

# 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

**"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ." -Ephesians 1:3**

Summer is almost over and we are gearing up for another wonderful season here at the Christian Center. As you will see from this newsletter all of our Bible studies are starting up again on a weekly basis. I know you will be blessed in whichever ones you choose to go to.

We are beginning the book of Ephesians on Wednesday nights. Paul, writing from a Roman prison to the church at Ephesus, writes of all the blessings that God has bestowed upon the followers of His Son Jesus Christ: we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing, we are seated with Christ in the heavenlies, and He is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think. After equipping the saints with the truth of who we are in Christ, Paul then says...Now walk worthy. You see, once we recognize all that God has equipped us with, it is then, and only then, that we are able to live the Christian life. Otherwise we try to accomplish it in our own strength and that is when we fail miserably. We need to receive from God His strength, His empowering, in order to live the victorious Christian life that God has for us. As Peter said, **"His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him."** 1 Peter 1:3.

May we all continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.  
To Him be all glory, both now and forevermore. Amen

*Pastor Steve*

## TRIP TO KENYA

BY JOANNA MELLOR

As many of you know, I have been living in Chogoria, Kenya for the past month and a half with our church missionaries, the Webbers. I have been blessed beyond what I could have imagined by this family's love toward others and myself, and by



the work they are doing in this community.

My main job is to help Lauren with schooling her older two children (Lucy and Olive) and to play with her younger two (Jack and Ivy). I absolutely love engaging in both of these activities as they provide wonderful opportunities to grow in my relationships with these amazing children. The main other thing I am doing is to give music lessons three days a week to Lucy and Olive and our friends, Caleb and Kai, some missionary kids who live across the street from us.



There have been numerous situations over the past month and a half that have stretched me in many different ways. I have learned just how important patience and encouragement are, I have learned how to teach (which, as it turns out, can be very intimidating), I have learned how to wait before making quick judgments because maybe what he/she just said/did means something different in this culture or maybe (more than likely) there is another side to this child's story that I need to hear before making a decision.

Above all, I have learned (ok, I am still learning) that my personal time with the Lord is the most important part of every day and that surrendering to Him is a moment-by-moment necessity. My mom recently shared 1 Peter 5:7 with me and I like verse 6, as well: "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you." There are many questions that I don't have the answers to and wouldn't have the answers to even if I was in America. But I know the One who has the answers. And even if He chooses not to give them to me right now, I know that He will take care of me and guide me in His way and in His time.

Thank you all for all your prayers! God bless you!

*Joanna Mellor*

Follow Joanna at [www.ccborrego.com/missionaries](http://www.ccborrego.com/missionaries)

## MEN'S MINISTRY

BY PAUL PALASZEWSKI

### "Come and let us build the wall of Jerusalem" Nehemiah 2:17

As Nehemiah called on the beleaguered remnant of the nation of Israel to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, we send out a call to all the men of the Christian Center to come join us in the rebuilding of our own walls as well. It is only when our own individual walls have been rebuilt and fortified, in both a material and a spiritual sense, that we can then extend that hedge of protection around our families and loved ones, as we are all called to do as men of God. Nehemiah was first and foremost a man of prayer, but he was also a man who "put feet to his prayers". And this is where we can come to each other's aid as brothers in Christ: encouraging, admonishing, and exhorting each other to put feet to our prayers and gird up our walls.

October 5th marks the kickoff of our new season of weekly 7 am Saturday morning meetings in the fellowship hall. Our dedicated team of cooks and teachers is eager to dish out a hearty breakfast followed by the launch of our new Bible Study in the Book of Nehemiah.

So, once again, come out and join us. Let us rebuild our walls together! We are waiting for you, with a trowel in one hand, and the sword of the Spirit - the Word of God - in the other hand.



*Paul Palaszewski*

## THE HOUSE OF THE LORD

BY RYAN LYNN



**Psalms 122:1 "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'"**

Remember that iconic scene from the Wizard of Oz, when Dorothy is clicking her ruby slippers and repeating those magic words, "There is no place like home."? As the week progresses, I feel the same truth resonating in my heart, "There is no place like the house of the Lord." When I miss a Sunday, I feel something profound missing from my week. It feels oddly similar to being homesick. Why is that? Because it is in God's house that we find refuge, fellowship, and His presence. In the house of the Lord we are home. The time we spend in fellowship on earth is a dim reflection of our future home together.

**Revelation 7:9-11 "After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,"**

One day, every church, nation, tongue and people will stand before Him in one voice, lifting up His name. This is what home will look like, this is what life will be! This is why we exist, this is why we were created! There is something unexplainable being in the house of Lord, it's a weekly homecoming. So, I would encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities that you have set before you this Fall to be in His house!

**Hebrews 10:24-25 "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."**

Many of our Bible Studies are starting again here at the Christian Center this Fall! We would love for you to join us! Wherever you may find yourself, make sure you are not neglecting the privilege of gathering together! We need to be in the house of the Lord, it's where we belong!

The Youth Ministry has a busy Fall and Winter ahead of us. I am looking forward to spending more time with the students and reaching out to the community. We have 5th Quarter, special events and Winter Camp just around the corner. You can follow us on Facebook or go to UndespisedYouth.com. Thank you for all your prayers and support!

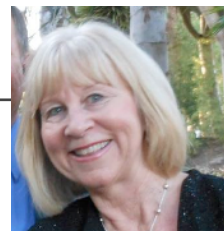
*Ryan Lynn*



## WOMEN'S MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

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BY DEBIE DILLAHUNT



Are you ready for a new season of Bible study? If so, please mark your calendars for October 14th when we will begin a study on the Books of 1 & 2 Peter. As we dig into God's Word, Peter will be reminding us that as believers in Jesus we have been given the priceless gift of eternal life. This promise of everlasting life is kept in heaven for us and cannot be taken away. What a wonderful thought to ponder: Jesus is our LIVING HOPE!

Peter was such a fascinating person! He was passionate, enthusiastic, devoted to Jesus, and at times, impulsive. He became a "fisher of men", walked on water with Jesus, witnessed the transfiguration, denied Jesus three times, yet was lovingly restored by Jesus as he was directed to "feed His sheep". Peter performed many miracles through the power of the Holy Spirit and became a pillar of the early church. I believe we will each be so blessed by this study and by what Peter has written to encourage us as we walk with our Savior.

If you haven't been attending a Bible study, I urge you to see what a difference it can make in your life. It's such a wonderful way to enjoy sweet fellowship with our friends while growing in our Christian faith. There is so much to learn - and God has so much to teach us! I hope you'll plan to join us. We'll save a seat for you!

**"...Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." 2 Peter:3:18**

Love and Blessings,

*Debie Dillahunt*



## WOMEN'S HOME FELLOWSHIP

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BY DENISE SCHMADERER

Hi Ladies,

Well, another summer is almost (not quite) behind us. As I get older it sure seems time goes faster! I look at my kids and it seems just the other day they were 3 and 5 now they are 23 and 25! How did that happen?

It makes me think of Jesus coming again. So many people think that there is plenty of time. "I'll accept Jesus next time." But as we look around, listen to the news, don't we realize that truly we are not even guaranteed tomorrow? As **Romans 13:11 says, "Another reason for right living is this: you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for the coming of the Lord is nearer now than when we first believed."** Isn't that the truth! The coming of the Lord is a year closer than when we started our women's Bible study last year!

I'm so excited to start up our Monday nights again. Mark your calendars for October 14th, 6 pm at my house.

Ladies, if you haven't come before, I'm praying this is the time! Come, as we fellowship, worship, rest and learn at His feet together. It is just such a blessed time. God is so good and faithful.

Blessings,

*Denise Schmaderer*

## MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENTS

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We are so blessed to have Felipe Heredia helping us here at the church. He and his family take care of the landscaping and they are doing a marvelous job. Felipe has also recoated our roof, painted the facade on the church and play structure, and helped us install a couple of new electrical circuits for the Harvest Festival.

We are also blessed to have Brian Blanton helping us here. He and Ryan installed a new air conditioner in our radio closet as well as replacing our Library air conditioner, and repairing our kitchen air conditioner. Thank you! We appreciate all that you do.

We are looking to install solar here at the church this Fall. We are planning on doing most of the work ourselves. If you would like to help please let us know. Also, if you would like to contribute to this project it is much appreciated.





## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BY MARIAN MELLOR

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper." Psalm 1:1-3

I have been encouraged over the last couple of months to learn that, even according to surveys, reading the Bible regularly fosters spiritual maturity and is a key factor in children being in relationship with Jesus into adulthood. In a podcast called "5 Leadership Questions," Jana Magruder, director of LifeWay Kids and author of Nothing Less: Engaging Kids in a Lifetime of Faith said that "The primary discipleship of a child should be in the home," and that "The greatest influencer of spiritual health for kids is a child regularly reading their Bible while growing up." She goes on to say, "Modeling Bible reading, prayer, and serving is something that should be done by parents and church leaders."

Reading the Bible with children is an exciting adventure. When our children were little we had a great time reading story Bibles with them and acting out the stories. As they have gotten older we enjoy deeper discussions about the truths that are presented in Scripture and how to live our lives according to God's word. My hope for this little article is to encourage you to read the Bible daily yourself as an example to those around you (they will know if you have spent time with Jesus whether they witness the reading or not) and to read it with your children and grandchildren as well. God's word is ALIVE and so very powerful and rich!

*Marian Mellor*

We have had a number of dear saints pass into the presence of the Lord this summer. We are thankful that they are with Jesus yet sorrowful that we will not see them again this side of eternity.



ALLISON SAUNDERS



DIRK "BRINK" BRINKMAN



SANTIAGO RIVERA

### Contact Us

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 20TH

AFTER THE GAME-12 A.M.

5th Quarter

OCTOBER 11TH

AFTER THE GAME-12 A.M.

5th Quarter

OCTOBER 14TH

9:30 A.M.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

OCTOBER 14TH

6PM @ DENISE'S HOME

WOMEN'S HOME  
FELLOWSHIP

NOVEMBER 2ND

6-9 P.M.

HARVEST FESTIVAL