

# CHRISTIAN CENTER

EQUIP ~ ENGAGE ~ EDIFY

*for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, Ephesians 4:12*



## PASTOR STEVE MELLOR

**Psalm 90:12 So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

So many people have told us over the years, "Time goes by so quickly," in regard to raising our children. The older we get the more we see how true that is.

It was October 1998 that I flew to Kenya in Eastern Africa to accompany my fiancé, Marian, as she began her year-long mission with a medical organization that performed surgeries on crippled children. We had met 6 months earlier and got engaged 3 weeks before she left. When she returned after that long year we were married!

Now fast forward about 20 years, and this July I will be flying over to Kenya once again - this time with my oldest daughter, Joanna, as she begins her 6-month mission with our good friends Derek and Lauren Webber, who are missionaries in Chogoria, Kenya. The apple doesn't fall too far from the tree.

Joanna has been such a blessing to us. We cherish the years we have had with her. We know that as she seeks the Lord her life will be truly filled to overflowing.

**3 John 4-I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.**

On our way to Kenya we will also have an opportunity to stop and visit another missionary family in Norwich, England, John & Sarah Brown.

Each day is a gift from the Lord. May He help us be wise in how we use them.

*Pastor Steve*



## TRIP TO KENYA

BY JOANNA MELLOR

I have been given the opportunity to go to Kenya for a six-month mission trip. My purpose in going is to provide assistance to our missionaries, Derek and Lauren Webber,

who live on the mission compound in Chogoria, Kenya, which is about three hours north of Nairobi. Derek is a physician's assistant and works at the mission's hospital and Lauren homeschools their children and seeks to reach out to the natives in the community. I will be helping this family by teaching preschool to one of their children and several other local missionary children, and by providing general assistance, including music lessons to the older children.

I spent several months praying about this opportunity and trying to learn if it was God's will for me to go to Kenya. On the day I was to have my first FaceTime call with Derek and Lauren about the trip, I realized that what I really wanted was the Lord's blessing on this trip. I did not want to go simply for the sake of going. I wanted to go because He wanted me to go. As I was praying about this opportunity and seeking to learn if it was, in fact, part of God's will, I came across



**Psalm 121:8, which says: "The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in from this time forth, and even forevermore."** One of the cross-references for this verse is **Deuteronomy 28:6, which says: "Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out."** I am tremendously grateful for these verses, as I feel that they confirm that God is blessing this trip and that it is His will for me to go.

I would like to ask for your prayers and financial support as I prepare for this mission trip. The total cost is approximately \$5,000. I am really excited about this opportunity and know it will be a healthy stretching and growing experience as well as an exciting opportunity to serve the Lord in a new way. God bless you all!

*Joanna Mellor*



## MEN'S MINISTRY

BY PAUL PALASZEWSKI

**"Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt his name together" Psalm 34:3**

Our theme verse this season is a call for all of us men to come together and magnify, exalt, and worship the Lord. We have answered that call in several ways.

On the eve of January 17th 40 men came together for a delicious ribeye steak dinner followed by a sharing of testimonies. Four brothers bore witness as to how they came to know the Lord and the impact it has had on their lives, building up the faith of all of those present, and glorifying God in the process.

Over the weekend of February 1st 24 men participated in our annual retreat at the Calvary Chapel Christian Conference Center. The rainy weather in no way dampened our spirits as we enjoyed great food, mineral hot springs, a special private devotional hour, and a series of teachings in God's word on the theme of "Sure Foundations". After laying the foundation of Jesus Christ, we learned how we are to build on that foundation, and finally, what a life built on that foundation looks like. Each man went home with his faith renewed and his feet more firmly planted on the solid rock of Jesus Christ.



Our weekly 7 am Saturday Morning Men's Breakfast and Bible Study continues to bring 2 dozen plus men together around the table to share a meal, an opportunity for fellowship, and a powerful time in God's word. Our current study in the Book of Psalms has taken us from the heights to the depths of human emotion and experience, as each week our teacher brings to us a new Psalm to explore, and leaves us with the same reassuring message that whatever we are feeling or going through our Lord reigns and is in control.

So, we repeat the Psalmist's call to all the men at the Christian Center and beyond to come on out and "magnify the Lord with us, and let us exalt his name together"!

*Paul Palaszewski*

## 2019 BOARD MEMBERS

At our annual business meeting we announced the 2019 board of elders. From left to right: Steve Mellor, Jim Dillahunt (Treasurer), Joe Wind (Secretary), John Bitner, Paul Palaszewski.

We are pleased to have Paul rotate in as the newest member of our board. Paul is replacing Bob McFalls who has been a true blessing to our board and to our church.





## WOMEN'S MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

BY DEBIE DILLAHUNT



We're digging deep into the Book of James as we go through the study of Real Faith for Daily Life! Sue LeBoutillier inspires us by saying that if the Book of James is studied intentionally, we will find "almost every verse will impact our daily lives: our thoughts, our relationships, our words and our actions." We are finding this to be true as we focus on the rich content of what God has to teach us in this powerful book of the Bible!

We were reminded that James (the half brother of Jesus) did not believe Jesus was the Messiah until Jesus appeared to him after His resurrection. What a difference a personal relationship with our Savior can make! The Book of James gives encouragement to believers regarding various hardships and trials we face. As we remember that Jesus is with us always, we can experience true inner joy, trusting that God has a purpose for the difficulties in our lives. James implores us to control our tongues, and Proverbs 18:21 is a reminder that "death and life are in the power of the tongue." How important it is for believers to guard what we say and to speak life to others! The book of James is filled with godly wisdom for believers as we seek to please God with what we do and say.

**"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." James 1:22**

Love and Blessings,

*Debie Dillahunt*



## WOMEN'S HOME FELLOWSHIP

BY DENISE SCHMADERER

Our Monday night get-togethers have been so rich. I personally have gleaned so much going through 2 Corinthians. Every Monday we share what God has shown us through our Bible study the week before. The truth of His word and how He can use it to speak to each of us in different ways is just amazing!

We just started chapter 11, talking about pure jealousy. Paul had a divine jealousy for the Corinthians - he had brought them the gospel and they were turning from it. And Jesus had a pure jealousy for the people of Israel (Exodus 20:5). Often we think of jealousy as being negative, but we are learning that there is a difference between being jealous of someone and being jealous for someone, and as Kelly shares, there's a difference between jealousy that finds its source in our flesh versus the Spirit. God loves us so much that He is jealous for us!! He wants to spend time with us, to guide us, to lead us in the way we should go. The Creator of the Universe desires a personal relationship with each one of us! WOW!

That's the gospel Paul took to the Corinthians, the life-giving gospel! So many hear the gospel and then turn from it as Kelly writes, "Abandoning the gospel for something that feels better in the moment or seems more culturally relevant will only prove to leave us stranded in the end."

It's never too late to come and join us on Monday nights at 6:00. As we worship our Savior and learn at His feet, I know you will be blessed.

Blessings,

*Denise Schmaderer*





## YOUTH MINISTRY

BY RYAN LYNN

Eleven years ago, in 2008, I went to my first Youth Workers conference. One of the workshops by Sean McDowell powerfully moved me, which in turn sparked the event that we now have at the Christian Center called Truth Quest. Truth Quest is an apologetics youth conference during Spring Break.

Sean talked about how it is important to teach youth absolute truth

because they were confusing absolute truth with subjective truth. He used the example that subjective truth is like ice cream flavors and objective truth is like insulin. Objective truth is always true, independent of what you believe, think or feel. Subjective truth changes from person to person. Young people today believe that all truth is subjective. Truth Quest is designed to help students think clearly about truth, the Bible, and moral issues.



Since 2008, 100+ students have heard 120 hours of truth at Truth Quest. We are excited for this year's theme, "Truth and Meaning." Truth Quest is April 13th-April 18th. We are in need of prayer and volunteers. This event would not be possible without the incredible volunteers and prayer warriors who support us. God is doing a powerful work with the youth of Borrego Springs. Thank you for your prayers!

*Pastor Ryan*



## SALT AND LIGHT MINISTRY

BY JIM AND KAT TAPSCOTT

Leaving our beautiful CC Borrego family is difficult indeed. We are filled with sadness and excitement at the same time. It is an amazing experience KNOWING that God is orchestrating our move for His purpose. We surrendered our future to Him and He has been gently nudging us ahead and raining blessings upon us as we are obedient to His will. It was necessary to delay our move one week without notice when our 5 year old grandson, Lucas Godwin, drowned suddenly. The tragedy of his death miraculously brought his mother to Christ. God's fingerprint became clear through this challenging time. We are taking our dear friend, Mary, out of a hospice eldercare home in Escondido to live with us in our home for the rest of her life. We strive daily to Listen, Trust, Obey and Praise our heavenly Father with every breath we take. God has showered us with His presence and many miracles over the past six months. With both of us in our 70's, we are humbled knowing that God has sent us into a mission field in Show Low, Arizona.

We deem it a privilege to have been able to serve in this important way here in the Salt and Light ministry. Making others aware of the fragile state of our United States is critical to the future of our children and our country! Constant prayer is essential.

We will continue to be and share Salt and Light in Show Low, Arizona through the Calvary Chapel there. We plan to increase our leadership roles in our home through Bible Studies and lots of potlucks. We intend to encourage Supper for Six as a way to bond closely to others in a small setting. Words cannot express our appreciation for all the help and love we have received and enjoyed from our church family. You are always in our thoughts and prayers.

In Christ we send our love to all,

*Jim and Kat Tapscott*





## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BY MARIAN MELLOR

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." Matthew 7:24-27

It has been a joy to go through the book, Our 24 Family Ways, with the Junior Church children over the past 3 months, and by the end of March we will be half-way through this discipleship devotional that uses God's word to encourage children and their families to walk in the ways of the Lord. This "curriculum" is designed to be a jump-start to each week as each family has a book to go through during the rest of the week that provides tools to bring up their children in the training and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 3:4b), building their character in the Lord. We want to "teach children the Bible, instill biblical values deep in their hearts, train them in Christian character and godly living, and strengthen their relationship with the Lord." (page 1 of Our 24 Family Ways)

The 24 Family "Ways" are divided into 6 key areas of Christian life concerning Authorities, Relationships, Possessions, Work, Attitudes, and Choices, with 4 weeks of study regarding each topic. For example, the first "Way" is "We love and obey our Lord, Jesus Christ, with wholehearted devotion," and then there are 5 days of material that families work through relating to how God wants us to love and obey Him. Each day questions are given to introduce the topic and encourage the children to think about it, Bible passages are read and discussed that show us how God's word gives us instruction for living to please Him, and then ideas are presented about how to pray - rejoicing, thanking, confessing, asking, and praising about specific situations.

We are grateful to have this opportunity to share such helpful material with the families of the Christian Center. Please pray that God's Word will be lived out in our lives each day!

*Marian Mellor*



SOUP AND SALAD LUNCH

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**MARCH 24TH**

10:00 A.M.

**CHURCH IN THE PARK**

**MARCH 28TH**

6:00 P.M.

**WOMEN'S DINNER**

**MARCH 29TH & 30TH**

**HIKE TO STONE BRIDGE #5**

**APRIL 13TH-18TH**

DETAILS AT  
UNDESPISDYOUTH.COM

**TRUTH QUEST**

**APRIL 21ST**

6:00 A.M.-PANCAKE  
BREAKFAST TO FOLLOW

**SUNRISE SERVICE**

## Contact Us

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OUTSIDE TABLES PROJECT IS FINISHED!