

**WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE**  
**January 29<sup>nd</sup>, 2012**

MONDAY: Read Genesis 41&42. What a turn of events. Joseph goes from being a prisoner to being in charge of all Egypt; then the brothers who put him there come calling. Have you ever experienced such a turn of events in a short (seemingly short in the scripture) time? What is the largest turnaround you can think of? What is God saying to us when such things happen? What is God saying when the turnaround is in the other direction?

TUESDAY: Read Genesis 43 & 44. Joseph is messing with his brothers even as his actions cause him continued grief. Oy vey, what a soap opera. Which side of this story do you find yourself relating to; the brothers, who keep having incredible failure of their hopes and plans, or Joseph, as he struggles between revenge (is it revenge he struggles with) or reconciliation? Why do we hold on to past wounds and hurts?

WEDNESDAY: Read Genesis 45 & 46. Joseph's brothers win the lottery, but they had to pay quite a price. Can you imagine being in their position? Do you think when the dust settled they were angry that Joseph manipulated him as he did? Have you ever been angry at someone while you knew that you had wronged them beyond what you experienced in return?

THURSDAY: Read Genesis 47 & 48. In these chapters we are getting back to Jacob/Israel. The same blessing that Jacob stole from his brother is now given to his descendents. He adopts Joseph's sons and puts the younger in first place as was done for him. Do you think this is a good resolution to a lifelong saga or more dysfunction? Are there things in your life that need to be resolved and put to rest for good? What might you do to speed that along?

FRIDAY: Read Genesis 49 & 50. The dying Jacob predicts the future of his sons: good and bad, dies, and then the brothers are a bit uncomfortable believing that Joseph is about to lower the boom on them for all they have done. What do you think was stirring in Joseph's heart and mind that led him to the forgiveness he offered rather than what many would consider justice for the brothers? When have you offered forgiveness when you might have easily not? Is God nudging you to offer forgiveness?

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**Consecration Sunday is  
Sunday,  
February 12th!  
Mark your calendars & don't miss it!**



Join Us For The Sweetheart Country  
Western Dance of 2012  
Enjoy the music of DJ Joe Lopez



Time: 6:30-10:30pm  
Portland FUMC Sanctuary &  
Celebration Center

Teens & Adults ONLY Please  
\$8.00 per person  
\$20.00 per family

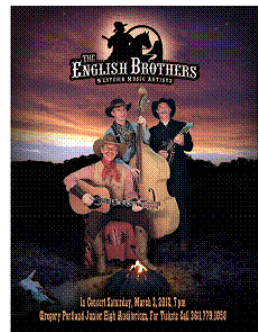
All proceeds go to  
Imagine No Malaria

Child Care Provided

Save the  
Date:  
Feb-17-2012



We are collecting paper goods for the local food pantries in February. We have a box, located at each end of the foyer, to put in your contributions. The food pantries are very grateful for any support from our church.



**The English Brothers Cowboy Music Show**  
March 3, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.  
Gregory Portland Junior High School Auditorium,  
Adults ticket \$10 Student \$5 VIP ticket \$20

**Welcome the English Brothers to Portland**  
March 2, at 6:00p.m. at Northshore Country Club  
Seafood Buffet dinner \$20 per person.  
FMI: Call 361-779-1058 or email [suelgalloway@yahoo.com](mailto:suelgalloway@yahoo.com) for more ticket information.



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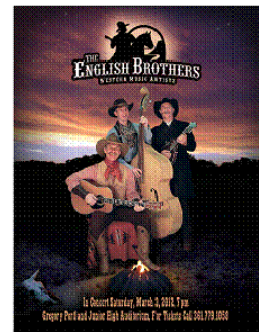
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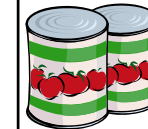
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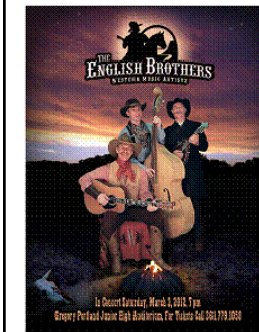
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**Extreme Home Makeover: Faithful Edition  
IV**

We have reached 100% of our goal to raise \$20,000 to build a new house for the Lopez family. Now what?

Pre-builds: On Jan 28 and February 11 we will be pre building walls and trusses at our church. Sign up at the kiosk and let us know you are coming so we have enough food.

Cabinet Making Day: This is something new. On February 25, we will have a team of volunteers (this could include you!) build kitchen cabinets for the new home. If you are interested in helping, please sign up and come!

Signup sheets: We have signup sheets at the Home Makeover kiosk in the sanctuary for the various activities including bringing food for the pre-builds, lending equipment and helping to build.

Please call or email Margot Porterfield at (361) 643-6072 or [margot.porterfield@gmail.com](mailto:margot.porterfield@gmail.com) to donate or ask questions.



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