

Community Christian Center

The Word
Fellowship
Prayer

The Good Tidings Newsletter

A Report on the Revival at CCC



JUNE, 2009

KENNETH CLOWDUS, PASTOR

VOLUME 114

Pastor's Corner

This month featuring *Rev. Lorraine DeLille*,
Director of Women's Ministries

DIRECTION FROM GOD

Prov. 3:6 In all of thy ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct thy paths.

Notice...the Word says, "PATHS" and not path, indicating not just one path but all of our paths. He is willing to constantly direct us, if we so desire.

He'll direct our path when our flight is cancelled and we find ourselves having to wait and wait AND wait. He'll direct our path when our old nature is being put down and our new nature is getting stronger and overcoming the old nature.

Only conceited people do not feel their need for guidance. A humble person is not ashamed to recognize his or her need for wisdom from above. Jeremiah cried out, "O, Lord I know that the way of a man is not in himself; it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Jer. 10:23

We are dependent upon our fellow men as well as upon God. We are not sufficient unto ourselves. No one lives to himself entirely. We are in need of others and others need us. Perhaps this little story about a conversation from a library will help to point up the danger of conceit.

"I am writing a great book," remarked the Pen. "It will make me famous."

"Indeed!" exclaimed the Ink Bottle. "I was rather of the opinion that I was writing the book. How much would you write without my ink?"

"Well, of all the conceited fools!" sneered the Paper. "It is not your book at all, but mine. I am the book. It is written on my pages. Take it from me, if you can!"

"You are all wrong," said the dictionary, "What is a book but words? And, where does the writer get the words except from me? You have all seen how often he comes to me for them. The book is indeed mine."

Well, then the author who had heard the conversation, laughed out loud. "I suppose," he said, "No one ever did something worthwhile but a dozen assistants, completely his inferior, took credit for it themselves."

Let us acknowledge our need for Divine Guidance. His will is our peace, but our will, apart from God's will, is our doom! "...He that doeth the will of God abideth forever." 1 John 2:17

The path where God is guiding us may lead over mountains or deserts or seas, but, it is a SAFE PATH! It will lead us to the very desires of our heart. In His Service, Rev. Lorraine DeLille



PARENT'S GUILTY FEELINGS

Many parents feel very guilty about the way they raised their children. Some were not Christians at the time or very nominal Christians. Some were plagued with issues from the past or the present. Some have matured since raising their kids and know a lot more now. In his book and magazine, Dr. James Dobson answered a question posed to him about the guilt and regret experienced by some parents over the way they reared their children. He answered this question as follows:

Let me deal with the awful guilt you are obviously carrying. There's hardly a parent alive who does not have some regrets and painful memories of their failures as a mother or a father. Children are infinitely complex, and we can no more be perfect parents than we can be perfect human beings. The pressures of living are often enormous.

We get tired and irritated; we are influenced by our physical bodies and our emotions, which sometimes prevent us from saying the right things and being the models we should be. We don't always handle our children as unemotionally as we wish we had, and it's common to look back a few years later and see how wrong we were in the way we approached a problem.

All of us experience these failures! No one does the job perfectly! That's why each of us should get alone with God and say:

"Lord, You know my inadequacies. You know my weaknesses, not only in parenting, but also in every area of my life. I did the best I could, but it wasn't good enough. As You broke the fishes and the loaves to feed the 5,000, now take my meager effort and use it to bless my family. Make up for the things I did wrong. Satisfy the needs that I have not satisfied. Wrap Your great arms around my children, and draw them close to You. And be there when they stand at the great crossroads between right and wrong. All I can give is my best, and I've done that. Therefore, I submit to You my children and myself and the job I did as a parent. The outcome now belongs to You."

I know the Father will honor that prayer, even for parents whose job is finished. The Lord does not want you to suffer from guilt over events you can no longer influence. The past is the past. Let it die, never to be resurrected. Give the situation to God, and let Him have it. I think you'll be surprised to learn that you're no longer alone!

"Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:13-14).

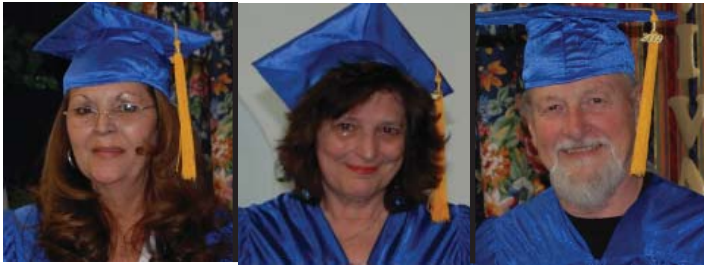
Taken from the Complete Marriage and Family Home Reference Guide by Dr. James Dobson. Copyright 2000. Published by Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

No matter how calmly you try to referee, parenting will eventually produce bizarre behavior, and I'm not talking about the kids.

Their behavior is always normal.

Bill Cosby

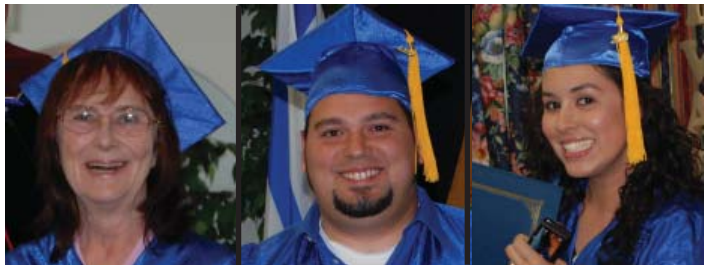
ISOM Graduation



Magdalena Hernandez Kathy Hoover Rick Hoover



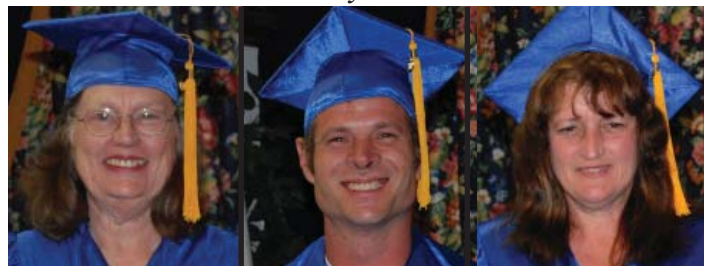
Melba Jackson Paul Lang Brenda Leon



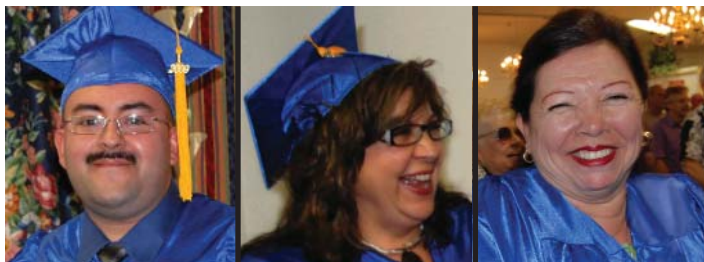
Jacque O'Donnell Dustin Paraspolo Sara Paraspolo



Melba Redd Judy Shea Jesse Soto



Miriam Tabler John Williams Florice Williams



James Ybarra Luana Zapata Denise Ponce, ISOM Program Overseer

In May, CCC held commencement services for the second graduating class of International School of Ministries. ISOM is a 5 trimester program with some very tough mid-term and final exams, which is designed to equip people to reach the lost for Jesus. Each of the 17 honorees received an Associate Degree in Bible Studies. Our guest speaker was Dave Truax - the ex-mayor of Covina who is currently campaigning for a seat in



Congress. Denise Ponce was the overseer of the program. Judy Shea received special recognition for her commitment to the program and perfect attendance. Pastor Ken defined the word 'riches' as having God's Word in one's heart; and this special group of people have been very much enriched through their hard work and study of the Bible. Congratulations!



Miriam and Michael Tabler have been making tracts to hand out to Covinan's for a few years now. Pastor Mike and his group of evangelists have passed out over 10,000 tracts. Praise God for their evangelistic talent and fervor. We pray God continues to bless them, anoint them and keep them safe and we also pray that the seed that was planted will take hold and bring forth new souls for the Lord.

Baby Dedication



On May 10, 2009, Little Ethan Manuel Espinoza was dedicated to the Lord at CCC. He was born on January 29, 2008. Parents, Carisa and Juan Espinoza; Brother, David; Godparents, Monica and Michael Padua; Greatgrandparents, Albert and Esther Gomez; Grandfather, John Robert Gomez. We rejoice with this family who choose to follow in the Godly tradition of dedicating their lives to raising Ethan in the way of the Lord, and we ask God for many, many blessings upon him. One meaning for the name, Ethan, in Hebrew: strong; the gift of the island. Also, a man named Ethan is noted to have written the 89th Psalm.

Followers of Jesus

E	P	D	D	E	T	H	O	M	A	S	H
N	T	W	T	S	R	I	P	B	S	E	J
E	W	E	H	T	T	A	M	I	I	M	U
L	A	M	A	Y	U	E	M	O	A	A	D
A	I	O	D	L	Y	O	P	T	T	J	A
D	D	L	D	A	N	A	T	H	O	H	S
G	Y	O	A	P	A	H	E	H	E	I	Y
A	L	H	E	L	I	N	N	T	M	N	E
M	P	T	U	A	H	A	D	O	S	S	W
Y	E	R	S	A	B	A	N	R	A	B	U
R	T	A	B	I	T	H	A	L	E	A	O
A	A	B	P	H	I	L	I	P	A	W	H
M	S	T	R	P	S	S	I	O	E	E	U

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|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Andrew | Mary Magdalene | Simon Peter |
| Barnabas | Matthew | Stephen |
| Bartholomew | Matthias | Tabitha |
| James | Paul | Thaddaeus |
| John | Philip | Thomas |
| Judas | Silas | Timothy |
| Lydia | Simon | |

Jump for Jesus is a new children's ministry led by Wanda Lee. The goal of the program is to lead the kids into true praise and worship of our Lord. We just know that the children will enjoy these experiences and will grow spiritually as they worship.



CCC fondly remembers our dear brother, **Edward Michael Escandon**, who passed away April 28, 2009. Eddie and his wife, Esther, and their children, Michelle and Michael, attended CCC for several years until they accepted a ministry assignment at another church. Esther said that Eddie saw angels all around him a week before he died. This wonderful, fun-loving man is now in the presence of the Lord forever.

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Laura Tassin (Rt) with daughter, Vionne Tassin-Chapman. (Lt) *Irma Rincon (Rt) with Marine son, Andy Rincon. (Lt)* *LaVonne Adams with her mother, Leota Ely*

Judy Shea with son, Shawn Shea, and friend, Beverly Anaya

The best Mother's Day gift is for Mom to have her children with her in church on Mother's Day - or any day! See some happy mothers above.

Mother's Day

CCC honored the ladies on Mother's Day. Pastor Ken spoke on the tenacity of mothers to help their children and used the story of the Syro-Phoenician woman as an example. It's a great story of a mother's love and can be found in the Bible - Mark 7:25-30.



Kitchen Korner

...from the kitchen of *Dee Paraspolo*
Adapted from the internet (author unknown).

A father came home from work late, tired and irritated, to find his 6-year old son waiting for him at the door.

SON: 'Daddy, may I ask you a question?'

DAD: 'Yeah sure, what it is?' replied the man.

SON: 'Daddy, how much do you make an hour?'

DAD: 'That's none of your business. Why do you ask such a thing?' the man said angrily.

SON: 'I just want to know. Please tell me, how much do you make an hour?'

DAD: 'If you must know, I make \$50 an hour.'

SON: 'Oh,' the little boy replied, with his head down.

SON: 'Daddy, may I please borrow \$25?'

The father was furious, 'If the only reason you asked that is so you can borrow some money to buy a silly toy or some other nonsense, then you march yourself straight to your room and go to bed. Think about why you are being so selfish. I don't work hard everyday for such childish frivolities.'

The little boy quietly went to his room and shut the door. The man sat down and started to get even angrier about the little boy's questions. How dare he ask such questions only to get some money?

After about an hour or so, the man had calmed down, and started to think: Maybe there was something he really needed to buy with that \$25.00 and he really didn't ask for money very often. The man went to the door of his son's room and opened it.

DAD: 'Are you asleep, son?'

SON: 'No daddy, I'm awake.'

'I've been thinking, maybe I was too hard on you earlier,' said the father. 'It's been a long day and I took out my aggravation on you. Here's the \$25 you asked for.'

The small boy sat straight up, smiling. 'Oh, thank you daddy!' he yelled. Then, reaching under his pillow he pulled out some crumpled up bills. The man saw that the boy already had money and started to get angry again.

His son slowly counted out the money, and then looked up at his father.

'Why do you want more money if you already have some?' his father grumbled.

'Because I didn't have enough, but now I do,' the little boy replied . . .

The boy held out the money toward his father. 'Daddy, I have \$50 now. Can I buy an hour of your time? Please come home early tomorrow. I would like to have dinner with you.'

The father was crushed. He put his arms around his little son, and he begged for his forgiveness.

It's just a short reminder to all of us working so hard in life. We should not let time slip through our fingers without having spent some time with those who really matter to us, those close to our hearts. Do remember to share that \$50 worth of your time with someone you love. If we die tomorrow, the company

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that we are working for could easily replace us in a matter of hours... But our family and friends we leave behind will feel the loss for a long, long time.

As our Father has loved us, let us also love each other.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Incentive

by *Dee Paraspolo*

My daughter, Deborah, left me a telephone message saying, "Call me, I was really bad and I want to tell you about it." This is common among my adult kids, as they know they can catch my attention and get me to call when they have a story to tell.

Deb is the mother of four girls ranging from ages 4 to 10. She teaches in a private school and had just come home from school.

According to Deb the house was a disaster with toys and little girls' things from one end to the other - far beyond anything acceptable. But she was laughing as she told me how she got the girls into a frenzy of cleaning. She gathered them around her and said, "This house is a pig sty, we have to get it cleaned up before we all come down with the swine flu."

Women's Meeting

Melba Redd spoke at Women's Meeting in May. She is a



wonderful spokeswoman for God. The title of her message was, "Embrace." It was quite meaningful when she asked the audience to hug the person next to them, and we all gave a curtesy hug to each other. Then she said, "Now, embrace that same person." What a difference when you embrace someone - there is a deeper feeling of love and connection. She likened that to our relationship to God. She said,

"Embrace the Lord - cherish and hug Him, hold Him close. He will embrace you back."

Sharon Redfern supervises the cooking and table arrangements for the Meetings. She, along with her helpers, Dorothy Barela and Bettie Clark, do an excellent job and we appreciate them very much. Sharon decorated each table with a special theme pertinent to women last month. She then went around and told about each special treasure she had selected for the tables. She is so talented...and **really can** make a silk purse out of a sow's ear!!!



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