

EQUIP ~ ENGAGE ~ EDIFY

# CHRISTIAN CENTER

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



## A WORD FROM PASTOR STEVE

1 John 1:4

*And these things we write to you that your joy may be full*

John's desire is that people know Jesus. First, that they trust Him as their Savior and second, that they walk in the light with Him as their Lord. This is the way to experience true joy and fulfillment. It is when we spend time in Bible reading and prayer that we can learn of God's character: who He is and how much He

loves us. It is through our devotional time that we can hear the Lord speak to our hearts and give us direction for the day.

Remember Jesus said to pray, "Give us THIS DAY our daily bread". Jesus talked of abiding in Him and letting His word abide in us and in so doing there would be 'fruit' that would come forth from our lives. This is the 'byproduct' of a relationship with Jesus - a relationship that brings true joy to our lives. This is what God wants for each one of us.

May each one of us respond to Jesus' invitation to come to Him and

learn from Him, that we might find rest for our souls.

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

God Bless,

*Pastor Steve*



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## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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*BY MARIAN MELLOR*

I am quite excited to share with you how I was convicted just a couple of weeks ago after teaching the combined class of 2 year olds through 5th graders about the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. It is a sad story and one that is good for us all to learn: in a very little nutshell, the cities were destroyed because there were NO righteous people living in them save Lot and his family; Lot's wife looked back at the city when the angel clearly told the family NOT to look back and she became a pillar of salt.

What do you teach little ones about the heart of this story? I think it is important to let the children know that sin, the "bad" things we think, say and do, separate us from God (destruction of the cities). It is also imperative to let them know that God offers a way to be saved from our sin when we trust in Jesus, His Son, who loved us so much that He chose to die on the Cross and rise again for the purpose of washing that sin away (bringing Lot and his family out of the cities). It is also important to encourage the kiddos to keep looking ahead to Jesus and not to long for the things of the world that can burden us and render us useless like a pillar of salt.

My mistake? Pretty much just telling the story but not helping the children understand the heart of it that I just mentioned above. I loved the crafts that we got to make, though!! (wonderful, yet so much NOT the most important part!!) However, while the crafts and snacks can be great reinforcements of the story, I want to make sure they reinforce the HEART of the story – or at least that the heart of it is what I emphasize while teaching, reenacting and enjoying the craft and snack time!

So there you go – apply as you see fit – and please pray that we who teach and assist in the children's ministry will be able to grasp and share the heart of the stories we teach to the precious souls in our midst!

Blessings,

*Marian*

## MISSIONS

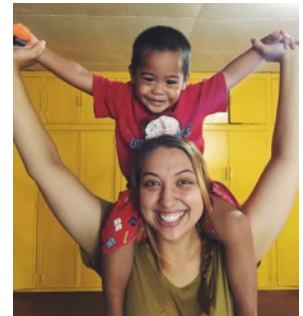
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*BY LINSI CLAIN*

This past summer I had the extraordinary privilege of returning to my second family in the Philippines. There, I spent five weeks volunteering at an orphanage that is home to two hundred incredible children - each uniquely wonderful and constantly radiating the love of Jesus.

During these five weeks I served as a second grade teacher and had the opportunity to work one on one with the special needs children. This included planning lessons, performing puppet shows, mealtime feeding, and aiding in physical therapy. In all of this I found myself falling in love with each child more and more every day.

Despite the unimaginable hardships many of these children have been through, they have experienced the full, marvelous, redemption of the Lord - to an extent that I have never imagined before. So I wholeheartedly thank you all for being a part of this work through your prayers and support. Through the lives of these precious kids I have truly seen that "where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." (2 Cor. 3:17)



*Linsi*



## MEN'S MINISTRY

*By Brian Schmaderer*

Now in September, we are one month out from our weekly Saturday morning men's breakfast meetings. I'm excited to be starting the book of First Corinthians, an epistle of Paul written to a very immature congregation in a very immoral city. Pride seemed to be a major problem of theirs and as I was reading Psalm 104 I was reminded of the humble dependence we must have upon God.

**Psalm 104:29-30, "You hide your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; And You renew the face of the earth."**

Life and death are in the hands of our Creator, so for this month let's remember that and enjoy what God has given us!

**Psalm 104:34, "May my meditation be sweet to Him; I will be glad in the LORD."**

In October, join us every Saturday morning at 7:00 in the fellowship hall for men's breakfast.

*Brian Schmaderer*



## YOUTH MINISTRY

*By Ryan Lynn*

**Hebrews 1:1-4 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.**

There are many great things that the Youth Ministry gets to be a part of this Fall! 5th Quarter, Theme Nights, Car Washes, Ultimate Frisbee Nights, and so much more! But the biggest privilege is the opportunity to get to know Jesus better through the Word of God. We are currently in the epistle of Hebrews on Sunday nights. The theme I have chosen is titled, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus" because that is what the book is all about. Jesus is better than everyone and everything. We have been learning that no matter what the season, the reason should always be Jesus. It is our desire this Fall to point students to Jesus and the abundant life that can be found in Him alone.

Thank you for your prayers and support of the Youth Ministry. Please continue to pray for us as we reach out to and disciple the youth of Borrego Springs.

*Pastor Ryan*



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

By *Debie Dillahunt*

Ladies, are you ready for a new season of Bible study? Hopefully, the answer is "yes!", because we have another great study in store for us this year. Beginning on **October 17th**, our morning group will be blessed by Priscilla Shirer's study, **The Armor of God**. Priscilla is passionate about God's Word and she encourages women to experience a closer walk with our Lord.



As believers we are aware that we have a very real enemy who seeks to discourage us in many ways. Priscilla reminds us that "Christ our King is seated in heavenly places as a proclamation that ultimate victory over the enemy has already been accomplished." What a great reminder! Though we still experience trials, we have been given the treasure of God's Word, which contains everything we need to equip us with success over the enemy's wiles. A comment in our study book says, "The enemy always fails miserably when he meets a woman dressed for the occasion...a woman who is armed and dangerous." So, let's "suit up, stand firm, and secure victory" in our lives! And, oh yes, we will be doing some serious praying!!

**"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power." Ephesians 6:10**

*Debie Dillahunt*

## WOMEN'S HOME FELLOWSHIP

BY ROSE HEYDECKE

....But God...

Sometimes we are living our life, doing what God wants us to do, staying close to Him and others, thinking we are pretty sure of how the next chapter in our lives will play out. And then we hear His call and it's not how we had pictured our future at all.

We are told that we are made new in Christ Jesus to do the good things He had planned long ago. (Eph 2:10) Mary, the mother of Jesus, told the servants at a wedding they attended "do whatever He tells you." John 2:5

This is the season I am in. I am very excited about what God is doing and the next several months should show some changes in my life. In light of these changes we have asked Denise Schmaderer to take my place as the Women's Monday Night Fellowship facilitator. I am happy to tell you that God has raised up the very person He put on my heart when these decisions were being made.

Denise Schmaderer will now facilitate this amazing ministry for our God-thirsty ladies. I am so excited to see what God plans for each of us this coming season.

**Call to Him. He will answer you and show you mighty things you haven't even thought of! (Jer 33:3)**

*Rose Heydecke*



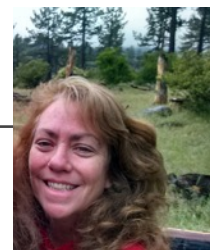
## WOMEN'S HOME FELLOWSHIP

BY DENISE SCHMADERER

Wow, I am excited for this chapter God has opened up to me. Knowing He will walk beside me giving me everything I need, He will sometimes be ahead of me pulling me along and sometimes He will be behind me pushing me through - all because I desire to please Him. He loves us that much!

This season we will be diving into the book of Acts with a study called Relying on the Power of the Holy Spirit, by Elizabeth George. We will be meeting at my sister Deborah's house on **Monday nights at 6:00 pm**.

My vision for the upcoming season is to keep doing what we have been doing with Rose - sitting at Jesus' feet, learning, loving and fellowshiping together.



Blessings,

*Denise Schmaderer*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 14TH

5th Quarter

OCTOBER 28TH

5th Quarter

OCTOBER 31ST

Harvest Festival

NOVEMBER 21ST

Thanksgiving Dinner

DECEMBER 2ND

Celebration of Lights



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