

# Community Christian Center



The Word  
Fellowship  
Prayer

## The Good Tidings Newsletter

A Report on the Revival at CCC

NOVEMBER, 2009

VOLUME 118

### Pastor's Corner

This month featuring Pastor **Dennis Ponce** from our sister church, CCC of Hesperia. Dennis is our former Church Evangelist  
Gen 22:14-17 *14 And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided." 15 Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, 16 and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son — 17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. NKJV*



I love the way the Lord uses simple illustrations to describe things and situations, such as "the stars in heaven." We cannot see all of the stars, but we know they're out there. When we think about "the sands on the seashore", we picture a beach or the vast shorelines all over the world. Wow! But, just like every grain of sand, God knows us personally! What type of sand do you think the Lord sees us as? There are so many types, such as black sand in Hawaii, red sand, white sand, large and small sand.

Sand can be used both in construction and destruction. It is used in cement to make floors and walls strong, in machines to strip paint, and in others things such as a sand blaster. How can God use us? Some of us are like sand paper - when rubbed wrong, we can really damage something, but when used right we can restore to brand new. My question to you is what kind of sand are you?

I would hope that Jesus could use me with all of you like sand, putting all of us in a sandbag during a large storm, so that when we are really needed, we could hold back the floods and trials that come at us throughout our lives. It's going to take unity - all of us doing our part like sands in an hourglass, the grains perfectly suited with each other and working together so that they can be counted on every time.

Now consider the stars. Ps 8:3 *When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained...*

Remember God has ordained us for this season in our lives to do His work. For we shall possess the gate of our enemies. That's God's sworn promise. Pastor Dennis.



"God walls the sea with sand. God clears the air with storms. God warms the earth with snow....He exalts us to heaven by the stumbling-block of the cross."  
-Christopher Wordsworth

Happy Thanksgiving, CCC

### Judgment Day

To: Me  
From: Myself, waiting in line at the Judgment Seat of Christ  
Date: Judgment Day  
Marked: URGENT

Dear Me,

This is you - yes, you. I am trying to reach myself - you, that is, back there on earth circa 2009. I am standing in this line waiting for judgment of our life's works and I decided to get permission to send a letter to you way back when you were a kid but this is the best arrangement I could get, and was lucky to get this chance. Thank God that you accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord because that's what entitled me, er us, to get here to this heavenly place. You got the most important thing right.

But look, this is the deal. I am sweating bullets. I am looking ahead of me in line and, you know, Jesus is judging people and, oh no, He is doing it out loud so that everybody else can hear. He is giving out lots of rewards and those people receiving them are joyously happy. But, and this I what I want you to hear loud and clear, people are also weeping and wailing because they are being shown the consequences of missed opportunities when they could have helped others and didn't because of all sorts of lame excuses. They told themselves that they were too afraid, too untalented, too tired, that it wasn't their calling, that there were others to do it (like the pastor), that they had other things to do, yeah, like watch TV!!! And listen closely, you can't pull the wool over the eyes of Jesus, He knows and sees everything. After He judges, He wipes away every tear. His outstanding love goes to all - even those with the most meager life outcomes.

So, what am I trying to get through to you? We know you've blown it too many times in your life, so, PLEASE start doing your best for God immediately, don't wait. And it would help if you get to know Him really well. Oh dear, I am inching closer to my turn, it really goes fast - so I have to talk fast. I plead with you to do everything that God asks you to do right now. Do not delay. Do not look back. I beg of you, please. Oh, He is so wonderful, I do so hope that He finds something good in our life, I hate to disappoint Him. Please....Help...gulp, He is summoning me next! Don't forget - live for God NOW while you still have the chance. Well, really got to go....!

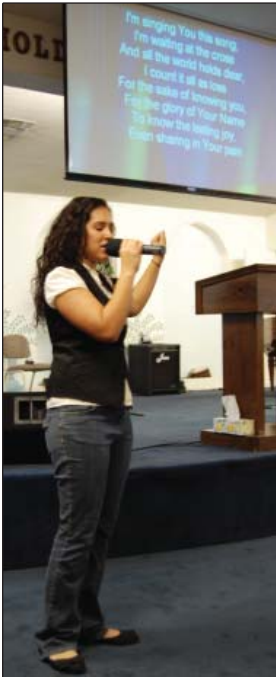
I remain yours, in His magnificent presence for eternity,  
the immortal you.

From the February, 2000 Good Tidings - by Sharon Johnson

Jesus said in John 9:4 *As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. NIV*

2 Cor 5:10 *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. NIV*

## CANDID SHOTS



### THE FINAL ANALYSIS

From the Paradoxical Commandments by Dr. Kent M. Keith

Submitted by *Stephanie Alexander*

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered;

...Forgive them anyway!

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;

...Be kind anyway!

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;

...Succeed anyway!

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;

...Be honest and frank anyway!

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;

...Build anyway!

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;

...Be happy anyway!

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;

...Do good anyway!

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;

...Give the world the best you've got anyway!

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;

...It was never between you and them anyway.

(Used by Mother Teresa on the wall of an orphanage in Calcutta.)

### A Golf Story

Submitted by *Susie Algorrie*

"How was your golf game, dear?" asked Jack's wife, Tracy.

"Well, I was hitting pretty well, but my eyesight's gotten so bad I couldn't see where the ball went."

"Well, you are 75 years old, Jack!" admonished his wife,

"Why don't you take my brother, Scott, along?"

"But, he's 85 and doesn't play golf anymore," protested Jack.

"But he's got perfect eyesight. He could watch your ball."

Tracy pointed out.

The next day Jack teed off with Scott looking on, Jack swung, and the ball disappeared down the fairway.

"Did you see it?" asked Jack.

"Yup," Scott answered.

"Well, where is it?" yelled Jack, peering off into the distance.

"I forgot."

### TRUE RICHES

Submitted by *Bettie Clark*

The following poem by an unknown author tells the story of riches and honor applied for the Lord.

You may lay up vast riches of silver and gold,  
Of precious jewels and treasures untold.  
When you come at last to the end of the road,  
Your wealth will be what you've given the Lord.

You may own countless acres --- a lordly estate,  
You may dwell in a mansion costly and great;  
But the mansions in glory will only be given  
To those whose treasure is laid up in heaven.

Your name may be written on the scroll of the great,  
And your fame may extend to heaven's own gate;  
But the plaudits of God are reserved as reward  
For those whose riches have honored the Lord.

### MR. & MRS. POTATO OF IDAHO NAMED PARENTS OF THE YEAR

Well, Girl Potato and Boy Potato had eyes for each other, and finally they got married, and had a little sweet potato, which they called Yam.

When it was time, they told her about the facts of life. They warned her about going out and getting half-baked, so she wouldn't get accidentally mashed, and get a bad name for herself like 'Hot Potato.' And end up with a bunch of Tater Tots. Yam said not to worry; no Spud would make a rotten potato out of her! But, on the other hand, she wouldn't stay home and become a couch potato either.

She would get plenty of exercise so as not to be skinny like her shoestrapping cousins.

When she went off to Europe, Mr. and Mrs. Potato told Yam to watch out for the hard-boiled guys from Ireland. And the greasy guys from France called the French Fries. And when she went out west watch out for the Indians so she wouldn't get scalloped.

Yam said she would stay on the straight and narrow and wouldn't associate with those high class Yukon Golds, or the ones from the other side of the tracks who advertise their lifestyle on all the packages that say, 'Twice Baked.'

Mr. and Mrs. Potato sent Yam to Idaho P.U. (Potato University) so that when she graduated she'd really be in the Chips. But in spite of all they had did for her, one day Yam came home and announced she was going to marry Glenn Beck."

"Glenn Beck! Holy cow!" Mr. and Mrs. Potato screamed. They told Yam, in no uncertain terms she couldn't possibly marry Beck because he's just: A COMMON-TATER!!

Submitted by an anonymous CCC member



CCC - Don't just be a 'SPEC-TATER.' Please submit a testimony, article, picture, joke, notice - something interesting, inspiring, or informative to share in the Newsletter. Please remember, this is your newsletter and I need your help. Thank you and God bless you. I thank all who have contributed. Sharon Johnson, Editor.

## Taken From Previous Editions of the Good Tidings Newsletter

### The Holy Spirit Speaks in All Languages:

This working of the gift of the Holy Spirit happened at a time when Pastor Tony Paraspolo was a new member in another church for 3 or 4 months.

He says: "I was sitting in worship and stood up to praise the Lord in song - there were about thirty other people there. I started to worship and praise in tongues and did that for quite a while. When worship was over, an oriental man came over to me (who spoke better English than I) and told me that I had been speaking to Him in his native Chinese language. In Chinese, he got verification that God loved him, that God accepted him and that God wanted him in that body of Christ that I was in.

I had been speaking in my normal prayer language which does not sound oriental to me and I knew that I was not speaking Chinese but he heard it in his native Chinese language. The amazing thing was that he would have understood it in English if I would have said it. He stayed at that church for another two years until he moved.

Pastor Tony says that when this happened, he was neither an elder nor a pastor and he wants us to realize that God will use all of us, regardless of title or position.

### God Directs Our Paths:

We are so grateful to have Pastor Mike and Linda Stephens here at CCC. He is full of the Holy Ghost and knows the Word of God. They have ministered to all of us. The Holy Spirit brought them to this church in a miraculous way. There is no other explanation: They read in the newspaper that Sylvester Blue was going to be at CCC and they wanted to see him. So they came that night and have been with us ever since, praise God. The miraculous thing is that there was never anything put into the newspapers announcing Sylvester Blue's visit: neither Sylvester Blue nor Pastor Ken put an ad in the newspapers. If the Holy Spirit has a work for His children, He will see to it that it comes to pass.

### God Performs Miracles:

On Tuesday, March 18, 2003, Robert Medina, the nephew of Pete Sierra, drove into Rowland Heights from his home in Las Vegas. He was coming to join his mother who had been taking care of Teresa Sierra before she passed away. He

decided to get some gas and headed for the gas station. He was on Colima Rd and was just about to cross Desire St. on a green light when all of a sudden his car came to a skidding stop for no apparent reason. He realized that the brakes had locked up. He looked down for a split second and saw that his foot was still on the gas pedal!

Immediately he looked up to see four cars racing through the intersection from the opposite direction against the red light - they just flew right past where he was stopped; it appeared that they were chasing each other and went through the red light at speeds of approximately 60mph or more. He then drove out of the intersection and pulled over to the side of the road. He knew something supernatural had just happened and he was shaking and trembling. He got out of the car to check for any mechanical problems and he couldn't then or can't now find anything wrong with the car that would have caused it to stop like that. He says that he knows that he would have gotten badly injured or killed if his car had gone any further into the intersection. He knows that it was a miracle and that the Lord had intervened.

Lupe Sierra said that, for a long time, you could still see the skid marks on the street where his car was stopped supernaturally by the hand of God.

### HOW TO BUILD YOUR PASTOR

Submitted by *Albert Gomez*

Build his *spiritual power* by praying for him. When you pray for your pastor, you pray for your church, your community and your family.

Build his *reputation* by speaking well of him. All pastors are human; they have strong and weak points. His influence will depend on which of them you stress.

Build his *morale* by encouraging him. Every pastor needs to be encouraged at times. Encouragement costs so little, yet means so much!

Build his *leadership* by cooperating with him, for every great leader, there must be some great followers.

Build his *pulpit power* by coming to hear him. Full pews challenge a pastor to prepare and deliver great sermons. Empty pews can discourage him.

By far the greatest thing you can do for your pastor is to follow the Christ whom he preaches and exemplifies.

### BAD TIMING

by *Lee Swope*

From *Holy Hilarity* by Cal & Rose Samra

One of our church deacons, a barber, at the Baptist church in Auburn, Alabama, was feeling guilty because he had never witnessed for the Lord. One day a man came into his barbershop and asked for a shave.

The barber put him in a chair and lathered his face. He thought this would be the perfect time to witness to the customer. Nervously, he asked, "S-S-Sir, are you r-r-ready to m-m-meet the L-L-Lord?"

The man opened his eyes wide, and saw the barber holding the razor with a shaking hand. He jumped out of his chair and took off running down the street with the hair cloth flapping in the wind.

### Church Bulletin Bloopers

☪/ Eight new choir robes are needed due to the addition of several new members and the deterioration of some older ones.

☪/ Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet at 8 P.M. Wednesday. Please use the back door.

☪/ John\_\_, ordained a deacon, will pastor two churches in Fannin County.

☪/ Christian live-in female companion needed by older lady. Must have ear.

☪/ Father\_\_ has spoken in the largest Catholic churches in America. To miss hearing him will be the chance of a lifetime.

☪/ Remember in prayer, Matilda\_\_, awaiting surgery to remove large brain behind the eye.

☪/ I have pestered rural churches for nearly thirty years.

☪/ We as a congregation have achieved many accomplishments. We have been truly blessed in our missions and ministry. All of the broads have done an excellent job.

### Cal Henk's Comments:

...Laugh everyday, it's like inner jogging.

...If you worry, don't pray; if you pray, don't worry!

...Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape.

...God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.

...Growing old is inevitable; growing UP is optional.

...He who dies with the most toys is still dead. (Rather than toys, seek Jesus Who gives eternal joys.)



## Kitchen Korner

...from the kitchen of *Dee Paraspolo*

A little boy was selling newspapers on the corner. The people were in and out of the cold. The little boy was so cold that he wasn't trying to sell many papers. He walked up to a policeman and said, "Mister, you wouldn't happen to know where a poor boy could find a warm place to sleep tonight would you? You see, I sleep in a box up around the corner there and down the alley and its awful cold in there for tonight. Sure would be nice to have a warm place to stay."

The policeman looked down at the little boy and said, "You go down the street to that big white house and you knock on the door. When they come out the door, you just say John 3:16 and they will let you in."

So he did. He walked up the steps and knocked on the door, and a lady answered. He looked up and said, "John 3:16." The lady said, "Come on in, son." She took him in and she sat him down in a split bottom rocker in front of a great big old fireplace, and she went off. The boy sat there for a while and thought to himself: "John 3:16. I don't understand it, but it sure makes a cold boy warm."

Later she came back and asked him, "Are you hungry?" He said, "Well, just a little. I haven't eaten much in a couple of days, and I guess I could stand a little bit of food." The lady took him in the kitchen and sat him down at a table full of wonderful food. He ate and ate until he couldn't eat any more. Then he thought to himself: "John 3:16. Boy, I sure don't understand it, but it sure makes a hungry boy full."

She took him upstairs to a bathroom with a huge bathtub filled with warm water. He sat there and soaked for a while. As he soaked, he thought to himself: "John 3:16...I sure don't understand it, but it sure makes a dirty boy clean. You know, I've not had a bath, a real bath, in my whole life. The only bath I ever had was when I stood in front of that big old fire hydrant as they flushed it out." The lady came in and got him. She took him to a room, tucked him into a big old feather bed, pulled the covers up around his neck, kissed him goodnight and turned out the lights. As he lay in the darkness and looked out the window at the snow coming down on that cold night, he thought to himself, "John 3:16 ...I don't understand it, but it sure makes a tired boy rested."

The next morning the lady came back up and took him down again to that same big table full of food. After he ate, she took him back to that same big old split bottom rocker in front of the fireplace and picked up an old, well-used Bible. She sat down in front of him and looked into his young face. "Do you understand John 3:16?" she asked gently. He replied, "No, Ma'am, I don't. The first time I ever heard it was last night when the policeman told me to use it." She opened the Bible to John 3:16 and began to explain to him about Jesus. Right there, in front of that big old fireplace, he gave his heart and life to Jesus. He sat there and thought, "John 3:16 -- I don't understand it, but it sure makes a lost boy feel safe."

You know, I have to confess I don't understand it either. How

God was willing to send His Son to die for me, and how Jesus would agree to do such a thing. I don't understand the agony of the Father and every angel in heaven as they watched Jesus suffer and die. I don't understand the intense love for ME that kept Jesus on the cross till the end. I don't understand it, but it sure does make life worth living. John 3:16: *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

(from the internet – author unknown)

## WOMENS MEETING

Three ladies spoke at the October Women's Meeting.

*Dee Paraspolo's* message

was entitled: "In the Heat of the Fire." She gave an outstanding word about how you can lean on God when you walk through the fire. The bible says He will give you cool breezes. In Malachi, it says he will purify you with the refiner's fire. She said that a silver smith knows that the silver he is refining is purified when he can see his image reflected in the

silver, and it is the same with the Lord and us.

*Dee Dee Munoz* talked on "Trust from the Heart," as in

Proverbs 3:5-6. She gave some of her testimony about having come from a controlling, abusive childhood, and how God has brought her through it all. As she has put her trust in Him, He has blessed her mightily and all that the enemy tried to steal from her is being restored by God.

*Melba Redd*, a very gifted speaker, talked about complacency and entitled her message, "Taking God for Granted." She reminded

us that Exodus 20:3 says that *thou shall have no other gods before Me*. She said that putting things ahead of God leads to selfishness and opens the door to sickness, depression, hurting others, and hindering others.

We had an anointed altar call and prayer time following these wonderful messages.



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