

# The Communicator

May-June 2011



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What is the mission of the local church? Can you answer this question? Does your answer agree with Jesus' commission to the Church? Matthew closes his gospel with the words of Jesus, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Matt. 28:19-20) This is known as "The Great Commission" – the great mission given to the followers of Christ...which includes you and me.

I have been the Pastor at CDOBC for the past ten years, and we have done a pretty good job at obeying most of this command. However, for the last ten years, I believe we have not been as faithful to obey the specific command to "make disciples" – or, to state it more plainly, to individually witness or evangelize the Gospel to unbelievers. I include myself in that critique. When Jesus commands us to "make disciples," He is talking about evangelism, not what we commonly think of as 'discipleship' (Jesus covers that when He says "...teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.>").

Why do we struggle with personal evangelism, and seem more comfortable with missions work and teaching and learning Jesus' commands? Do you realize that Jesus has commissioned us to impact / change the world through the Great Commission?

I believe there is a twofold answer to these two questions. First, I be-

lieve most of us are fearful of sharing our faith because of how someone might respond, and second, we aren't sure how to share our faith. It's pretty easy to send other people on missions work and support their efforts...and it's pretty easy to learn about the truth of Christ...but sharing Christ with non-believers is overwhelming!

However...it's time to change the world! Starting June 5<sup>th</sup>, we will have all our Sunday School classes (Middle School-Adult) begin working through a short series (4 weeks) to help us learn how to naturally and effectively obey Jesus' command to "make disciples." I have been thinking and praying about this over the last year...and the Eld-

ers just went through this study in February and March. We are very excited about the focus this will bring all of us in our daily life. Please make every effort to attend one of our Sunday School classes for the month of June, and let's begin to change the world! *Oikos* is coming!

Pastor Steve

## **MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS:**

**Director:** Jerry Drobinski (jjdski@aol.com)

**Men Under Construction for Christ (MUCC):** All men are invited to join us for fellowship and study in the Book of Daniel every Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. in room 2. For more information, contact John Durako at 419-0535 or [muc4c@msn.com](mailto:muc4c@msn.com).

**Men's Breakfast:** Come Saturday, May 14th, at 7:00 a.m. (doors open at 6:45 a.m.) for a *free* delicious breakfast, fellowship and Bible study—*"Living with Confidence in a Chaotic World."* We will not meet June, July and August but will resume with our schedule in September.

## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS:**

**Director:** Kim Berko (kim.f.berko@gmail.com)

**Mommy & Me:** Moms and preschool children are invited to join us on each Friday for different activities such as play dates, going to the zoo, fellowship, etc. If you would like to participate, contact Tammy Watts at [RTW3996@msn.com](mailto:RTW3996@msn.com) or 888-8431. Look for future plans in the bulletin or on the church website at [www.cdobaptist.org/events](http://www.cdobaptist.org/events).

### **Searching for a FUN, family-friendly and FREE outreach event?**

Sunday, June 26th at 6:00 p.m. here at CDOBC with dessert fellowship immediately following...

#### **Waypoint Theatre presents...**

**The Misadventures of Howie Potter** by Chuck Neighbors...*the Prodigal Son story like you've never heard before!* Our journey begins from the farm to the big city and back again as Sam Slade, P.I., searches for the wayward Howie Potter in this radio show-inspired, firm noir, comedy spoof. Bits of Mother Goose and pop culture combine with other biblical parables in this laugh a minute, family friendly piece. *AND...*

**Demi Tasse** by Jeannette Clift George...*a delightful, whirlwind romp through the Bible in 20 minutes!* While a husband reads and the wife works on a crossword puzzle, a multitude of biblical and present day personalities come to life through a series of vignettes featuring news, gossip, headlines and editorials of the day ending with Jesus' Great Commission.

For more information, please contact the church office at 297-3900 or visit: [www.waypoint-theatre.org](http://www.waypoint-theatre.org). (The plays' running time together is 70 minutes.)

*\*A love offering will be taken to offset production costs, with 20% going back in support of CDO Missions.*

#### **CDOBC Lay Leadership**

##### **Elders**

Lew Backer  
Ken Cottrell  
Kyle DeFoor  
Corey Edmond  
Dale Haralson  
Tim Knodel  
Russ Tronstad

##### **Deacons**

George Ballesteros  
Noel Delgado  
Tony Greco  
Lou Hall  
Donald Horton  
Kyle Randels  
Tom Trappman  
Bill Updike  
Brian Wilson

##### **Deaconesses**

Sheryl Cottrell  
Meghan Davidson  
Tonya Haynes  
Shirley Horner  
Beth Kolbuss  
Beth Silveira  
Leona Williams  
Debra Wylie

## **Authenticity and Worship**

**By Pastor Joseph Berko**

It was almost exactly 3 years ago that I graduated from college. My BA is in Music Composition. There was a certain young lady (now my wife) who I was very interested in, and I was talking with a church in Indiana regarding a full-time music pastorate. The future was looking bright. I would get the job, put down some roots in a town that was close to my family and Kim's, and marry the girl. Since the church was only 35 minutes from my parent's house, I could live with them until getting married--saving a ton of money in the process. Things were beginning to fall into place. I was invited by the church to come and work in their office part time for 3 weeks. I acted as their interim worship pastor during that time as they got to know me and I got to know them. I talked with the pastor frequently, and he assured me several times that I was their guy. In addition to this, I had great meetings with the elder board, was invited into church members' homes, and even had Q & A's with the congregation. Three months into the process, it was time for the elder board to take their final vote. That whole day, I was beside myself with anticipation. The call finally came from the chairman of the board. He cut right to the point: "Joseph, we have made the decision *not* to hire you as our worship pastor." Everything seemed to freeze. "We made the decision not to hire anyone at this time, and are in fact canceling our search for a worship pastor." At that moment the Lord gave me a surreal sense of peace that I cannot explain. It was as if He was telling me that He knew I wouldn't get the job, and that this was for my good. I trusted Him, but darker days were on the way. "Hope deferred makes the heart sick (Prov. 13:12)," and my heart was getting sick.

I had no job. I had no car. I was living at home with my parents. I had no immediate prospects for a worship pastorate and now knew that even a successful interview process would take several months. My plans were decimated. I started a job search immediately, trying to find anything I could to carry me through until I could find something permanent. Unfortunately, nobody was hiring. I couldn't even get a job at Subway! What was God doing? Didn't He know that I was ready to serve Him and that I needed this job? The days seemed to drag by, and deep discouragement was setting in. Life just seemed pointless. Soon after that I met a guy at the church my parents were attending. He had his own small roofing company and gave me a chance. The work was hard, but it was a job. My search for a music position continued, but I had no serious prospects. Winter came and so did the snow. Roofing season was over--thankfully--and the Lord helped me to find another job working for an AV company doing low voltage wiring projects. A couple months later, I added a second job, working as a night custodian at an elementary school. Neither one of these positions were "dream jobs," but God was providing for me. It was also around that time that I finally gave up on finding a job in the Midwest and broadened my search radius. I came into contact with three churches--one in Texas, one in Oregon, and one in Arizona. The pieces were finally falling into place.

As I look back on that season of waiting, I can truly say that I would not trade it for anything. At the time, my life seemed like a dead end, but that was exactly the point that God needed to bring me to--the point where I did not find my value and satisfaction in my vocation but I found it in Him. God also used that time to bring me to the point where I became willing to do whatever He wanted me to--whether that was to serve as a music pastor, or to do something completely different.

*We all* have times of difficulty and struggle in our lives. Times where none of our plans work out. Times where we feel helpless and don't know what will come next. This is not an enjoyable place to be, but having gone through such a time myself, here is the encouragement I have to offer.

First, you can be sure God has your best interests in mind. I wanted the job at the church in Indiana badly and didn't get it. Later on, I heard from several different sources that the church was floundering and having major issues. I praise the Lord that He spared me from that. What are you facing right now? Is there something that you really want, and for whatever reason, you are not able to have it? Trust in God's goodness, and secondly, trust in His sovereignty. He sees things as they truly are, and His timing and plans are perfect. You might *think* you know what is best, but what you really need to do is submit yourself to the loving and all-wise Father. He will faithfully lead you along the best path for your life. If you humble yourself before God, and seek Him first in the situation you are facing, I guarantee that you will look back on this time with gratitude as you see how God used it for good. It's not easy to submit to God when life gets tough. It took me months to get to the breaking point where I "let go and let God." In the end though, it has been all worth it.

# The Edge

## Glory to God

by Pastor Scott Nichols

The Westminster Shorter Catechism (a church document created a few centuries ago to express some basic beliefs of Christians) states in its opening phrases that the chief aim of man (man's primary purpose) is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. It clearly and easily states that our primary purpose in life should be bringing God glory in all that we do. At first, it seems that would be such an easy concept to live out in our lives. After all, if we have accepted Christ as our Savior, we have already made the decision to follow Christ. By choosing to follow Him, we have made the decision to live out His commandments, which brings glory to God. Anyone who has been a Christian for more than 10 minutes knows that we are not yet perfect and will make mistakes. In making these mistakes, however, we don't bring glory to God. The process of becoming more Christ-like (Sanctification) is a lifelong endeavor. We will make mistakes, but as we grow in our faith, we should be becoming more like Christ each day. In doing so, we will be following Him more and bring Him glory.

If we truly desire to follow Christ and to bring glory to God, the Bible provides us many examples of what God's expectations are for us. In following these expectations, we can bring God glory in *every* area of our lives. In our relationships, God desires us to love others. The kind of love that is expected is the selfless kind, putting others needs before our own (Matthew 22:39). The language and the way we treat people with our mouths is of great concern to God (Ephesians 4:29). In fact, James spends a great deal of his epistle detailing how we can bring glory to God with our mouths. In our work ethic for our jobs he expects us to give our best, because even though we are toiling for earthly authorities, we ultimately are working for God (Ephesians 6:7). God even cares about what we eat. In what we choose to eat and drink, we can bring glory to God. 1 Corinthians 10:31 tells us this: "*Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*" This verse also has a striking phrase in it. The phrase, "*whatever you do,*" is all inclusive. All aspects of our lives are to bring glory to God, from areas of what we eat and drink, to the more complex such as our relationships, all are to be conducted in ways that bring glory to God.

### A Look Ahead

**May 7**—Yard Sale and Car Wash Fundraiser from 6 a.m.-noon—Parents are needed for this event!

**May/June**—Rent-A-Kid to support them as they raise funds to go to camp and their missions trip (see below). You can *rent your kid* at a table between services or call the church office at 297-3900 for details.

**June 5-10**—Summer Camp for Middle School and Sr. High Students—Camp is located at Forest Falls, CA. Estimated cost is \$299 due by May 15th.

**July 17-22**—Missions Trip at the Campo Indian Reservation outside San Diego, CA. The students will be given an opportunity to put their faith into action as they take the love of Jesus to this Indian Reservation. The students will work on various building projects and present the Gospel through a VBS. The price of this trip is \$299 due by May 11th.

## The Gathering

(for young adults)

Join us every Thursday night as we gather to sing, pray, and enjoy a time of fellowship at Einstein Bros. Bagels from 6:30-8 p.m., located at the intersection of Ina and Shannon (a couple minutes west of Foot-hills Mall). Go to [www.cdobaptist.org/gathering](http://www.cdobaptist.org/gathering) for more information.

### Upcoming Events

**Between-Time Snack Bar:** Come visit the snack bar between services on the last Sunday of each month for some delicious treats at a great price!

**Prayer Gathering:** Meet in room 1 at 6:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of every month to pray for our troops, church family, missions and ministries.

**Golden Corral Luncheon:** Everyone is invited to join the Alive & Active Sunday School class for lunch at the Golden Corral (Thornydale south of Ina Rd.) on May 19th and June 16th at 11:30 a.m. See you there!

**Child Dedication:** On Mother's Day, May 8th, there will be a child dedication in both worship services. Call the church office if you would like to include your children.

**Grads Honored:** Are you graduating from High School or College? If so, we would like to honor you on Sunday, May 15th. Let us know by contacting the church office at 297-3900.

**Baptism:** The next baptism will be Sunday, May 22nd. Contact the church office if you would like to be included at 297-3900.

**VBS Orientation Meeting:** There will be a meeting on Sunday, May 22nd in the GLOW room at 4:00 p.m. for anyone who will be volunteering at VBS. For any questions, please contact Kim Berko and Sarah Nichols at [pandamaniacdobb@hotmail.com](mailto:pandamaniacdobb@hotmail.com) or 602-750-5520 (Sarah).

**Promotion Sunday:** Your child will promote to the next class on Sunday, June 5th. Go to the Children's Ministry check-in desk for directions.

### **Come Visit the Library!**

You have an opportunity to view and check out selected books on the library cart by the coffee table in the courtyard every Sunday between services. Or, visit the library located between the nursery and room 2 at anytime. There are many great selections you can browse through from fiction to theological. And, it is easy to check out a book. Please enter the library through room 2.

### **Church Calendar**

To view the church calendar, visit [www.cdobaptist.org](http://www.cdobaptist.org), then click on events and follow to calendar.

### **Help Make Fall Festival a Success!**

We are still in need of a Toy Director! You will be trained! If you are interested, contact Sheryl Beyer at 877-8611 or [sdbeyer@aol.com](mailto:sdbeyer@aol.com).

### **ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Flute Lessons:** If interested, contact Melanie Van Kley at 219-8156.

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## ***Ready for the adventure of a lifetime?***

At PandaMania summer VBS, kids discover that God is *wild* about them—a fact that will change them forever! PandaMania is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Mark your calendars for June 13-17. You can sign up your kids now at the VBS table in the courtyard between services; a registration form can be printed from: [www.cdobapitst.org/events](http://www.cdobapitst.org/events); or, register them in the church office. The cost is \$10 for the first child and \$5 for other siblings (includes a t-shirt, CD, Bible Buddies, crafts and snacks). Contact Sarah Nichols or Kim Berko, co-directors, for more information at: [pandamaniacdobc@hotmail.com](mailto:pandamaniacdobc@hotmail.com), or, 602-750-5520 (Sarah).

