

# The Communicator

September-October 2011



**Inside this issue:**

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Pastor Joseph Berko          | 3 |
| AWANA                        | 4 |
| Community Services           | 5 |
| Fall Festival                | 6 |
| Men's and Women's Ministries | 2 |
| Pastor Scott Nichols         | 4 |
| Upcoming Events              | 5 |
| Waypoint Theatre             | 5 |

The account of Lot (*Gen. 18-19*) is full of life lessons. One of the most relevant lessons is this: Are you changing your culture, or is the culture changing you? As a follower of Christ, we are called to change our culture. We don't accomplish this through force, but through transformation. First, we must live transformed lives...not just our habits, but most importantly our hearts. It's hypocritical to attempt to change those around you if you haven't been changed! Second, we change our culture by "making disciples" (*Matt. 28:19*).

Lot failed to change his culture, and since he allowed the culture of Sodom and Gomorrah to change him, he almost lost his life. When you look at your life, are you a force and influence for Christ? Or, another way I want to ask that question is, are you changing your *Oikos* for Christ?

As I mentioned above, the first way we change our culture is through our own life that has been changed – transformed by the truth and grace of God (*Rom. 12:1-2*). Do people in your *Oikos* know you're a Christian simply by watching you (*You do know that they're watching you, don't you?*)? This is the starting point for all of us, because if we try and share the truth about Christ, we have

no credibility unless it's something they've seen in us. This doesn't mean we have to be perfect before we share Christ, but we must be a 'work in progress' or 'in the game.'

If you are being transformed by God's truth and grace, that will necessarily include sharing the Gospel with those who you know – your *Oikos*. Are you doing this? Are you praying for them, asking God to give you opportunities to share the truth with them? Are you asking God to give you an opportunity to invite them to church or to have them over for dinner, dessert, etc.?

In our last newsletter, I mentioned that *Oikos* was here...and here to stay. I know it's a foreign word, and a bit odd, but it is a concise and quick way to describe your mission field... the mission field that you are most qualified to reach because you already have relationships with this group of people. I pray you will be excited about your unique mission field, and that you'll be eager for God to use you as you change *your* world with His grace and truth!

Pastor Steve

## MEN'S MINISTRY NEWS:

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

**Men's Breakfast:** All men are welcome to join us for a delicious breakfast and a video series by Joe Gibbs (three-time Super Bowl and NASCAR Champion), "A Game Plan for Life." Joe tackles the key areas of life a man needs in order to lead a victorious life. Meet the 2nd Saturday of each month from 7-8:15 a.m. beginning September 10th. Workbooks will cost \$9.00.

**Men's Bible Study:** The class will begin on Thursday, September 8th, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. for a time of fellowship and Bible study in the Books of I & II Thessalonians. Study guides by John Stott are available for \$6.30. *All men are welcome!*

**Pizza and Comedy Night:** There will be periodic opportunities for fun and fellowship for men, young and old. The kick-off will be the *Pizza and Comedy Night* on Friday, October 14th at 6:00 p.m. in rooms 1 & 2. Cost: \$3.00/\$1.50 (young men under 18).

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS:

**Director:** Kim Berko ([kim.f.berko@gmail.com](mailto: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, coupon exchanges, 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).

**Women of Faith Potluck:** Mark your calendars for the **Women of Faith Potluck Dinner**, Thursday, September 15th, from 6-8 p.m. in rooms 1 & 2 for those attending the conference. Please RSVP to Michelle Racioppo at 977-3381 or email her at [Luv2uLord@aol.com](mailto:Luv2uLord@aol.com) and *let her know what dish you will bring*. Tickets and Conference details will be passed out at the potluck.

**Women's Bible Studies:** Tuesday Bible study classes begin in September and we would love for all women to join us! The morning class will begin meeting September 13th from 9:45-11:00 in room 2 studying "The Father of Israel" by John MacArthur. This 12 week class is led by Beth Kolbuss and the workbook will cost \$6.00. The evening class will begin meeting on September 6th for 11 weeks in room 2 from 6-8 p.m. for a Beth Moore study, "David: Seeking a Heart Like His (2010 Edition)." This is a DVD series and the workbook costs \$15. If you would like more information, contact Debbie Randels in the church office at 297-3900 or email her at [drandels@cdobaptist.org](mailto:drandels@cdobaptist.org).

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

#### Deacons

George Ballesteros  
Noel Delgado  
Tony Greco  
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 the perfect worship service. I had come into the sanctuary 20 minutes early to find beautiful, reflective music being performed live. The lighting was low, Scripture verses were being meaningfully displayed on the screens, and fellow believers all around me were preparing their hearts for worship. Some were kneeling in prayer while others were meditating on the Scripture verses. Then there were some who were encouraging each other with open Bibles on their laps. The cares of the week began to fade away and my heart began to focus on the Lord as I took in the Scripture verses and music. After a while, the music leader welcomed us and opened in a word of prayer. Such humble and God-honoring words. It was just what I needed to hear, and I could not wait for the songs to begin so I could release the joy and praise that was bubbling up from my heart. The band started to play. Everyone was completely in the same groove, and the balance of instruments and voices was magnificent. The talent level of the musicians was incredible and yet they did not call attention to themselves. It was all about God. It felt like we were being ushered before the throne of God. Those around me had smiles of joy on their faces. They were at peace; singing to their Savior with raised hands and genuine praise. Everyone was caught up in the moment, and as I opened my mouth to join in with the choir of other voices, an effortless and gorgeous sound emerged.

Ok, so maybe I have never actually attended a service like that. Have you? A couple weeks ago, Pastor Steve exhorted us from Ephesians 5:19-20 that singing songs of praise is something that God expects of us. I agree with Him wholeheartedly, but it did get me thinking that there are many things that work against us as we try to praise the Lord in our Sunday morning worship services. Ideally, every Sunday would be similar to the one mentioned above, but the reality is that there are many distractions and praising God with our whole heart is not something that just “happens.”

It was a Tuesday morning chapel service at Moody Bible Institute--the school where I studied for my undergrad--and things were not going well. I was having major attitude issues and was doing anything *but* worshipping as the song set continued to progress. What was my deal? I was studying to become a music pastor and could not worship? Part of the problem was that I had a test directly following chapel and really could have used some extra study time. And then there was the welcome given by the student worship leader, something like “GOOD MORNING MOODY!!!” (in a surfer dude accent) Was this a concert, or worship set? The first song was one that I thought had shallow lyrics, but as soon as the first chord was played people everywhere threw their hands up into the air and closed their eyes like they had this immediate “Spirit connection” or something. How could they possibly be worshipping already? We weren’t even singing yet. And it was a lousy song! I closed my own eyes--partly to block out the other people, partly so I could seethe inwardly while still appearing to be worshipping.

This was not the first chapel that I struggled with, nor the last, but it was a turning point in my journey to become a better worshipper. I began to focus on what I could control--my heart and voice--and asked God to give me the grace I needed to deal with the distractions. My perception of a shallow worship leader was just that. A perception. God convicted me that I had no idea what was going on in his heart, and I was actually the hypocrite in judging him for what seemed to me to be a “lack of worship” while there was zero worship going on in my own heart. Well what about those other “worshippers?” The ones who angered me because I could not understand how they could get into their worship groove so quickly? Again, I had to put aside my perceptions of them. I asked God to help me believe the best about the condition of their hearts. Eventually I learned to give God praise that something good was obviously going on that allowed them to freely offer themselves like that. I also realized I was jealous of them. While I was distracted and struggling, they seemed totally free and focused in their worship of God. But could they truly be worshipping God with *that* song? Yes, they could. God expects us to do everything to His glory (1 Cor. 10:31) and that means giving Him our best. If all I have to work with is a band or music style that is not my favorite, or a mediocre song, I can still give my best and worship God. My point here is not that we should have low or no standards for the leadership, band, and song selections, but if we place full responsibility for our ability to worship on those things, our focus is off.

What are some things we can do to grow in our ability to worship? First, pray to God often. Ask Him during the week to guide and direct the praise team’s preparations. Ask Him to prepare the hearts of His people to give Him pure praise. Implore Him to work in your own heart and to teach you how to be the best worshipper you can be. And when (not if) there are distractions during the worship service, give those up to Him. Plead with Him to help you focus on your own heart and not the hearts of others. Secondly, don’t be afraid to sing! If you don’t feel comfortable with your voice join the choir and learn how to sing. And be sure to sit with people on Sunday mornings who do sing! It’s a lot easier to sing out if those around you are doing the same.

It will never be the perfect worship service. But as we *commit* ourselves to growing in our ability to worship, God will be glorified.

**The  
Edge**

**10 Students, 2 Adults and A Baby—A Missions Trip to the Campo Indian Reservation  
by Pastor Scott Nichols**

In mid-July, a team of 10 students from the Youth Ministry, Pastor Scott, Sarah and Nathan set out to spend a week ministering to the people of the Campo Indian Reservation outside San Diego, California. The group had spent several months preparing to be used by God in any way that he saw fit. The goal for the week was for the group to put on a VBS program for the children of the reservation and to work on building houses for the adults of the reservation who did not have one.

The students were challenged in a variety of ways as they were forced to live outside their comfort zones for a week. There was no AC, hours of manual labor, and limited to no cell phone service. Each day the students would put on a VBS in the morning and in the afternoon they would work on building the houses. Each was given different tasks to lead at the VBS: some led the games, others the crafts and still others leading the opening sessions. The students were encouraged to take an interest in each of the kids that were there and try to connect with them. At the end of the week when the Gospel was presented, the teens were responsible for leading small groups that discussed what the kids had just learned. A couple of the students had the opportunity to lead one of the kids to Christ, something that up until this point they had never done. It was amazing for them getting the chance to know that they were capable of being used by God and leading someone to Christ. Six kids accepted Christ during the VBS!

In the afternoons, the teens were taken out to various work project sites where they helped build houses. Most of them had never installed dry wall or other tasks associated with installing dry wall before this trip, but now they are regular pros. In the process they had the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ and love on those who have less.

We are called to love others (Matt 22:39) and make disciples for Christ (Matt 28:19-20). During this trip, these students found out they were more than capable to be used by God in this capacity. We are all called to take the good news of Christ to our worlds; we don't have to go away on a far mission trip to do it. We can do it with our OIKOS here in Oro Valley!



**September**

7-May the Best Club Win!  
14- Bring a Friend for Five  
21-Band-Aid Blitz  
28-And, the Winner Is?

**October**

5-Pie in the Eye  
12-No Club (Fall Break)  
19-Inside-Out Night  
26-Buck Store #1

### 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.

**Youth Night:** Come worship with our youth on Sunday, October 9th at 6:00 p.m. as they do skits, give testimonies, sing and present a message. Join them for a cookie fellowship following the service.

**Ministry Fair:** Join us between services on Sunday, October 9th to learn about all of the ministries here at CDOBC and find out where you can serve.

**Baptism:** The next Baptism is schedule for Sunday, October 16th. Contact the church office at 297-3900 for more information or if you would like to be included.

**Annual/3rd Quarter Business Meeting:** Plan to attend immediately following the 2nd worship service on Sunday, October 23rd to vote on 2012 leadership and review the 3rd quarter budget.

**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 September 15th and October 20th at 11:30 a.m. See you there!

**Fall Festival:** Mark your calendars to join in the fun! (see page 6)

### Waypoint Theatre Presents: "September Bears"

Commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11 with Waypoint's inspirational drama, "September Bears," based on a true story about a teacher in Manhattan who helped her class work through their hurt and healing, including her own, and the spiritual growth she experienced when "good overcomes evil." Performances are September 7th-11th at Atria Bell Court Gardens Academy Hall Theatre (near St. Joseph's Medical Center). Visit [www.waypoint-theatre.org](http://www.waypoint-theatre.org), [brownpapertickets.com/event/175619](http://brownpapertickets.com/event/175619), or call 1-800-838-3006, ext. 1 (live 24/7) for more information.

### Community Services

**Family Life Radio Fall Share-A-Thon:** A *ministry opportunity* for you and your friends! Family Life Communications is seeking phone volunteers over the age of 18 to answer donation calls and prayer requests during their *Fall Day of Prayer and Share-a-thon Fundraising Drive*. The shifts are 4 hours throughout the day starting at 3 a.m., ending at 7 p.m., September 19th-23rd at 7355 N. Oracle Rd. Call Mike Spiva at 219-7703 or visit [www.myflr.org](http://www.myflr.org) and click on *volunteers* for information or to volunteer.

**ICS "WE CARE" Golf Classic:** Registration is now open for the November 11th (Veterans Day) Golf Classic at the beautiful Omni Tucson National Resort. Gather your foursome and join the fun "fore" a good cause! To register or get details, visit [www.golfinvite.com/icswecare](http://www.golfinvite.com/icswecare), or call Shar Caulley at 297-2738.

**Chuck Wagon Roundup:** You are invited to attend the second Chuck Wagon Roundup, Saturday, October 22nd, at 6 p.m., at the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL), 16131 N. Vernon Dr. in Catalina, to benefit the Family First Pregnancy Care Center. You can sponsor a table for \$60 and receive 6 tickets, or you can purchase individual tickets for \$10. You simply send a check for the amount of tickets you want to purchase to Family First, P.O. Box 5239, Oracle, AZ 85623, and they will send your tickets to you in the mail. It promises to be a fun evening of bidding at the auction and a BBQ meal provided by Bubb's Grub!

CANYON DEL ORO BAPTIST CHURCH

9200 N. Oracle Road  
Tucson, AZ 85704-8500

Phone: 520-297-3900  
Fax: 520-297-5114  
E-mail: [office@cdobaptist.org](mailto:office@cdobaptist.org)

Please contact us with your new address or if you no longer want to receive the newsletter.

*Committed to helping people  
become mature followers of Jesus*

We're on the Web  
[www.cdobaptist.org](http://www.cdobaptist.org)



# FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 29TH

5-8 P.M.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

VOLUNTEERS AND CANDY  
DONATIONS NEEDED!