

The Voice of AVENURA

# THE

Volume 35, Issue #11

#### **President's Letter:**

### Dear fellow followers of Christ,

What was the last thing you intentionally chose? Since this weekend had many bargains and sales, a lot of us probably intentionally chose some Christmas gifts for those on our Gift List. I hope your a gift giver who puts a little extra thought and purpose in each present. I know as years go on and the list of people to shop for gets longer, the effort put into each gift gets divided and divided until the objects we end up giving hold no value. We lose that personal, sentimental flare our gifts once had that gave the recipient not only a sense of gratefulness for the object itself but joy in the fact that someone was listening to the and understanding them enough to get a gift that was just right.

My prayer for all of you this month will be to intentionally listen to those around you. Whether its your four year old niece who wants to share a story about a fluffy three-legged unicorn or an elderly neighbor who tells you the same Vietnam story every week. Everyone wants to be heard and understood. Take some time to put down your To-Do List or Shopping List and intentionally pay attention to those around you, even if you've heard their stories hundreds of times. Listening is a gift no one knows how to ask for but everyone wants. Give the gift of your time this year, you won't regret it.

Emily Lamy

#### Reunion Report:

Fun was had at the 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church of Thomaston last month as we got to catch up with new friends. Anna Bigham gave a talk about the different ways that God has been working in her life over the previous summer and asked us to consider if anything was standing in the way of our relationship with God or what we could do to be closer to Him. We played a couple of rounds of the 'Story-Picture' game (how DO you draw a picture of a frog doing open heart surgery??) and ended the evening watching Sugar Rush wrestling with Art and then with Steve. Hoping everyone who couldn't make this reunion will be able to come to the December one, we missed you!! Amanda J.

#### **Upcoming Reunions and Other Dates:**

December Reunion:

Saturday, December 5, **7:00pm** Open to everyone!! 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church of Torrington 835 Riverside Ave, Torrington CT

## **Prayer Requests:**

Please join me in praying for the #10 Journey In Faith Via de Cristo/Eastern PA & Northern DE, This is a Co-ed Adult weekend similar to Tres Dias that will be happening Dec 3-6.

Please feel free to send prayer requests to our 'prayistas':

Barb Clavette ( <u>JEClavette@snet.net</u> or 482-0172) Sandy Miller ( <u>SanJeanM@AOL.com</u> or 482-5601)

They will pass the appropriate ones along to the Croaker to be listed here and send out emails to the prayer chain. Be sure to let them know if you wish to remain anonymous or if you don't want the prayer published at all.

# **Servants of Aventura:**

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## Miscellany:

For information on Aventura, contact Art Richards at

Registration@AventuraCT.com or call (860)-307-4806.

To put something into the Croaker, email Amanda Johnson at groveramanda@hotmail.com.

Follow us on Twitter @AventuraCT

For people who have been on an Aventura weekend, join AventuraCT on Facebook!