

# FBC NEWSLETTER

Making God's kingdom relevant to our community

Winter

2010-11



A Family In Christ

## *Where Did It Go?* From Pastor Joe

Where has 2010 gone? It seems to have evaporated right before my eyes. Have I, like Rip Van Winkle, slept through this entire year?

The warm summer evenings have passed, a third of the school year is history, and the wonderful sights, sounds, and smells of the holidays are filling the last remnants of a fleeting year.

It seems that our commercial society has moved with lightening speed through Halloween trick-or-treating into a mad rush to once again experience the early morning thrill of Black Friday mob shopping.

But when the presents have been opened, the Turkey Dinner devoured, and the Christmas pies savored, have you noticed that the ending of an old year and the coming of a new era causes us to stop just long enough to reflect a bit, and meditate upon our coming future?

Have you ever looked back at a fading year and pondered over the goals you set, and recalled how they have eluded you, no matter how hard you tried? Perhaps you've stared into the approaching year and felt the anxiety and worry over what seems to be overwhelming circumstances and life decisions that appear just over the horizon.

Well, have you ever seen a bird carrying a pocket calendar and a list of things to do? You never see a bird sigh, throw his wing across his head in exasperation, and say, "what if there are no worms tomorrow? Where will I go? What will I do?"

Now we all know that birds are not people, God did not create them with a human soul, a human mind, or a human spirit. Birds simply could not worry if they wanted to, they don't have the ability.

Yet when Jesus talked to the crowds from the mountain, He gave us this comparison, "Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much

More than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single cubit to his life's span? ... Do not be anxious then, saying, What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "with what shall we clothe ourselves?" For all these things the Gentiles eagerly seek, for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow, for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own" (Matthew 6:26-34).

So, how do you get there? How do you take the stresses of the day, the threats of bad things to come, and the confusion of circumstances, and remain calm and confident?

First, we need to realize that we can't feel confident about tomorrow if we are not experiencing Jesus' peace today, moment by moment, as worries arise. Making spiritual priorities is more than just "putting Jesus first." Jesus isn't first, He is all, and everything else falls into its natural place within the framework of fellowship with Him.

That is why the Lord gives us this guidance in Philippians 4:6-7, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (NIV).

Reach for God's peace today, trust him with every minute, and He will unfold your life in His perfect wisdom.

Note: some portions of this article were modeled by "In Touch Magazine", January 1997.

**Some trust in chariots and some in horses,  
but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. Ps 20:7**



## ***CHRISTMAS CAROLING***

We will meet at Shepard's Place Retirement Center at 6:30 p.m., to sing Christmas Carols. After caroling, join us for hot cider, cookies and fun.

Call 684-3353 for more information



## **Valentine Banquet and Silent Auction** **February 12** **TeamKidz and Carpinteria Christian School** **Fundraiser**

This will be an exciting evening, so plan to join us and bring some friends. Contact Jeanie or call the church office 684-3353

## **Family Movie Night**

### ***A Family Movie Night has been started!***

Christian family movies will be shown at Girls, Inc. in Carpinteria on Saturday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The schedule is: December 4th, December 11th, December 18, January 8th, January 15th, January 22nd, January 29th. Bring the whole family and enjoy an evening at the movies!



### ***Our Annual Christmas Dinner***

**IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM**

***Saturday, December 11, 2010, 5:00 p.m.***

Following the dinner, the CCS children will present the Christmas play, "*Peanut Butter Christmas*"

**Don't Miss the Fun! Sign up now!**

**(805) 684-3353**

# DECEMBER-JANUARY 2010-11

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
12/3	7:00 pm	Heart Links	January 1, 2011		NEW YEAR'S DAY
12/5	10:00 am	2nd Advent / Communion / Lottie Moon	1/2	Noon	Executive Committee Meeting
12/5	Noon	Executive Committee Meeting	1/2	2:00 pm	Kid's Discipleship Class Resumes
12/6	6:30 pm	Celebrate Recovery Meeting	1/6	10:00 am	Senior Committee Meeting
12/7	9:30 am	Shepard Place Study	1/6	11:30 am	Pastors Prayer Meeting
12/7	6:30 pm	Prayer Group	1/6	1:30 pm	wMu Meeting
12/8	6:30 pm	TeamKidz Club	1/7	7:00 pm	Heart Links
12/11	5:00 pm	Christmas Dinner	1/9	2:00 pm	Kid's Discipleship Class
12/11	6:30 pm	CCS Play "Peanut Butter Christmas"	1/11	9:30 am	Shepard Place Study
12/12	10:00 am	3rd Advent	1/11	6:30 pm	Prayer Group
12/13	6:30 pm	Celebrate Recovery Meeting	1/14	10:00 am	Needle Art Club
12/14	9:30 am	Shepard Place Study	1/15	10:00 am	HeartLinks@Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf
12/14	6:30 pm	Prayer Group	1/16	2:00 pm	Shepard Place Service
12/15	6:30 pm	TeamKidz Club	1/17		Martin Luther King—Holiday
12/17	6:30 pm	Christmas Caroling	1/20	Noon	Senior Lunch
12/18	10:00 am	Heart Links @ Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf	1/22	10:00 am	GRAND PRIX WORK DAY
12/19	10:00 am	4th Advent	1/23	Noon	School Board Meeting
12/19	2:00 pm	Shepard Place Service	1/23	2:00 pm	Kid's Discipleship Class
12/20	6:30 pm	Celebrate Recovery Meeting	1/24	6:00 pm	Celebrate Recovery Potluck
12/24	5:00 pm	CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE	1/27	3:00 pm	Worship Music Team Meeting
12/25		CHRISTMAS DAY	1/27	6:30 pm	Celebrate Recovery Leaders' Meeting
12/27	6:00 pm	Celebrate Recovery Meeting Potluck	1/28	10:00 am	Needle Art Club
12/28	6:30 pm	Prayer Group	1/29	10:00 am	GRAND PRIX RACE
12/31	7:00 pm	New Year's Eve Service			

## REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

**Sunday:** 9:00 am Sunday School  
 10:00 am Worship Service  
 10:30 am Children's Church  
 11:30 am Fellowship Time  
 6:00 pm Bible Study With Pastor Joe  
**Monday:** 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery  
**Tuesday:** 6:30 pm Prayer Group

**Wednesday:** 6:30 pm TeamKidz Children's Club  
**First Thursday:** 10:00 am Senior Com. Mtg.  
**First Thursday:** 11:30 am Pastors Prayer Meeting  
**First Thursday:** 1:30 pm WMU Fellowship  
**Third Thursday:** Noon Senior Luncheon  
**First Friday:** 7:00 pm Heart Links  
**Second Friday:** 10:00 am Needle Art Club  
**Fourth Friday:** 10:00 am Needle Art Club  
**Third Saturday:** 10:00 am Heart Links  
**First Sunday:** Communion during Morning Worship  
**Third Sunday:** 2:00 pm Shepard Place Worship Svc

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH



From grade 2 up to grade 6, the children are taught about God's love through Bible Stories, Bible verses, songs, crafts, and prayer.



### Grand Prix Race

A CAR WORK AND DESIGN DAY IS PLANNED FOR JANUARY 20 at 10:00 a.m.

THE GRAND PRIX PINWOOD DERBY CAR RACE IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 27 at 10:00 a.m.



## TEAMKIDZ

WE MEET EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING AT 6:30 p.m. IN THE FBC FIRESIDE ROOM  
MEMORY VERSES, STORIES, CRAFTS, GAMES, MISSIONS  
EARN INCENTIVE GIFTS AND AWARDS

(CHILDREN AGE THREE THROUGH SIXTH GRADE)

## — Carpinteria Christian School — K4 through 8th Grade

### YOUNG LIFE YOUTH PROGRAM

Young Life began with a few simple ideas about sharing the truth of God's love with adolescents. Almost seven decades later, those simple ideas have become time-tested methods for reaching out to middle school, high school and college students in friendship and hope.

Pastor Joe and other local pastors are working on the final details of bringing Young Life to Carpinteria. For more information or if you would like to help with this vital ministry, please contact Pastor Joe at (805) 684-3353.

**There are fifteen students currently enrolled. We are privileged to have two new teachers this year. Brianne deRaad teaches grades Kindergarten through grade four. Nichole Hughes teaches grades five through eight.**





Who was Lottie Moon?

A kingdom-focused life

Lottie Moon - the namesake of the international missions offering - has become something of a legend to us. But in her time Lottie was anything but an untouchable hero. In fact, she was like today's missionaries. She was a hard-working, deep-loving Southern Baptist who labored tirelessly so her people group could know Jesus.

Why was the offering named for this early China missionary?

Throughout her career, Lottie Moon wrote numerous letters home, urging Southern Baptists to greater missions involvement and support. One of those letters triggered Southern Baptists' first Christmas offering for international missions - enough to send three new missionaries to China.

Our Goal for this year's Lottie Moon offering is \$400.

## WMU

The WMU, Ladies Missions Awareness and Support Group, is now meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 1:30 pm. Come and join us. Contact Jackie Clouser or call the church office (684-3353).

## Eve Services

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

**5:00 p.m.**

**New Year Eve Service**

**7:00 p.m.**



## HEART LINKS



We are a group of women who love the Lord and study to show ourselves approved by God. Join us every first Friday at 7:00 p.m., as we fellowship together and study His word. Contact Jeanie or call the church office (805) 684-3353.

## SENIORS

**Senior Lunch Ministry**—Join us in the Fireside Room @ FBC every third Thursday, to share a great meal, hear an informative guest speaker, win a door prize, fun fellowship.

**Shepard Place Bible Study**—Led by Jeanie, this is an in depth study of the book of Isaiah.

**Shepard Place Worship Service**—The service is held every third Sunday at 2:00 pm, in the clubhouse.



## A Family In Christ

First Baptist Church

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Pastor: Rev. Joe W. Epley

## Financial Update

January	\$ 19,353
February	\$ 4,696
March	\$ 4,721
April	\$ 6,672
May	\$ 8,856
June	\$ 6,441
July	\$ 5,809
August	\$ 10,548
September	\$ 7,565
October	\$ 6,923
November	\$ 7,099

The purpose of FBC "Celebrate Recovery" is to fellowship and celebrate God's healing power in our lives through the 12 Steps and 8 Recovery Principles. This experience allows us to "be changed." We open the door by sharing our experiences, strengths and hopes with one another. In addition, we become willing to accept God's grace in solving our lives' problems. By working and applying these Biblical principles, we begin to grow spiritually. We become free from our addictive, compulsive, and



dysfunctional behaviors. This freedom creates peace, serenity, joy and most importantly, a stronger personal relationship with God and others. As we progress through the program, we discover our personal, loving and forgiving Higher Power—Jesus Christ.

Pastor John Baker

Our FBC Celebrate Recovery class is steadily growing and reaching people in our community who are hurting. New leaders are being trained in preparation for additional classes.