

Community Christian Center

The Word
Fellowship
Prayer

The Good Tidings Newsletter

A Report on the Revival at CCC



JULY, 2009

KENNETH CLOWDUS, PASTOR

VOLUME 115

Pastor's Corner

This month featuring *Associate Pastor Mike Stephens*

ISAIAH 55:11 *So shall My Word be that goes forth from My mouth: It shall not return to Me void. But it shall accomplish what I please. And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.*

Hab 2:4, Rom 1:7, Gal 3:10, Heb 10:38: *The just shall live by faith!*

It is once again my great honor to address some of God's elect



people. His forever family, who are blood-bought and on their way to a glorious future with God, though the battle down here is raging, and sometimes it seems to be very difficult.

The Lord has allowed Linda, Chris and me to be with you all for a number of years now. And we are very pleased to be with you. Our Pastor, Ken Clowdus, has had a vision for revival for many years. And he, like Elijah of old, has not ceased

to look for that cloud in what would appear to be a cloudless sky. However, God has said we shall have revival, and we shall have revival. All men and women of faith (though at times that faith be sorely tried), shall prevail in prayer by the Holy Spirit. We shall behold God's mighty plan unfold before our eyes. For as certainly as our God has called us to pray, He is the mighty One who answers those prayers.

Over the years I've watched our church continue to grow into a house of prayer. Prayer meetings have increased as God has raised up watchmen on the wall (Isaiah 62:6). God's people have always overcome incredible odds. As a matter of fact, you could say that many were impossible odds. But then if they had been able to do it, they would not have needed God, would they? Today we see sin abounding in our nation. Children, instead of being treated as the blessing of the Lord, are being thrown to the way-side. Millions have been aborted. Seniors are being discarded. 85 percent of people in prison (men and women) come from fatherless homes. People are bound on drugs, liquor, gambling, sex and all kinds of bondages. But our God is still God in heaven above and on the earth beneath. And though all these things scream loudly, where sin does abound grace does that much more abound.

"I will pour my Spirit out on all flesh your sons and daughters shall prophesy. Your old men shall dream dreams and your young men shall see visions". Revival - when it appears all hope is gone and the battle lost. God! All by Himself, mighty to save, mighty to deliver. Our awesome God and King. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is heaven. You remember Ezekiel 37, the dry bones. Can they be made to live again? With God, absolutely they can. And in Psalm 68:5 God still says He will be a father to the fatherless. Even so, Lord, revive Thy works in the midst of the years. Abba, Daddy, all things are possible. Lord, we are with You, we are Your children and we are given for

signs and wonders in the midst of the people.

I've also watched in amazement as God has continued to send more and more seasoned Christians into our midst, such as Pastor Cliff and Nancy Schoelz and Pastor Ed - men and women who are really good role models. Men and women of substance in the things of God.

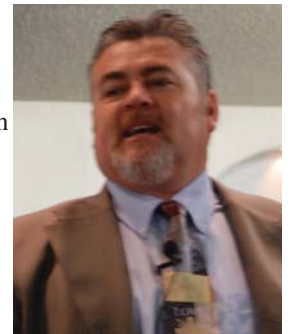
Shall we have revival? God has said we shall - how can we not? Our prayer coordinator, Laura Tassin, has been faithful in prayer every day and leads others in prayer. Hands are being laid on a map of Covina, claiming souls and revival. Many tears have been shed over this city. God has said, "My word shall not return to me void, but shall accomplish that for which I have sent it". "Write the vision on tablets of stone that he that reads it can run". Our Pastor has kept the vision before the people. He believes in leading the way in repentance and in prayer. May the Lord God of hosts continue to strengthen him and his wife and family. We love you and thank God for all your prayers and love.

WE SHALL HAVE REVIVAL!

New Beginnings

Our church evangelists, Dennis and Denise Ponce have moved to the high desert and have taken positions of ministry with CCC of Hesperia, our sister church. They have been a source of inspiration and blessings to this church for several years and they will be sorely missed. However, Pastor Ken agrees that God is moving them at this time and so we have to wish them the very best in their new posts.

A few months ago, Dennis had been riding his motorcycle on the way to work in L.A. when a bus hit him causing the breaking of ten bones, difficulty breathing, and extreme pain. Dennis gave his testimony about this ordeal on Sunday morning, June 28 and I recommend you get the tape. He is on fire for the Lord. If you are going through a hard time right now, his message will surely help you. It was wonderful to see him walking and that was a fairly recent development in his healing. Continue to pray for his complete healing and for an anointing on their new ministry. P.S. We'll miss the great sense of humor also.



Sunday evening Dennis and Denise were anointed by the church leaders and sent off with our blessing.

Elder, Al Olquin, was anointed for the position of church evangelist as he had been a part of the outreach program from the start. He also ministers once a month to the people at the L.A. Mission. We look forward to his ministry in this area.

Chris Sloan also was anointed to take over the college and career class. He will be wonderful in that position.

Recently retired Pastor Cliff and his wife Nancy were anointed and will be helping out with pastoral visitation.

A church potluck followed which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

A Good Person

by Sharon Johnson

One Sunday last month at the end of the service, I felt the Holy Spirit very strongly in the sanctuary. I had been depressed for a while and was trying to overcome it, but was not very successful. People had prayed for me but it still lingered. I was beginning to feel hopeless. That morning I began to quietly weep over my recent bad behavior. I felt I had acted badly in some situations and had repented but I still could not get over it. How could I have acted that way?

As I stood there crying the Lord revealed to me that I was grieving over my sins and some recent disappointments. The service ended and I had to go my way but I told myself that I would grieve this out at a later time – I knew the Lord was leading me in that direction.

That night I remembered a lot of things that I had done wrong in my life...really bad things, in my opinion. Oh, I had never been into drugs or alcohol, but I feel I was worse. Again I thought, “How could I have acted that way?” “How could I have done those things?” “Am I a bad person?”

I began thinking about the advice that Berin Gilfilin, founder of ISOM, had given us a couple years ago. He said this much more eloquently than I can and he may have said it differently, but this is what I came away with: when bad or evil thoughts come into your head, you say to them and yourself, “That is not who I am in the Lord. That is not who I want to be.” He explained that it may be an evil spirit or it may be your old sin nature speaking to you. It is imperative that we Christians know that we have been born again into a new creation in Christ Jesus. Old things have passed away – behold He makes all things new. This gets rid of those thoughts – it is very effective. Then I linked this teaching up with my sinful behavior.

So it finally dawned on me that in me there is no good thing. I can't be good. Duh! Where have I been? This is old teaching to a Christian who has been around as long as I have. But this word finally became Rhema to me; that is, it wasn't just in my head but it reached my heart and my very being. I used to think being a good person was what one must strive for. The only compliment I remember hearing over and over from my dad was that I was a good girl, therefore, being a “good girl” was what I strived for. But it was impossible because there is no good in me without God. Jesus said, there is no one good, but God (and He is God). I was wanting to be something that was not possible for me to be on my own, and my life showed it. Outwardly, I may have looked okay but there were things I hid from others. My sin nature was alive and well and in hiding.

Even as I grew as a Christian, I still wanted to be a “good person.” I wanted to be thought of as a “good person.” I even withdrew from life and people because I didn't want to hurt others and I didn't want to be thought of as a bad person. How wrong I was. I am hopelessly sinful and wrong without my Savior.

And so I, like Paul, have to say Rom 7:24-8:3 *Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin. So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death.* NLT

Also, God forgives us when we fall: 1 John 1:8-10 *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* NKJV

I feel very humbled, but freed by His work on the cross and by

the power of the Holy Spirit. I hope that this might help someone struggling with this problem. God bless all of you who strive to know Him better and eagerly await His soon return.

SNATCHED FROM HELL

by Rev Laura Tassin

My landlady, who had buried her husband within the last two years, found out that she had cancer.

Several of the prayer groups at church had been praying and believing with me for this lady's salvation. Every day I would see her dwindling away up to the point where she wasn't able to walk any more. I then asked her brother if it would be possible for me to come over to pray for her, and he told me he would ask, but he never got back to me.

Two weeks later I was asked to come over and pray with her – because she had become comatose. I rushed out of the house to sit with her, talk to her and pray. Her younger brother, who was taking care of her affairs for her, told me that all of the family would be in by one o'clock in the afternoon, so I went home to pray and ask the Lord what to say. I called Pastor Ken and Lorraine DeLille for some back-up prayer. When I returned to her apartment, the whole family was there and all of them were gathered around her. She had no idea we were all there: she was not responsive; her eyes were rolled back and closed.

I asked if I could anoint her. I was told yes. Then I stood in the gap for her. I did Romans 15:1 that states that we, who are stronger, can stand in the gap for the weaker. I also did Romans 10:9 speaking as if I was her – repented of every sin and asked Jesus to come into my heart. Next I read her my mother's favorite chapter in the Bible, John 17 at the end of the chapter where Jesus stated that he wanted us to be with Him so that we could see the glory that He had with the Father before the world began. Just then one of her sisters looked down at her and then I also looked down and we saw tears coming from my landlady's eyes!

I believe with all my heart that this was a sign from God that this woman understood and agreed with everything I had said and had been doing. I stated to the family that, as an ordained minister of the Lord I felt that everything that should or could be said, had been said, and I released her to the Lord. I asked them if they, as a family, felt that they should hold on to her, it was okay with me but I had released her. They agreed and also released her. Two hours later she was gone.

To me it was showing God's mercy, as it states in His word, He does not want anyone to perish, and I feel he held her alive for two weeks until I could get there. The Lord showed me something that I didn't understand till later, and it is that we can stand in the gap for someone who is comatose, and, to this day, I believe that woman heard and accepted Jesus as her Savior. I believe she is now in the presence of the Lord. We have the power to snatch many out of darkness into the kingdom of His dear Son. We need to learn to use our power as believers.

Editor's Note: It is a well-known fact that people who are in a coma can hear and understand what is being said around them. This landlady definitely was on her way to Hell before Laura talked to her that day because she had never accepted the Lord as her Savior. This is mere speculation, but she could have been having a horrifying near-death, Hell experience when Laura's words reached her, and, as she accepted God's salvation plan, she was snatched out of Hell.



Klutz

From the Internet

Submitted by *Rindy Meyers*

Come with me to a third grade classroom...There is a nine-year-old kid sitting at his desk and all of a sudden, there is a puddle between his feet and the front of his pants are wet. He thinks his heart is going to stop because he cannot possibly imagine how this has happened. It's never happened before, and he knows that when the boys find out he will never hear the end of it. When the girls find out, they'll never speak to him again as long as he lives.

The boy believes his heart is going to stop; he puts his head down and prays this prayer, 'Dear God, this is an emergency! I need help now! Five minutes from now I'm dead meat.'

He looks up from his prayer and here comes the teacher with a look in her eyes that says he has been discovered..

As the teacher is walking toward him, a classmate named Susie is carrying a goldfish bowl that is filled with water.

Susie trips in front of the teacher and inexplicably dumps the bowl of water in the boy's lap.

The boy pretends to be angry, but all the while is saying to himself, "Thank you, Lord! Thank you, Lord!"

Now, all of a sudden, instead of being the object of ridicule, the boy is the object of sympathy. The teacher rushes him downstairs and gives him gym shorts to put on while his pants dry out. All the other children are on their hands and knees cleaning up around his desk. The sympathy is wonderful. But as life would have it, the ridicule that should have been his has been transferred to someone else - Susie.

She tries to help, but they tell her to get out. "You've done enough, you klutz!"

Finally, at the end of the day, as they are waiting for the bus, the boy walks over to Susie and whispers, 'You did that on purpose, didn't you?' Susie whispers back, 'I wet my pants once too.'

May God help us see the opportunities that are always around us to do good.....

Remember...Just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car.

Baby Dedication



On June 6, 2009, Adam Joseph Paraspolo was dedicated to the Lord.

The proud parents are Adam and Astrid Paraspolo. In the above picture, Associate Pastor, Tony Paraspolo, great grandfather to little Adam Joseph, is anointing the parents for the tremendously important job of raising this little guy in the Lord.

This is the first baby we've seen that appears to be praying along with us during the dedication! (See picture)

"Ah! dear friend, you little know the possibilities which are in you. *Charles Spurgeon*



Pastor Ken

A Poem by *Billy Paver*

This Pastor who teaches us to pray,
And how to act and what to say.
He reads scripture and quotes the Word,
And, most often, even is an early bird.
(5a.m. prayer)

When He's preaching he says, "Amen,"
All you need is paper and pen.
Follow the Word on screen or Book,
But write it down and get a good look.

Put it in your heart, and walk it out
With the Lord's blessing you will shout!
He says, "Oh, c'mon church, get real!"
And the anointing you will feel.

Word, prayer, fellowship, He says are tools,
And are written on the 3 legged stool.
Do these simple steps every day,
And no matter what, find a time to pray.

Let the Word and Spirit give you power,
And it will come down on you like a shower,
It will cover you from head to toe,
And you'll have more power than you know.

So...Listen, read, study the word and repent
where you've been,
And let's follow this man we call Pastor Ken
As he leads us closer to Jesus. Amen & Amen!

GOOD MORNING

Submitted by *Dee Paraspolo*

When I say good morning I mean to say:

G-od
O-ffers us His
O-utstanding
D-evotion to
M-ake us
O-bedient &
R-eady for a
N-ew day with Him.
I-nspire others please, and
N-ever forget
G-od loves you!

HAVE A BLESSED DAY!

FATHER'S DAY



God
Bless
all the
fathers
of
CCC.

Kitchen Korner

...from the kitchen of *Dee Paraspolo*

May, June and July clump together are three great opportunities for us to remember those that serve our country - Memorial Day, Flag Day and Independence Day. Since the foundation of our country, men and women have fought for our freedom. They have been on the frontlines and behind the scenes; some have become famous, while many more have given their lives and only their family and small community knew their names; some are fighting this day for our freedom, but all our veterans through the ages deserve our thanks:

It is the veteran, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the veteran, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the veteran, not the preacher, who has given us freedom of religion.

It is the veteran, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble.

It is the veteran, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the veteran, not the politician, who has given us the right to vote.

Thank you, to all our veterans throughout the decades who have protected our freedom. Thank you to all our men and women in the service no matter where you serve. God Bless you all!!!

Below is an internet story of an unusual service by an unusually generous serviceman:

"A nurse took the tired, anxious serviceman to the bedside. 'Your son is here,' she said to the old man. She had to repeat the words several times before the patient's eyes opened. Heavily sedated because of the pain of his heart attack, he dimly saw the young uniformed Marine standing outside the oxygen tent. He reached out his hand. The Marine wrapped his toughened fingers around the old man's limp ones, squeezing a message of love and encouragement. The nurse brought a chair so the Marine could sit beside the bed.

All through the night the young Marine sat there in the poorly lighted ward, holding the old man's hand and offering him words of love and strength.

Occasionally, the nurse suggested that the Marine move away and rest awhile. He refused. Whenever the nurse came into the ward, the Marine was oblivious of her and of the night noises of the hospital - the clanking of the oxygen tank, the laughter of the night staff members exchanging greetings, the cries and moans of the other patients. Now and then she heard him say a few gentle words. The dying man said nothing, only held tightly to his son all through the night.

Along toward dawn, the old man died. The Marine released the now lifeless hand he had been holding and went to tell the nurse. While she did what she had to do, he waited. Finally, she returned. She started to offer words of sympathy, but the Marine interrupted her.

'Who was that man?' he asked.

The nurse was startled, 'He was your father,' she answered.

'No, he wasn't,' the Marine replied. 'I never saw him before in my life.'

'Then why didn't you say something when I took you to him?'

'I knew right away there had been a mistake, but I also knew he needed his son, and his son just wasn't here. When I realized that he was too sick to tell whether or not I was his son, knowing how much he needed me, I stayed.'

The next time someone needs you, the next time someone needs me, let's remember to just be there . . . to stay.

WOMENS MEETING



Rev. Brenda Dearden spoke at Women's meeting last month. She is an anointed speaker gifted in prophetic ministry. She talked about the struggles going on right now in this country - she said it is a birthing time - not a pleasant time, rather difficult and painful, but, oh, the reward!!! She gave new insight to the enemies we have to conquer - as Joshua did, but God gets the victory. We had a blessed time of healing and words of encouragement after the message.



Norma Bank was our singer that day and she chose the song, One God. To illustrate one people under one God, she lit a large candle and then all the ladies received a candle which we lit. The lights were dimmed and then we sang together. It was quite touching and we pray that our light can be seen in the darkness of this fallen world..



"God, I pray Thee, light these idle sticks of my life, that I may burn for Thee. Consume my life, my God, for it is Thine. I seek not a long life, but a full one, like You, Lord Jesus."

-*Jim Elliot*

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