

# TRUMPET

December 2012

*From the Pastor's Desk*

## Our Mission

To bring people to Jesus Christ and **membership** in his church family, develop them to Christlike **maturity**, equip them for their **ministry** in the church and life **mission** in the world, in order to **magnify** God's name

## Special Events:

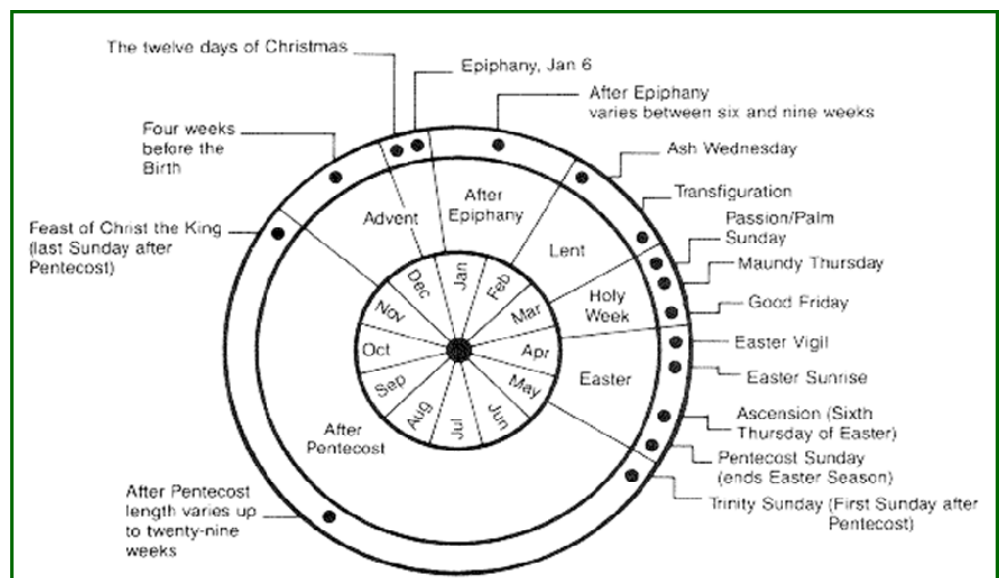
- ◆ December 1—Night In Bethlehem
- ◆ December 5—Pacesetter's Lunch
- ◆ December 8—Women's Christmas Brunch
- ◆ December 16—"Sounds of Season" Concert
- ◆ December 24—Christmas Eve Service

## Advent Is Coming

By Rev. Freddy Fritz

This year the Season of Advent begins on Sunday, December 2. The Season of Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas Day in Western Christianity. The weeks leading up to Christmas are properly called Advent, which comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming."

The Season of Advent was not observed before the sixth century. It has come to be considered the beginning of the Church Year.



*The Christian cycle of time, with festal days celebrating God's saving work in Jesus Christ.*

The Latin word *adventus* is a translation of the Greek word *parousia*, which the New Testament most often used to refer to Jesus' second coming. In antiquity, *parousia* was usually associated with the arrival of royalty. The leaders of a city went outside the city gates to meet the Emperor and escorted him back into the city.

So, for the Christian, Advent is about preparing to greet our King, the Lord Jesus Christ. And it is a time for both looking back to Jesus' first coming at his incarnation and looking forward to his second coming

*(Continued on page 2)*

# Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Freddy Fritz  
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*Pastoral Intern*

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Debi Hensley  
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## TBPC Trumpet

### Staff—

Rev. Freddy Fritz  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Doug Knox  
*Editor*

It is the goal of the Trumpet staff to provide articles for learning and growing, news for connecting with our church family, and information on opportunities for service and participation.

The views and opinions expressed in the Trumpet have not been reviewed or endorsed by the Session.

Please forward articles, ministry reports and calendar items for the next edition of the *Trumpet* to [sd\\_knox@yahoo.com](mailto:sd_knox@yahoo.com) by December 15, 2012.

## **Advent Is Coming**

*(Continued from page 1)*

as judge of the world (Acts 17:31) and vindicator of his faithful witnesses (Revelation 6:9).

Like the Season of Lent, the Church has considered the Season of Advent to be a penitential season, that is, a time for reflection and repentance in anticipation of the glorious manifestation of the Lord. If we are honest with ourselves, what Titus 2 calls our "blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ," should provoke both joy and a bit of dread. It is a time for asking ourselves whether we truly are "a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good" (Titus 2:14).

Biblical themes stressed during Advent include the many Old Testament prophecies of the coming of the Messiah and of the Lord's impending judgment against sin. Christian worshipers unite during Advent as they focus on the prophetic cry: "See, your king comes to you" (Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:5).

The Church in this country usually focuses on Christmas beginning in early December. Part of the reason for that is the lack of understanding of the Church Year. Part of that is perhaps a lack of desire to reflect and repent.

Let us take time this Season of Advent to reflect and repent. Let us reflect upon Christ's first coming and anticipate his Second Coming. Then let us repent of our sins, especially our lack of preparation in anticipation of his Second Coming.



## Thoughts from the Intern

By James Nichols

Last month we talked about our purpose for being here. Almost all people wonder about this, including many people around you. We said that our purpose in life is "to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever." We expanded on this answer, the wording of which comes from the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, to say that we are to glorify God in all ways. This means every decision, every action, every word, and every thought is to be focused on God. By completely focusing on God and his glory, we will be enabled to enjoy him and this life as well, no matter what the situation. This sounds fantastic and yet also idealistic. How are we to do this? This seems to be an impossible task. How are we to do this? Where is the instruction manual for life? How can we possibly hope to glorify God in all that we do?

Again, we as Christians know inherently the answer...the Bible. Another look at the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* shows us the answer in precise words. The second question asked by the catechism is "What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?" The answer is "The Word of God, which is contained in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him." Is the Bible one of many suggestions on how to obey God? To quote Paul in Romans: "By no means!" The Bible is the *only* rule to direct us. Anything outside the Bible is not a rule set forth by God. Is the Bible a book that can be adjusted to fit the times? Again, "By no means!" The Bible consists of the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments - nothing more and nothing less. How do we know that the Old

*(Continued on page 3)*

# TBPC

## Officers

### Teaching Elder—

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Bert Barber

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Doug Hayman  
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Mike Bowman

Rick Donaldson

Bob Guest

Jon Massie

Bob McQueen  
Chairman

## Thoughts from the Intern

(Continued from page 2)

Testaments are still important? Look at Luke 24:27. Christ shows through the entire Old Testament the scriptures that apply to him.

[27] And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

We cannot limit our study to the New Testament alone. The scriptures are also self-attesting. Look at Psalm 19:7-11.

[7] The law of the LORD is perfect,  
reviving the soul;

the testimony of the LORD is sure,  
making wise the simple;

[8] the precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is pure,  
enlightening the eyes;

[9] the fear of the LORD is clean,  
enduring forever;

the rules of the LORD are true,  
and righteous altogether.

[10] More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;

sweeter also than honey  
and drippings of the honeycomb.

[11] Moreover, by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

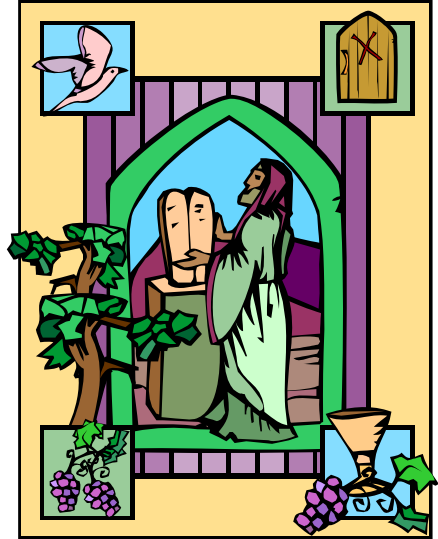
The Psalmist is clear that the word of God is perfect.

Finally, look at 2 Timothy 3:14-17:

[14] But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it [15] and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. [16] All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, [17] that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

All scripture is from God directly, or God-breathed. Look at the end of verse 17 to see what a man who obeys the word is called: complete, equipped for every good work. Who among us is not looking to be complete?

So how do we apply this? Well, ask yourself what place the Bible plays in your life. Is it worn and tattered from daily use or is it only picked up on Sundays? Do you spend time in it daily seeking the teaching, reproof, correction, and training that leads to being a complete child of God? If not, why not? We know that our purpose in life is to glorify God and enjoy him forever. We also know that the rule that directs us how to do this is the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament. So the question is: if we know our purpose and how to fulfill it, why are we not doing it? I want to challenge all of us to spend at least 30 minutes a day in the Bible and to seek to increase that time to an hour or more before the start of the New Year. We have the formula and means to fulfill our purpose in life, we just have to stop getting distracted by the devil and his attempts to keep us so busy that we do not seek after God. Let's start the coming year off right now by spending time in the Bible. God bless and have a wonderful advent season!



## TBPC Ministries

### Women's Ministry

By Ginny Bremer

#### Thank You

Thank you to everyone who has worked with the Women's Ministry to prepare our church for the Advent season. The ladies room was beautifully decorated by Marianne Cali, and the sanctuary, narthex, outdoor lights were decorated by "The Hanging of the Greens" workers. It was great to have so many "workers in the vineyard" this year. A special thank you to Lillian Brquin, who coordinated the event, and to both the regulars and the new comers who helped for the first time this year. A great time was had by all as we brought glory to the Lord through beautifying His church. Thank you, too, to those who purchased memorial poinsettias. They add color and love to the décor. Your memorials/dedications will be in the Christmas bulletin.

A special thank you to all the women who are working on various aspects of the Christmas brunch. It is all coming together to prepare our hearts and minds for the true meaning of Christmas and bring praise and glory to our Lord and Savior, Jesus. Please keep the prayer team, the hostesses, the music team, the office staff and the cooks/waiters all in your prayers.

#### December Events

The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Brunch for the ladies of our church, their friends and families will be on Saturday, December 8, from 9:00 AM to 11:15 AM. Everyone who has attended this event in the past has spoken of the blessings they received. Get your tickets and plan to attend and share the joy of the "Grace and Peace of Christmas."

#### Looking Ahead

On January 12, 2013 we will have our annual Sister-to-Sister "Soup's On" event. It will be held at the church from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Plan to join us for fun, games, fellowship and a wonderful meal of soup, salad, sandwiches, and of course yummy dessert.

Women's Ministry will also sponsor a collection for the Pregnancy Care Center in January. A speaker from the Center will give a ministry moment on Sunday, January 13, to give us some information on the purpose and scope of their help in the community. We will again have a crib and information set up in the narthex for donations for the two weeks following January 13. There is need for diapers (especially larger sizes), both new and lightly used clothing (sizes new born through size 2T), toys and baby equipment. Perhaps as you think of those less fortunate than yourself, you will be moved to buy an item to donate in January.

Be on the lookout for a baby party for Trina Jeffries in February. The plans are not yet final, but you won't want to miss this unique shower as the guest of honor will be Baby Jeffries! Keep Mom, baby, and the entire family in your prayers as they await a January birth date.



*Adult Christian Education & Fellowship*  
Bob Guest

*Children*  
Eileen Fritz

*Emptynesters*  
Sandy Neal

*Greeters & Welcome Table*  
Bill & Nora Jeffries

*Growth Groups Session*

*Hospitality*  
LeeAnn DeStefano

*Men's Bible Study*  
Jeff Beams

*Men's Ministry*  
Brian Carrier

*Missions*  
Jim Aldrich

*Music*  
Debi Hensley

*New Tampa Christian Academy*  
Cheryl Barber

*Nursery*  
Marianne Cali

*Pacesetters*  
Randi Mallary

*Pastoral Care*  
Rev. Freddy Fritz

*Ushers*  
James Nichols  
(temporary)

*Women's Bible Study*  
Betty Pothoven

*Women in the Church*  
Ginny Bremer

*Youth*  
James Barber

*Outreach*  
James Nichols





## Tuned In *By: Debi Hensley*

### *The Gathering Song and a Little Jingle Jingle*

So, how do you like the Gathering Song? Hopefully you are seeing that it's not about a piece of music. I really love this concept of gathering to worship – coming into God's house, reaching out to fellowship with friends and extending a warm greeting to visitors. Then, joining together in song as we push aside the distractions of the world and focus on worshiping our Great God. What a great way to set the tone for Christ-centered worship.

Our first gathering song was **Lord for Your Glory** and this was a favorite from the first time I heard and sang it at a certain church in Alabama. I believe it captures wonderfully an attitude of worship:

We lift our hands  
We lift our praise to You  
We worship all You are  
in spirit and truth.  
We give our hearts  
We live our lives to You  
We offer all we are  
We offer all we have  
We offer all our lives  
for the glory of You

"We live our lives to You" – notice there is no time boundary in this line?

Now for the jingle jingle....I'm already fully feeling the Christmas Spirit – the decorations couldn't come soon enough this year. No "it's too early" from me. Nope, the tree is up, my beautiful gift of a new wreath from a friend is adorning my door and Charlie has a new Christmas sweater.

The Joy FM's non-stop Christmas music is playing and the Choir is busy preparing for the December 16<sup>th</sup> Sounds of the Season concert.

So, what's left? A Bethlehem Walk, a WIC brunch, Lessons & Carols, parties with friends and SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS. Whew...I would be tired if I weren't so excited.

The excitement and anticipation of the Advent Season brings with it amazing music. What's your favorite? Is it the lullaby of **Away in a Manger**? Or is it the story told in **The First Noel**? What about the angel songs? **Angels from the Realms of Glory**, belting out **Hark the Herald Angels Sing**, or one of the best ever...**Angels We Have Heard on High**. Who doesn't love the Glorias – still one of my all-time favorite alto parts to sing. And after our journey with Pastor Freddy through the Christmas Story as told by Luke, we now add the **Benedicta**, the **Nunc Dimittis** and the beautifully haunting **Magnificat**. There is nothing quite like the Scriptures coming to life through song. My favorite remains **O Come All We Ye Faithful**. O come, let us adore Him!

If you are already feeling stress from a hectic holiday schedule, I wish for you the opportunity to pause and turn your attention to a star, a manger and a Child born to set the world free.

Merry Christmas!!!

**Name That Tune . . .**

From last month: Renew, restore, remember me my Lord. *Create In Me a New Heart – Psalm 51.*

Now, try this one: ...rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth

Contact Debi at [dbh@macfar.com](mailto:dbh@macfar.com)

## Truth Matters Today

By Joe Burns, TruthMattersToday@tampabay.rr.com

### ***What We Have Done; What We Must Do***

*"I am the LORD your God...[y]ou shall have no other gods before me."*

*The 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment (Exodus 20:2-3, English Standard Version)*

As the inevitability of his election to the presidency began to sink in across America, then-Senator Barack Obama proclaimed at a Missouri rally in 2008 "we are five days away from fundamentally transforming the United States of America."<sup>1</sup> Though he didn't initiate that transformation, he certainly extended it. Moreover, the ascendancy of the principles behind it was confirmed by his reelection in November this year.

#### ***Ratifying Radical Morals***

In giving President Obama a second term, a slight majority of American voters effectively endorsed the transformational actions and policies he spearheaded over the previous four years, including:

- The president normalized what had been for centuries considered deviant sexual behavior by repealing Don't Ask Don't Tell and becoming a public advocate for homosexual marriage.
- Mr. Obama broke his oath to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States":
  - ◆ He ignored Amendment I's injunction against prohibiting the free exercise of religion by requiring those whose religion bars them from ending unborn human lives to financially support such killing through employee insurance plans.
  - ◆ He showed contempt for the rule of law by failing to discharge a presidential duty of Article II, Section 3 ("take care that the laws be faithfully executed") when he halted enforcement of certain deportation requirements in our immigration law.<sup>2</sup>
- He pitted Americans against Americans by attributing greed and malice to anyone who has achieved financial success, and vowing to solve America's economic problems in a fashion reminiscent of both Robin-Hood and communist organizers who invoked a workers-of-the-world-unite mantra.
- After promising in 2008 to cut the deficit in half, the president added more than \$10,600,000,000,000<sup>3</sup> to the national debt—a 50% increase—creating a promissory note for future generations who didn't incur the debt nor benefit from it.<sup>4</sup>

#### ***The Horse We Came in On***

Any one of these would have been a scandal during an earlier time in our nation's history. Yet slowly, like an unwatched pot simmering on the stove, our culture has steadily drifted away from the mores of long ago derived from the Bible. One deep thinker traces it back more than 60 years, before Barack Obama drew breath, to subtle changes during the Fifties that grew into riots and campus uprisings in the Sixties. Those events then spawned a diaspora of radicals into university positions, media, entertainment and politics..."anywhere attitudes and opinions could be influenced."<sup>5</sup> Their influence spread, geographically and generationally. In time, activities which were once unthinkable mutated into behaviors now considered unremarkable. And so it continues.

While reelection implies at least forgiveness if not applause for the president's role in continuing this cultural metamorphosis, politics can't truly be blamed for our departure from values established in God's word. In reality, politics is more a reflection of our culture than the root of it. Indeed, it played a nearly silent role in the race for president just completed. In fact, Mr. Obama was almost never held to account by the Romney campaign for his radical morality as president. As such, the choice presented to the country was one between two men with different plans for one thing, how to fix the economy. In the end, the candidate fancied to be Robin Hood won a victory over the one cast as the Sheriff of

Nottingham. In like fashion, our culture is declining morally in part because of the very few evident distinctions between the lifestyles of those who proclaim morality to be pliable and Christians whose lives should reflect the immutable moral standards modeled by Christ. Unfortunately, most "Christians" have sidestepped the first commandment in daily life in favor of worldly admiration or pleasure. Too few can be picked out at work or play who by actions and words have clearly committed their whole life to Christ.

Our choices in television, movies, music, books, clothing and humor are often no different than the choices of those before whom our light should be shining. When confronted with options to conform to society or separate ourselves for Christ sake, our decisions often put other gods before Him. Instead of our peculiarity as Christ's disciples drawing people to consider Him, we blend into the crowd leaving them no discernible alternative to the world at large.

### ***Backing out of the Dragon's Mouth***

If we want to see lasting change in our culture, that change must begin with us:

- First, we must truly love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and our neighbor as ourselves.
  - When our neighbors and friends see us living out a God-centered worldview and observe the fruit that commitment brings, they will be more likely to believe in a loving, omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent Creator.
- Second, in a secularized culture where the mere existence of God is roundly ridiculed, we must be able to make a case for His existence using secular logic, which in this arena is usually the logic of science.
  - There is significant compelling scientific evidence for a creator available to assist in making that case (e.g. [Signature in the Cell](#) by Dr. Stephen C. Meyer).
- Third, we must clearly understand and succinctly explain the implications of a Creator on other first-principals issues like the mess our world is in, how we can fix it and our purpose in it.
  - Resources are available on these matters as well (e.g. BreakPoint's Centurions Program).<sup>6</sup>

Live wholly for God, engage others on first principals, seek to change minds and hearts. That's how we can ultimately execute a cultural about-face and transform our culture for the good. It's far from a microwave process, though. This challenge requires crock-pot determination. If we're diligent and long-suffering, the culture will shift toward God, and the politics will follow. Meanwhile, never forget that God is sovereign, even in elections:

*"For not from the east or from the west and not from the wilderness comes lifting up, but it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another" (Psalm 75:6,7; ESV).*

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1. "Obama: "Fundamentally Transforming the United States of America" Long Version." 20 May 2011. [YouTube](#). 11 November 2011 <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KrefKCaV8m4>>.
2. Cohen, Tiim. "Obama administration to stop deporting some young illegal immigrants." 16 June 2012. [CNN Politics](#). 12 November 2012 <<http://www.cnn.com/2012/06/15/politics/immigration/index.html>>.
3. "Obama's Numbers; Statistical measures of the president's term to date." 8 October 2012. [Fact Check.Org](#). 11 November 2012 <<http://www.factcheck.org/2012/10/obamas-numbers/>>.
4. Payne, Amy. "U.S. debt \$16,000,000,000,000." 5 September 2012. [The Orange County Register](#). 11 November 2012 <<http://www.ocregister.com/articles/debt-370486-trillion-obama.html>>.
5. Bork, Robert H. [Slouching Toward Gomorrah; Modern Liberalism and American Decline](#). New York: HarperCollins, 1996.
6. [Centurions Program](#). n.d. 26 March 2012 <<http://www.breakpoint.org/resources/centurions>>.



I hope you have heard of LAMP by now. LAMP stands for Leadership And Ministry Preparation. It is also known as LAMP Theological Seminary, or simply as LAMP Seminary ([www.lampseminary.org](http://www.lampseminary.org)).

In 1995, the Rev. Brian Kelso, a pastor in South Florida in our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), developed an officer-training program, after three men approached him with a belief that God was calling them to vocational ministry. By 1997, Rev. Kelso expanded the officer training and began work on a non-traditional strategy for training men for ordination in the PCA. In 1999, the South Florida Presbytery approved the LAMP program as an alternative credentialing model for ordaining Teaching Elders. By 2001, LAMP had seven graduates ready for ordination and gospel ministry as Teaching Elders. By 2002, LAMP caught the attention of our denomination's Mission to North America (MNA). MNA encouraged LAMP to design the program in such a way that it could be reproduced throughout North America. As of this year, LAMP Seminary has 24 Learning Sites throughout the nation with over 70 students.

The mission of LAMP Theological Seminary is to equip men and women for effective gospel ministry. This gospel ministry will build healthy churches and multiply through the un-reached ethnic, cultural, and post-Christian people groups in the urban centers of North America, and beyond.

What makes LAMP unique is its commitment to equipping church leaders without compromising their family life, ministry, and occupation. Students will have a reasonable course load with fewer demands on their time.

The strategy of LAMP Seminary is to train men and women for effective gospel ministry using a practical and reproducible mentor-based model. This mentor-based model focuses on calling, character, competency and practical understanding of biblical and theological content. In keeping with biblical standards, only men may be ordained in the PCA. However, women should also be equipped for effective ministry in the church.

One of the significant benefits of studying through LAMP is cost. LAMP offers the following tracks: Bachelor of Divinity, Master of Arts in Theology and Bible, and Master of Divinity. The cost for each track without books and CD/DVDs is as follows: B.Div (\$8,250), M.Div (\$7,350), and MA (\$3,900). Compare that to the average cost of going to seminary, which is about \$50,000.

In addition to the degree programs, LAMP now offers a Certificate Program. It is called the LAMP School of Discipleship. The School of Discipleship offers 5 certificate programs for training leaders and teachers for the local church. Students have the opportunity to engage in an in-depth training program without interrupting their work, family, and service to their church. This program is FREE!

The Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church was recently approved to become a LAMP Learning Site. It is my intention to begin offering the School of Discipleship classes in January 2013. Initially, I will train men only. My desire is to train the men of our church so that they can teach the classes to everyone else in the church.

So, beginning on January 5, 2013 we will begin with Overview of the Bible I, which is a Survey of the Old Testament. The class will have 12 sessions, and we will meet on Saturday mornings at 7:45 a.m. Following the first class, we will study Overview of the Bible II, which is a Survey of the New Testament, in the spring of 2013. Lord willing, we will then begin teaching these classes during the Adult CE&F hour in the fall of 2013.

Also, beginning in the fall of 2013 I hope to begin the degree program. I don't have those details worked out yet, but I expect that those classes will include men and women.

I would ask you to pray that God will use LAMP to equip many men and women for effective ministry. And I invite all men to pray about joining the LAMP School of Discipleship class with me on January 5, 2013. I should let you know that if you are interested in joining the program, you will need to fill out an application and return it to me by mid-December.

Finally, please talk to me if you have any questions. I also encourage you to check out the LAMP website ([www.lampseminary.org](http://www.lampseminary.org)) where you will find a lot of information.



## Missionaries Supported by TBPC

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY  
January 9 – April 17, 2013

9:00 – 11:30 AM

### PRAYER, DOES IT MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE?

We will be studying about prayer using a video and study book written by Philip Yancey author of many thought provoking Christian books and editor-at-large for *Christianity Today*. We will be using the study book entitled ***Prayer, does it make any difference?*** This study helps us to explore the very heartbeat of our relationship with God: prayer. We will, with the help of a video set in beautiful Rocky Mountain scenery, study more about the mysterious intersecting of God and humans. We'll try to answer questions like: What is prayer? Why do we pray? Does prayer work? How does it work? Does prayer change God's actions or plans? How can I learn to pray better?

The learning process will include the use of the video with the same title, group discussion, at home Bible study and preparation, and putting prayer into practice. The goal will be to help all the women to think more deeply about prayer and to experience more fully the priceless gift of prayer in each one's personal life.

We are excited to be studying this topic and hope you will join the **Women's Bible Study**. This is a wonderful opportunity to study God's Word, pray for one another, and have fellowship with other women. Over the years **WBS** has had an outreach ministry aspect to it, as we have had many women join us who do not have a church home. We have also had women join us from other church denominations. **WBS** has given them all the opportunity to learn the Truth of God's Word in a refreshing way. **WBS** is open to any woman, so please invite your friends, family members, home school mothers, and neighbors. All are welcome!

We will meet every Wednesday, 9:00 – 11:30 AM, starting on January 9, 2013. We will not meet on Wednesday, March 27, because our sanctuary will be devoted to NTCA Easter Centers that week. Childcare will be available (infants to preschool age), by reservation.

To register for the Spring 2013 WBS semester, please sign up on the Friendship Register on Sundays in December.

#### *Mission to the World*

Esaie & Natacha  
Etienne  
Ken & Tammie  
Matlack  
Carla Stevens

#### *Reformed University Fellowship*

Jeff & Jenny Lee

#### *New Harvest Missions International*

Nathaniel & Cherita  
Adawonu

#### *Serving In Missions*

Rene & Lili Palacio

#### *Wycliffe Bible Translators*

Don & Judy  
Vander Ploeg  
The Meyers  
Kevin & Gertrude  
Nicholas

#### *Ven Con Nosotros Church*

Dr. Oscar & Elizabeth  
Alvarez

#### *Chamberlain-Hunt Academy*

Pam Johnston



***“And the Berean Award Goes to . . . .”***

And the Berean Award goes to . . . Bill Neal. When I preached on “Joseph and Mary and Jesus” recently I stressed that Joseph and Mary were obedient to *all* of God’s law. And, of course, they were. Then, when I applied it to us I said that we also need to be obedient to *all* of God’s law.

However, Bill correctly pointed out to me after the service that the civil and ceremonial law no longer apply to us.

Jesus was born during the close of the Old Testament. So, Joseph and Mary were obedient to the moral, civil, and ceremonial law of God that was in operation at that time. However, since the resurrection of Jesus, only the moral law applies to us. The ceremonial law found its fulfillment in Jesus, and no longer applies today. The civil law is no longer applicable either, except in terms of general equity.

And so, thanks to Bill Neal for bringing this to my attention. Bill is now the current recipient of the Berean Award. Way to go, Bill!

**December Birthdays**

- 1—Bob McQueen
- 1—Joelle Nobles
- 4—Rachel Coffey
- 4—Jennifer Isaac
- 7—Brenda Ausmus
- 10—Dee Kaiser
- 11—Isabel Lugo
- 13—John Hutton
- 14—Betty Pothoven
- 17—Anna Barber
- 20—Melissa Bayley
- 20—Aaron Eccleston
- 24—Loretta Aldrich
- 24—Emalin Henry
- 25—Chelsea Pfannensteil
- 27—Melody Barber
- 30—Greg Pesce

**December Anniversaries**

- 4—Lou & Barbara Bentley
- 5—Rock & Jennie Roque
- 14—Freddy & Eileen Fritz
- 23—Kevin & Shawn Nobles
- 27—Doug & Molly Knox
- 27—Ed & Eileen Kociela
- 28—Bill & Joanne Campbell



# December 2012\*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 8:00a Men's Breakfast; 5:30p Night in Bethlehem
<b>2</b> 8:45a Children's Sunday School; 10:30a Worship Service; 1:00p Korean Outreach; 5:00p PHOS; Nich- ols/Nobles GG	<b>3</b> 9:15a NTCA Chapel; 10a Staff Meeting; 12:00p NTCA Lunch-N- Learn	<b>4</b> 9:15a NTCA chapel; 10:00a MemoryMornings!; 7:00p Outreach Meeting; Pothoven Growth Group	<b>5</b> 12:30p Paceset- ters lunch; 6:15 Dare 2 Declare; 6:30 Kids of the King; Prayer Meet- ing; 7:00p Pioneer Clubs; 7:15 Choir	<b>6</b> 10:30a ESL Bible Study	<b>7</b> 6:00p Set-Up for Christmas Brunch	<b>8</b> 9:00a Women's Christmas Brunch; 9:30a Korean Class
<b>9</b> 8:45a Children's Sunday School; 10:30a Worship Service; 1:00p Korean Outreach; 5:00p PHOS Christ- mas Party	<b>10</b> 9:15a NTCA Chapel; 10:00a Staff Meeting	<b>11</b> 9:15a NTCA Chapel; 10:00a Memory Morning; 7:00p NTCA Board Meeting	<b>12</b> 6:15 Dare 2 Declare; 6:30 Kids of the King; 7:15 Adult Choir practice	<b>13</b> 10:30a ESL Bible Study 7:00p Missions Committee Meet- ing	<b>14</b> 6:00p PHOS Baby- sitting Night; 6:30p Leadership Dinner	<b>15</b> 7:45a-9:00a Men's Bible Study; 9:30a Korean Class
<b>16</b> 8:45a Chil- dren's Sunday School; 10:30a Worship Service; 1:00p Korean Out- reach; 6:00p Christmas Concert	<b>17</b> 9:00a NTCA Christmas Pro- gram; 10:00a Staff Meeting	<b>18</b> 9:00a NTCA Christmas Pro- gram; 7:00p Pot- hoven Growth Group	<b>19</b> 9:00a NTCA Christmas; 6:15 Dare 2 Declare; 6:30 Kids of the King; 7:15 Adult Choir	<b>20</b> 10:30a ESL Bible Study 7:00p Session & Diaconate Meeting	<b>21</b> 9:00a NTCA Christmas Pro- gram 12:00p NTCA Staff Luncheon	<b>22</b> 7:45a-9:00a Men's Bible Study; 9:30a Korean Class ; 6:00p PHOS Service Project
<b>23</b> 8:45a Chil- dren's Sunday School; 10:30a Worship Service; 1:00p Korean Out- reach; 5:00p PHOS	<b>24</b> 10:00a Staff Meeting; 6:00p Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> Christmas (Church Office closed)	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7:45a-9:00a Men's Bible Study
<b>30</b> 10:30a Worship Service; 5:00p PHOS	<b>31</b> 10:00a Staff Meeting					

\*Due to the number of events scheduled, we cannot fit all Sunday activities on the monthly newsletter calendar. Please consult the online calendar at <http://prem.calendars.net/tbpc> for the complete schedule of activities on Sundays in April.



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**The Sunday Schedule**

Time	Location	
8:45 AM	Classroom Wing	Sunday School for Children C. E. & F. for Adults
10:30 AM	Sanctuary	Worship Service