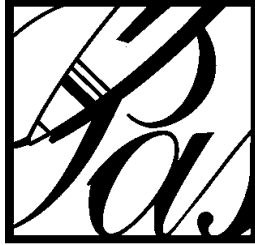


# The Communicator

September/October 2010

FROM THE



PASTOR

## We Need Everyone

*“All hands on deck!”* Historically, this was a call to action when there was urgent need ‘topside’ on a ship. In modern use, it’s a phrase used by land dwellers as well when there is a lot of work to do in a short period of time. In the church, it seems like every fall brings with it a feeling of urgency - being short-handed as ministries are starting up after a summer break, and the church budget is bruised and battered after the inconsistent giving pattern of summer. Given these realities, it’s time for *“All hands on deck!”* at CDOBC!

God continues to bless our church through those involved in serving and those of you who have been faithful with your offerings throughout the year. We are in good shape – especially when we see how so many churches are struggling to keep their doors open. But I’m not satisfied with simply being “in good shape” – we can do better than that...I believe God calls us to pursue excellence – not mediocrity. I don’t use this phrase (*“All hands on deck!”*) with an alarmist tone. However, I am using this phrase to try and motivate those who haven’t been serving or giving yet – and to encourage those who have been active that some help is on the way!

As we enter the fall, various ministries are gearing up to serve the people of CDOBC and the community of Oro Valley. I don’t have the room to list all of our ministries here, but there is a place for each of you...a place to serve others – or a place to be involved and be served (i.e. Men’s or Women’s Ministry). Normally, churches have about 20% of the people doing 80% of the work. I think our numbers are a little better

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than that – but the principle applies...we have many people attending worship on a regular basis – but they’re not involved through serving and giving.

If that describes you, then be encouraged. Scripture tells us that financial giving and Christian service is a *privilege* - “For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints.” **2 Cor. 8:3-4**. We often view these things as burdens or added stress in our life...but Christ tells us His burden is light (Matt. 11:28-30) and Paul says they are blessings or *privileges* of the Christian life. There are many things in our life that are burdens or they add work to our life – but we do them because of love, or we enjoy them and we believe the benefit outweighs the work (i.e. trips,

hobbies, physical exercise, etc.). Do you realize the same thing is true of spiritual things?

God is working in our church. I believe seeing God work and being involved in His work is the most exciting place you can be. Are you involved in His work – or, are you watching it from the sidelines? Our church needs your involvement, but more importantly, you need to be involved for your spiritual growth...and God designed you to be involved (**1 Cor. 12:13-41; Eph. 2:10**).

It’s *“All hands on deck!”* at CDOBC... see you topside!

Serving with you...  
Pastor Steve



**By Pastor Ken Fahl**

The world is one of the enemies which must be fought and conquered on the way to heaven. The Gospel, represented as a training school in which to deny worldly desires, is one part of its curriculum.

What is *“this world”* which so effectually alienates us from heaven and puts us by virtue of our relationship to it in flagrant enmity to God? *“The world...the lust of the flesh...the lust of the eye...the pride of life”*—what are they? The world includes the whole mass of men alienated from God, and therefore hostile to the cause of Christ. It is the aggregate of things earthly, riches, advantages, pleasures, and pursuits, which although hollow, frail and fleeting, stir desire, seduce from God and are obstacles to the cause of Christ.

Our word *“desire”* expresses the meaning of the word *LUST*, including the whole world of active lusts and desires, to which the seat of desire and natural appetites impels.

The world was once, as it was constituted at first in Adam, well-pleasing to God and obedient to Him (Genesis 1:27-28). It is man’s world in his fall from God and under the control of Satan. It is now governed by the *“lust of the flesh;” “human nature adverse to God;” lust of the eyes;”* that sense which takes note of outward things and is inflamed by them; the *“pride of life,”* the manner of life of worldly men among one another whereby pride is chief.

Bengel says, *“The lust of the flesh* means those things on which the sense of enjoyment, taste and touch feed. *Lust of the eyes* means those things by which the senses of investigation, the eye and sight, hearing and smelling, are occupied. *Pride of life* means when any one assumes too much to himself in words or actions. All these desires are not from God, but from the prince of this world.”

What gives this world its fatal charms? Whence its hostility to God and its alienation from heaven? This world is the devil’s world. In that hour when man fell from his allegiance to God, Satan claimed it as his own. This world gets its deadly and fascinating snares from the devil. It is now his instrument to corrupt the human race. Thus John says, *“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”* | John 1:15-17

Let me say...It has been my pleasure to serve the seniors of Canyon Del Oro Baptist Church for the past several years. As I step down, I’m not leaving the church, just laying aside the responsibility.

*Pastor Ken*

## Church Calendar

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

## CDOBC Lay Leadership

### Elders

Lew Backer  
Allen Birdsall  
Tom Cetas  
Jim Dover  
Dale Haralson  
Russ Tronstad

### Deacons

Brent Avey  
George Ballesteros  
Tony Greco  
Lou Hall  
Kyle Randels  
Tom Trappman  
Bill Updike  
Brian Wilson

### Deaconesses

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

## Authenticity and Worship

By Pastor Joseph Berko

Throughout its history, the nation of Israel has had many highs and lows. Times of great victory where they put their faith in God for deliverance as well as other times of idol worship and flagrant sin. It was during one of these lows when God came to Hosea--a prophet--and gave him the command to marry a prostitute. God told Hosea, "This will illustrate how Israel has acted like a prostitute by turning against the Lord and worshipping other gods. (Hos. 1:2b)." As humans, it can be difficult to fully grasp how our sins affect God. But who among us wouldn't be moved by hearing a report of someone who committed adultery against a faithful and loving spouse in an intentional and graphic fashion--and with no remorse? This is essentially what Israel had done: Throwing herself at other gods, and embracing the sinful practices of other nations wholeheartedly. While God was not "married" to Israel, His love for her was so deep, and her unfaithfulness to Him was so great that this is the picture given.

God's response to His people's unfaithfulness was one of anger and impending punishment. God said "I will strip her (Israel) naked in public, while all her lovers look on. No one will be able to rescue her from my hands. (Hos. 2:10)." What a terrifying picture! God does not turn a blind eye to sin, and especially the sin of His children. It's important to note at this point that God's discipline is rooted in His holiness and justice. And, it flows from His love. God *would* punish Israel severely--as deserved--but with the intent to move her to the point of confessing her sins and turning back to Him. Listen to God's heart as He looks towards this day of repentance: "I will make you (Israel) my wife forever, showing you righteousness and justice, unending love and compassion. I will be faithful to you and make you mine, and you will finally know me as the Lord. I will heal you of your faithlessness; my love for you will know no bounds, for my anger will be gone forever (Hos. 2:19-20; 14:4)."

Dwelling on God's love for His people Israel is helpful both in understanding His love for the church, and also in appreciating the fact that we are referred to as the "bride" of Christ.

Like Israel, we (the church) are chosen by God (Eph. 1:4a), God's desire for us is holiness (Eph. 1:4b), and we are a sinful people. Before Christ, we were "dead" because of our disobedience and many sins. "All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature (Eph. 2:3)." After Christ, we are viewed by God as righteous because of the blood of Christ. But we still sin by following the passionate desires of our sinful nature (Rom. 7:21-24). Like Israel, we are prone to playing the harlot. We might not actually bow down to physical images of gods and offer sacrifices to them, but we surely have our own idols. We are prone to worshipping money, sex, and power in their various forms, and we fall often and hard as we daily struggle against these temptations. Like Israel, we are prone to unfaithfulness to the God who has saved us, and we become adept at putting on a pious facade. Like the Israelites, our hearts grow callous and cold to God at times, and we have no shame as we sin against Him. We furthermore justify the sin in our mind, and "play God" by coming up with our own standards of Christian living in order to avoid guilt. Let's not fool ourselves--we fall far short of God's standard of perfection and deserve the full weight of His wrath and punishment. It's not fun being faced with our sinfulness and shortcomings. And I surely don't like to think about the fact that I am essentially being a whore when I sin against God. But these are necessary things to reflect on if we are to understand His love and design for us and respond to it.

The love of God is truly amazing--especially the fact that it is not a blind love. God knows our hearts, and nothing is hidden from Him. He is furthermore omniscient, and knew every sin we would ever commit before we were even born. And yet He has chosen us to be His bride.

Listen to this passage from Ephesians 5:25-27: "For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up His life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's Word. He did this to present her to Himself as a glorious church without fault." God was not charmed by the church, or infatuated with her beauty. He did not "fall into love" with her. Nor was He blinded to her character and heart. He **CHOSE** her as His bride. Think about that. He *knew* every fault and flaw and still He chose to love her. He did not relax His standards either. It cost Him dearly, but He gave up His life in order that the church may be cleansed of its great stains of sin. And His love for her--for *us*--is a continuous and faithful love as He works to sanctify us.

The  
Edge

## Following God When It's Hard

By Scott Nichols

Many times in life we are given a choice to make. This choice has two options. We can do what we know is right and follow directive's God has given to us, but we might stand out from the crowd and get some attention that we'd rather not have. In fact choosing to follow God and do what is right might end up costing us, costing us dearly. The other choice we have is blending into the crowd and going along with the crowd in whatever decision they make. That decision quite possibly will not bring honor to God and might cause us to sin in the process of doing it.

The Bible is filled with stories about people who were put into desperate situations and they had a choice to make: to follow God's commands and pay the price for them; or to blend in with the crowd and do what the crowd is to keep from drawing attention to themselves but not honor God in the process. The book of Daniel in the Old Testament is filled with many examples of situations that are similar to this.

In chapter 1 of the book, Daniel and his friends are deported from their conquered homeland of Judea and sent to Babylon. There, they are supposed to be learning Babylonian customs and blending into the Babylonian culture, including eating the food that has been offered to the Babylonian deities. Not wanting to sin against God and eat meat that wasn't prepared according to Mosaic Law, Daniel instead approached his overseers and asked if he and his friends could have an all veggie diet. He could have just blended in with the crowd, but in doing so would have not honored God with his food choice. Instead, he purposed to follow after God's commandments, even when it could have cost him. In chapter 3, Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego were given a choice to make. King Nebuchadnezzar had built a statue that he wanted everyone to bow down to and worship when music played. Knowing full well that God had commanded his people to worship no other gods and that there would be some consequences to not following the king's order (the king had commanded that if anyone didn't worship the image they would be thrown into a fiery furnace which would lead to their death), these three decided to not follow the crowd. When everyone else was bowing down and worshipping the golden image, these three were still standing up. Talk about standing out in the crowd. In both of these stories God honored these young men's commitment to honor him, and they were spared from any harm coming to them. In fact, God was given great honor by their actions.

Life can be quite hard at times, and is filled with many hard choices to make. It can seem easier to just follow the crowd. When we are given a choice to follow God's command or just follow the crowd: The choice should seem quite clear, no matter the consequences we should choose to follow God.

### **College and Young Singles Ministry**

The College/Young Singles Sunday School class will resume meeting at 9:00 a.m., September 5th, at the home of Tom and Betty Cetas—7725 N. Sendero de Juana, 85718. You can contact Tom and Betty Cetas at 906-1888 (Tom) or 906-8983 (Betty) or e-mail them at [tcetas@gmail.com](mailto:tcetas@gmail.com) for more information.

### 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

**Budget Workshop:** Saturday, September 11th & 18th from 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. here at CDOBC. The cost is \$20 for materials (single or couple) includes 2 workshops, extensive materials to build your own personalized financial planning notebook and a copy of *Total Money Makeover* by Dave Ramsey. Coffee and snack will be served in a morning break and there will be free childcare.

**Between Time Snack Bar:** September 26th will be the *last* Snack Bar until after the holidays. Be sure to stop by between the worship services and enjoy some special treats!

**Baby Shower:** Ladies, you are invited to join us to celebrate the upcoming arrival of Pastor Scott and Sarah Nichols' baby boy on Sunday, September 12th at 3:00 p.m. in rooms 1 & 2.



**Youth Night:** Come support our youth on Sunday, September 26th at 6:00 p.m. as they present songs of worship, skits, testimonies and a message.

**Clothing Exchange:** Ladies, come to the GLOW room on Saturday, October 9th from 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. to exchange your clothing (and your family's) for something different.

**Piano Concert:** Come and enjoy Richard Deal perform on Saturday, October 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the CDOBC sanctuary.

**Fall Festival:** Saturday, October 30th here at church from 5-8 p.m. Come join the fun!

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

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

**Men's Conference:** "The Great Adventure" Men's Conference, September 25th, is hosted this year by Christ Community Church, 7801 E. Kenyon Dr., here in Tucson. Pick up a registration form on the table in the foyer or go to [www.greatadventureconference.org](http://www.greatadventureconference.org). Registration is \$25 before August 31st and \$30, thereafter.

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

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study:** Join the ladies at 9:45-11:00 a.m. for prayer, fellowship and a study in 1 & 2 Peter, *Courage in Times of Trouble*, taught by Beth Kolbuss beginning September 7th for 12 weeks. Cost: \$9.50 for workbook.

**Tuesday Evening Bible Study:** All ladies are invited! Your life will be changed as we study "Breaking Free" by Beth Moore from 6:00-8:00 p.m. beginning September 7th for 11 weeks. Cost: \$15 for workbook.

To sign up for both classes or for more information, call Debbie Randels in the church office at 297-3900 or e-mail her at [drandels@cdobaptist.org](mailto:drandels@cdobaptist.org), or go to [www.cdobaptist.org/events](http://www.cdobaptist.org/events).

### September

1-Fall Contest Begins  
8-Bring a Friend for Five  
15-Team Spirit  
22-Fall Contest Ends  
29-Pie in the Eye



### October

6-Gummy Situation  
13-No Club—Fall Break  
20-Affliction Night  
27-Buck Store #1

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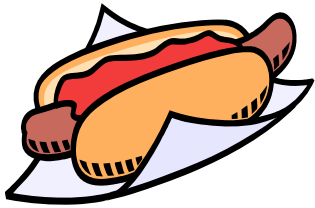
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*Committed to helping people  
become mature followers of Jesus*



# Fall Festival

Saturday, October 30th

5-8 p.m.

Fun, Food, Games, Prizes  
and it's FREE!

