



September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 *6:00 Praise Band Practice *6:30 When Helping Hurts, Book Study	2 *8:30 Aerobics First Friday Prayer Day	3 *9:00 Kindermusik *10:00 Karate
		* Items = Weekly				
4 9&11 Worship 10:00 Sunday School *4:00 Financial Peace *4:30 Huddle	5 Labor Day Office & CLC closed	6 Parents Day Out begins 9:30 Dorcus Circle 2:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 Stephen Ministry *8:00 AA & Alanon *6:30 Zumba begins	7 *9:30 Women of Praise *6:30 Iron Man, Men's Study 6:30 Future of Women's Min. Mtg. *6:45 Choir Practice	8 6:30 Windows into the Soul	9 *6:45 Men's Prayer Breakfast *8:30 Aerobics 5:00 LOGOS Training	10 8:00 LOGOS Training *9:00 Zumba begins Little Kickers Soccer begins
11 Back to Church/ Name Tag Sunday	12 *8:30 Aerobics *9:30 Pebbles & Boulders *6:00 Weight Watchers 6:30 Men's Bible Study	13	14 *5:00 Wed Night Alive	15 Men's Great Banquet—off campus	16 5:00 Skate Session Men's Great Banquet—off campus	17 Men's Great Banquet—off campus
18 5:00 Italian Festival Men's Great Banquet—off campus	19 6:45 Bible Study 7:00 Locker Hooking	20 2:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 Stephen Ministry 6:30 Act! For America-Radical Islam	21	22 Women's Great Banquet—off campus	23 Women's Great Banquet—off campus 6:30 Girls Painters Night Out	24 Women's Great Banquet—off campus 10:00 Zentangle
25 Women's Great Banquet—off campus 12:00 Singles Lunch following service 5:00 The Way-Companions in Christ	26	27 6:30 Session Meeting	28	29	30	

ADVENT ANNOUNCER

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September 2011 Newsletter

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The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV)

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**As disciples,
causing God great
joy by sharing the
love of God with
others as we have
seen it in Jesus
Christ.**



Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends:

September is such a busy month that it's easy to get exhausted. Everyone is busy getting their children off to college or back to school and buying school supplies and clothing. Just to complicate things, most church related activities begin again as well, so we are beginning a Fall Sermon Series, Wednesday Night Alive, Weekday and Weekend Bible Studies, and many other church programs. It is easy to lose track of what is really important.

For the past year, I've been periodically reading and reflecting upon a book called Simple Church, which is a call to simplify church life and focus on discipleship. A year ago, Robin Ballou centered our year around the idea of "Worship Plus Two=Blessing" (W+2=B), which means that many of us should consider making Regular Church Attendance and (1) a weekly Sunday School, Bible Study or Small Group Experience, and (2) some service to Christ either within or without Advent as part of our weekly regular activities and habits. Not so long ago, the pastors were meeting and one of us suggested that you could look at this kind of idea with these three ideas:

- **Reach Up!** Reach out to God in Worship
- **Reach In!** Grow as a disciple
- **Reach Out!** Share the Wisdom and Love of God with others.

This year, one of the main focuses of our life together is going to be empowering members of our congregation to experience what I would call "Practical Christianity". Sometimes we pastors can make the spiritual life look like we expect every member to become another Mother Teresa or Albert Schweitzer. We thank God for the spiritual giants who we can study and learn from, but most of us most of the time are called to live out the Christian life in a particular family, in a particular workplace, in a particular vocation, in a particular neighborhood, in a particular city. We live out the Christian best by going about our business and letting our little light shine for anyone who is watching.

We cannot escape our world with its challenges and its problems. We cannot spend all of our time in religious activities. We must have time for rest, for family, for friendships, for work, for community. We have to find a way to practice our faith in the midst of the hundreds of other things that we do day after day. And, if I am correct, that is all that God expects of us—in fact it is exactly what God expects of us.

Your Friend in Christ,

Chris

