a 13 year absence from the West Coast." The one thing she will definitely NOT miss are Montana's long snowy winters! Sr. Faith is looking forward to many new experiences in serving the Lord. Welcome again Sr. Faith! We are looking forward to further blessings in fellowship.



**Br. Jim** came to know the Lord after he saw his life going downhill. It was during that time he resolved to read the Bible from cover to cover. When he got to Revelation he wondered what it all

meant and was determined to find out. Sensing his desire, the Lord led him to his first meeting with the brethren in 1973, and wouldn't you know it, Br. Frank Shallieu happened to be giving a talk on Revelation. Br. Jim continued his search in understanding Revelation and has since written a book on it. Br. Jim, now 71, had a lawn service business for 40 years that he overlapped with a job as a computer programmer for 15 years, an appraiser for 2 years, and a property manager for 15 years, experience we hope to tap into. Br. Jim says he is really enjoying being here in his retirement years. Br. Jim stated that "his door is always open for spiritual fellowship and discussion" for which I'm sure our brethren will take him up on. Welcome Br. Jim!



## VICTORY IN JESUS



Our dear friend Br. Hector Maldonado will be greatly missed. We learned from his family that he passed away on November 29. They expressed how grateful they were for the friendship provided to him by the brethren at the BSRC.

After finding a Dawn magazine and wanting to learn more, Br. Hector's

first meeting and early contact with the Bible Students was through attending the Middletown, New York class for some years. He moved to the Retirement Center in May 2004. He very much wanted to be helpful, and certainly did all he could, as long as he could, to assist the brethren in many ways around the Center, including when the residents would take the weekly shopping bus.

He was a cheerful influence among the residents, especially in his desire to be an example of praising the Lord. Br. Hector loved to sing hymns and regularly attended our monthly hymn singing. We sang one of his favorites "Victory in Jesus" and said our goodbyes when we were blessed by him being able to attend lunch one more time before leaving us on October 31. Since living at the Center he regularly attended the Monday through Friday lunch meals served at the Main House.

In recent times, his health had declined. He was admitted to the hospital in a weakened condition in September, then transferred to a rehabilitation facility. His family was informed by the personnel at that facility that he could no longer live independently, so, they made arrangements for him to live at an assisted living facility in Colorado Springs which is near one of his sons, Steve and his family.

# Studio Available

## RENT FOR ONLY \$382/MONTH

That's not a typo! We expect that it would be difficult to find a rental anywhere in the country for this low price, much less in a safe and beautiful environment with the added benefit of a Bible Student community. We, currently, have one of our smallest unit styles available. It is one of our least expensive units. The 500 sq. ft. unfurnished unit is compact but has an open floor plan. It has a fully functional kitchen and a private, full bath with a tub-shower. The bedroom area has a double closet. It is on the second floor, so it has a lovely view from its private balcony. Access is via our new elevator or stairs. It is just a short, pleasant walk across the courtyard to the Main House for lunch, meetings, and fellowship. It also comes with a separate small storage area (located on the second floor of the 3-car garage) for items, such as suitcases, off season clothes, etc. This unit has access to a washer and dryer on the same level, which is shared with 4 other units. The price? Only \$382/month, plus \$5/month laundry room usage fee.

Another benefit of this unit... it qualifies for a reduced rent depending on your financial situation. Contact the Admissions chair for further details.

The BSRC is a gated community. Our units are perfect for independent living. This unit is near the courtyard where outdoor activities are held in

the Spring, Summer, and Fall, such as picnics, ice cream socials, and barbeques. The Main House is normally the center of activity. Because of the pandemic, we have had to move our four -- five studies a week, hymn singing, and even some of our holiday events to Zoom. Though now, as we are starting to loosen our Covid-19 restrictions, some of our activities are resuming in the Main House.

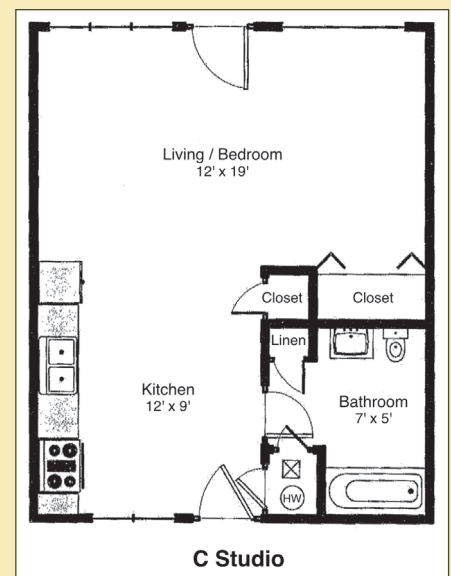
If you are considering a move to the Center, either in the near or long term, we would like to invite you to come for a FREE one or two-week trial visit. The purpose of this visit is for you to get a good feel of what life is like at the Center, to try out a unit and see if this move is right for you. The lodging during the trial visit will be at no cost to you. Also, we will include a free noon meal in the Main House dining room, on the days that it is served, during your stay.

If you are seriously thinking of a move to the BSRC, but aren't quite ready, you can have your name put on our Waiting List. This list is kept in priority order. We contact the brethren on the list when a new unit becomes available before we advertise to the brotherhood at large, so being on the Waiting List puts you at the front of the line. All inquiries will be held in strictest confidence.



**For more information,  
to schedule a visit,  
or to have your name  
added to our Waiting List**

Contact the Admissions Chair  
at 908-400-0456  
or [dshallieu@aol.com](mailto:dshallieu@aol.com).



## ALSO AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY

- 🦋 **Unit F9: 2 bedroom / Second Floor / \$775 per month / 1,090 sq. ft. unfurnished**
- 🦋 **Open concept Living-Dining Room with vaulted ceiling / 1 full bath / Separate laundry room / Large private balcony with lovely view of the landscaped courtyard / All on one level / Access to unit via stairs or our new elevator / For floor plan & photos, see "Spring 2021 Newsletter" or go to [www.TheBSRC.org](http://www.TheBSRC.org)**

**Call us with your questions & comments • BSRC • 503-661-7045**