

EQUIP ~ ENGAGE ~ EDIFY

OCTOBER 2017

CHRISTIAN CENTER NEWSLETTER

*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

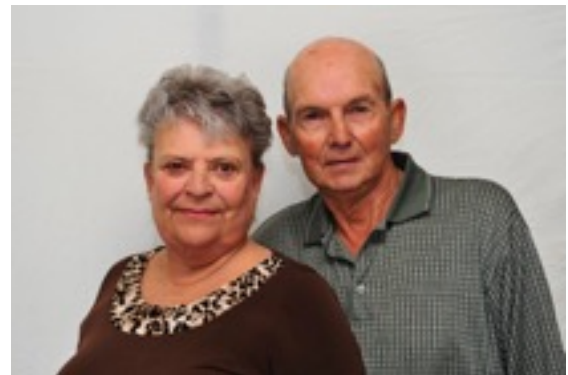
It is with somewhat of a heavy heart that I write this to you. Our dear friend and brother in the Lord, Leon Voetberg, passed away on September 19th. He and his wife Marde have fellowshiped here at the Christian Center for over ten years. We have been blessed by not only them but also their children and grandchildren who have performed at the church a number of times.



of life and that our true hope is in Jesus.

Only one life 'twill soon be past.

Only what's done for Christ will last. Written by Charles Studd 1931



It is good to be reminded of this truth as we traverse our days here on earth. May we live them for the glory of God.

Please remember Marde and the rest of the Voetberg family in your prayers. May God Bless Each One of You.

Pastor Steve



Leon was a regular at our Saturday morning men's breakfast and Bible study as well as our Wednesday evening Bible study. He always had good input to share at both studies. This is a bitter/sweet time in that we miss Leon and yet we realize that he is with Jesus, which is far better than being here on earth.

It says in Ecclesiastes 7:2, "Better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for that is the end of all men; and the living will take it to heart." It is at times like this that we recognize the brevity

FINANCES

We are having an unusually short year as to the income of the church. We are around \$31,000 down from what we anticipated to have at this time. If you are able to help it is greatly appreciated. We have some big events coming up as well. Thank you for your support and please keep us in prayer as we seek to be good stewards of the Lord's work here at the Christian Center.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BY MARIAN MELLOR

Ecclesiastes 3:1 "To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven;"

I like that each season of the year can seem like a new beginning. As we leave the "lazy days" of summer (I don't feel like I had too many of those – did you!?) and enter into the cooler days of fall and the commencement of the new school year, a fresh excitement for sharing the truths of God's love and His word with the children who attend the Christian Center bubbles over in my heart.

We will be having a side dish/dessert potluck (Mellors will provide chicken enchiladas and drinks) at the Mellor home on October 15th at noon for those who are already involved in the Children's Ministry as well as any who are interested in learning more about teaching and helping opportunities. Children's Ministry seems to be one that could nearly always use more volunteers. Please don't hesitate to inquire! We will go over the "norms" of the ministry and explore options for providing ways to excite the children about learning more about our awesome, loving Lord.

Blessings!

Marian

YOUTH MINISTRY

By Ryan Lynn

The last couple months have been profound for me. Undespised Youth went to Ensenada, Mexico for our Summer Camp this year. Brian Blanton, Crystal Westgate, Joe and Diana Del Bono came with us as leaders! They went above and beyond by serving in whatever area was needed. We were able to help at the Bible College, visit an orphanage, go shopping, surfing, eat tacos and be blessed by the worship ministry of the Mike Clark Band. Tia and Silas were baptized at sunset at Playa Hermosa after an awesome message. What was most profound for all of us was to be able to interact with the children at the orphanage. It was humbling that a simple meal, games and broken Spanish could be so powerful to them. I saw the students grow in their love for Jesus.

My family and I were able to take a vacation to the Northwest this summer. It was a refreshing time to see church members and God's creation in a whole new context. God gave us an extra special blessing when we were able to see the Voetberg family and see our dear friend Leon before he went to be with the Lord. Leon had a profound impact on my life. He taught me what it looks like to work hard, leave a legacy and be a man of integrity. Leon was fearless and forthright in his presentation of the Gospel. He has inspired me to be a better follower of Jesus and a better man. I look forward to the day I will see him again.



God has been opening doors in the Youth Ministry, showing me the importance of being faithful to your calling. It is only when you plant yourself and allow your roots to go deep that you begin to see fruit. Youth Ministry is hard work but when the fruit comes, it is all worth it. Thank you for your prayers!

Pastor Ryan





MEN'S MINISTRY

BY PAUL PALASZEWSKI

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" (Psalms 133:1)

It is with this verse in mind that the Men's Fellowship begins its weekly 7:00 am Saturday morning gatherings in the Christian Center Fellowship Hall for food, camaraderie, and time in God's word.

Our goal is to edify, equip, and empower each other to go out into the world to be the godly men and leaders He has called us to be in our marriages, our families, our workplace, on the sports field, wherever we have influence in the lives of others.

We start the morning by nourishing the body with a hearty breakfast ably prepared by Joe Wind and crew. Over the breakfast table there is ample time for some always lively "iron sharpening iron" conversation. We then transition into nourishing the spirit through the reading of God's word. This season we will be digging deep into the beloved Gospel of John under the facilitative guidance of Paul Palaszewski, Brian Blanton, and Gene Simpson; each of them, on weekly rotation, unfolding verse after verse in their own unique spirit led way. So, come on out and

discover with us why many consider this Gospel the most precious book in the Bible, and why John himself declares that the words contained therein were written

"that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name." (John 20:31)



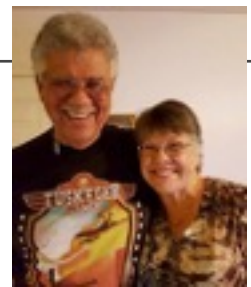
Paul

SALT & LIGHT

By Jim & Kathy Tapscott

Why Salt & Light at the Christian Center? What is it?

Jim & Kathy Tapscott celebrate one year of marriage this month and believe their union is a direct result of intervention by God. Believing they are to be a Team for Jesus Christ and prompted by the Holy Spirit over the past several months, they desire to serve as leaders for Salt & Light. Jim has over 24 years' experience with community involvement, i.e., Christian Coalition, Promise Keepers, Founder of Ramona Tea Party and many other Christian Conservative Groups. Both desire to serve God and America by seeking to help our country return to its Biblical roots.



Salt and Light is a Christian movement throughout our country. We adhere firmly to the Biblical teachings of God's sovereignty and man's responsibilities. Many people believe there is nothing they can personally do to help change things for the better. However, we believe that our Creator is calling His people to be united together in one mind and one heart for the sake of survival as a nation and that we must return to His biblical word of Truth which has been clearly revealed in the Bible.

We encourage your input and hope that together we CAN indeed make a difference as we grasp what being Salt and Light in our community truly means. Please join us in prayer as we seek God's Light upon the darkness of today's world. Your presence and input is important to us! We gather together every first and third Sunday at 8 a.m. before church to share current concerns within our city, state and country and agree on what action to take as we seek His guidance!



MISSIONS TO THE PHILIPPINES

BY LINSI CLAIN

As many of you know, the last two summers I have had the extraordinary privilege of serving 200 uniquely amazing children at an orphanage in Bacolod, Philippines. These children have shown me the loving heart of Christ in more ways than I can begin to describe, and I have been overwhelmingly blessed to be part of the ministry there, alongside all of you!

Having said that, I am excited to share that I will be putting together another Christmas package for the children in Bacolod this year! I received a wish list from the orphanage and I would love to open up the opportunity for you to donate items from this list as well. The package we sent last year was a huge blessing and surprise, and many of the children thanked me personally, asking me to thank my church for thinking of them during the holidays. That said, I thank you all for your endless love, support, and prayers! I look forward to seeing how God will use this package and continue His work in the hearts of these precious kids!

Love and Blessings,

Linsi

NEEDS

New of Like New School Items:

- School Notebooks
- Finger Paints
- Coloring Books
- Silicone Soap Molds
- Sewing Material
- Balloons
- Tacky Glue

Hard to Find Food Items

- Jelly Bellies
- Chocolate Chips
- Nuts: Sunflower seeds, Pecans, Walnuts, and Almonds

Other Much Desired Items

- Waterproof cloth diapers
- Harlem Globe Trotters DVD

**Donation for Buying Items or
Sending Through Postal System**

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

By Pat Oakes

Can you touch a prayer? Can you pull it close and feel its comfort? You can if it's part of a prayer quilt.

The idea behind these quilts is simple, yet powerful. A heavy thread is used to take stitches through the quilt layers, and the ends are left free to be tied with a square knot. As each knot is tied, a silent prayer is offered for someone in special need-someone who has asked us to pray for them. The quilt is then given to that person. What makes each quilt so special is not the pattern, color or workmanship, but the fact that prayer is symbolically tied into each one. These comforters are a statement of faith, and a testimony to our belief in God and in the power of prayer.

The Prayer Quilt ministry is always looking for more helping hands. You don't need to know how to quilt to help either. If you are interested in helping please contact Pat Oakes. God Bless!



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

By *Debie Dillahunt*

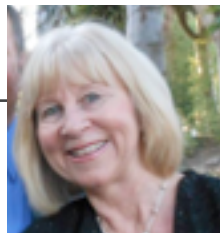
Ladies, are you ready for a new season of Bible study? The time is drawing near! Please mark your calendars for **October 23rd**, our first meeting date. We will be blessed with Lysa Terkheurst's study of 'FINDING I AM', which is an in-depth study of the seven "I AM" statements of Jesus found in the gospel of John.

Lysa is a gifted author who loves the Lord and has a passion for God's Word. During our study we will be treated to several videos about each "I AM" statement of Jesus. The videos were filmed in the Holy Land, so we will be 'traveling' with Lysa to the same places that Jesus walked. In Lysa's words, "Jesus is the key to any kind of satisfaction you are looking for. He alone will fill the empty places of your heart..." This makes me think of how Jesus desires for us to have abundant life through a relationship with Him. He is the way, the truth and the life!

I am so looking forward to spending time with you as we soak up God's Word and enjoy fellowship together! We will continue to meet from 9:30-11:30 each week (except holidays).

"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life.'" John 8:12

Debie Dillahunt



UPCOMING EVENTS

MID-WEEK & MEN'S BREAKFAST are back to every week now.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23RD, 2017

WOMEN'S STUDIES are starting again!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH, 2017

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Candy donations are under way and flyers are available to pick up at the church.

NOVEMBER 20TH

Thanksgiving Dinner

WOMEN'S HOME FELLOWSHIP

BY *DENISE SCHMADERER*



I hope you all had a wonderful summer. I was hoping to get together with more of you but time sure does move quickly! We are now back into the season and I am excited for some of our wonderful snowbirds to be back! AND I am very excited to start our nighttime fellowship Bible study!!

We will be in the book of Ephesians. The study is called "Understanding Your Blessings in Christ", by Elizabeth George.

This really excites me because in this crazy world, no matter what life is throwing at us, we all can stop and know that "As God's children, we have everything we could ever need for daily life. Yet we often miss these riches because we don't know what they are."

I hope all you ladies will be able to join us starting Monday, October 23 at 6pm, my house.

Blessings,

Denise Schmaderer

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