

# The Communicator

January-February 2012

## Special Points of Interest:

- God's Wisdom for Life
- Annual Growth Conference
- Men's Ministry
- Women's Ministry
- 2012 Lay Leadership
- Upcoming Events

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## Pastor Steve Van Kley / God's Wisdom for Life

Remember the T.V. show "Let's Make a Deal"? As a child, our family's 'practice' was to watch that show as we dined on T.V. dinners (*As a kid I loved those! Who could refuse a good Salisbury Steak or Fried Chicken Dinner!*), and I was always amazed at the costumes worn by the contestants who were chosen at random out of the audience. The host, Monty Hall, would have a handful of cash, and try to make deals with the players, and in part of the game, they would have to choose between 'door #1, door #2, or door #3.' It was a game of pure luck – for the contestants never had a clue what was behind the door they would choose, and if their choice would result in a better prize – or if it would be a 'zonk'. (Official webpage for the show: <http://www.letsmakeadeal.com> / also see: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Let's\\_Make\\_a\\_Deal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Let's_Make_a_Deal) )

Do you ever feel like the choices you make in your life bring you a 'zonk!' At times, life feels like "Let's Make a Deal." We have choices before us, and we don't have a clue which is the right one to make. The easiest choices are the ones where the moral or ethical line is clear, and the options before us are vastly different due to their moral makeup. However, most of life is not that clearly defined in terms of sin, morality, or ethics. Most of life seems to be an issue not of ethical or moral choosing, but of applying wisdom...which is the "best" choice.

Beginning in January of 2012, I hope to bring some of God's wisdom before us. I am starting a sermon series titled "**God's Wisdom for Life**," which will take us through passages in Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes. As always, the goal of this series is twofold. First, is to learn the wisdom contained in these passages. Our knowledge of God and His truth is always foundational in our life. We must know God and His truth if we are to build a strong and stable life. Second, we must apply God's wisdom to our life. Knowing God and His truth has a purpose – and that purpose is so our life will be changed – that our life will be "...conformed to the likeness of His Son." (Rom. 8:29).

So, as we enter another year, I pray God's blessing will be upon you and your family – and I pray that God will continue to bless our church. And I look forward to this year as we search the depths of Scripture and 'mine' the treasure it contains...the wisdom of God!

Wishing God's blessing for you in 2012!

*Pastor Steve*



## Men's Ministry News / Director: Jerry Drobinski

### Men's Breakfast

All men are welcome to join us for a delicious breakfast and 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. We meet the 2nd Saturday of each month from 7-8:15 a.m.

### Men's Evening Bible Study

This class meets on Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m. for a time of fellowship and Bible study in the Books of I & II Thessalonians. Call Chuck Rising at 690.2832 for more details. *All men are welcome!*

### Men's Golf Outing

Join us on Saturday, March 10th, for our annual golf outing. Watch for further announcements.

### Friday Night Fun and Fellowship

Watch for periodic Friday "fun and fellowship" nights for all men...young and old!

**Follow us  
Facebook!**

## Women's Ministry News / Director: Kim Berko

### Mommy & Me

We meet the first Tuesday of every month in the GLOW room from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to study "The Power of a Praying Parent." If you would like to join us or for more information, contact Tammy Watts at [rtw3996@msn.com](mailto:rtw3996@msn.com) or 888.8431.

### Tuesday AM Bible Study

We will begin on Tuesday, January 10th from 9:45-11:00 a.m. in room 2, studying "Jacob and Egypt" by John McArthur. This 12 week class is led by Beth Kolbuss and the workbook will cost \$6. You are welcome to come fellowship with us!

### Tuesday PM Bible Study

Also beginning Tuesday, January 10th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in room 2, studying "James...Mercy Triumphs," a new DVD series by Beth Moore. This is an 8 week class and the workbook will cost \$15. RSVP to Debbie Randels at 297.3900 or at [drandels@cdobaptist.org](mailto:drandels@cdobaptist.org).

## College / Young Singles

Come join us on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the library as Greg and Jennifer Johnson lead us in a 12-week study in the book of Joshua..."The Power of God's Promises." Contact Greg and Jennifer at 407.6340

or

[gjstrat@comcast.net](mailto:gjstrat@comcast.net).

## Alive & Active / 55+

### Sunday School

Pastor Ken Fahl will be starting a series about Paul's missionary journeys. Come join us Sundays at 8:00 a.m. in room 1.

### Golden Corral Luncheons

Meet us the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Corral restaurant located on Thornydale, south of Ina Rd. Everyone is invited to join in the fun and fellowship!

### Brown Bag 'n Bible

Everyone is invited to join us every Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to Noon as Pastor Andy Graham leads us in a study in I Samuel, and then we have lunch together. Bring your Bible and lunch!



## Pastor Scott Nichols / Living in Light of Eternity

There is a concept that gets tossed around quite a bit in Christian circles; it's the idea of living our lives "in light of eternity." Have you ever really stopped and thought about what that phrase means? Christians have lived with that tension from the moment we chose to accept Christ and follow Him. We no longer have this world as our home as we are bound for our eternal homes in heaven with Christ, and yet, we are still caught up in living this existence. This is where the phrase, "living in light of eternity," comes into play. We are no longer just living our lives, but because we have chosen to follow Jesus, we represent Him. We should be living our lives in anticipation of how we will be living when we are actually with Christ.

How does one go about living this way... "living in light of eternity" as our motivation? The first thing we need to realize is that we are called to be *holy*. Holiness is a characteristic of God which literally means to be *set apart*. God is set apart above all things including sin. It is one of the character qualities that He wants us to emulate from Him. In fact, He commands us to be holy. 1 Peter 1:16 says, "You must be holy because I am holy." We are set apart from such things as sin and the world. Our personal lives should be reflecting the holiness of God. People should be able to look at our lives and see God, not sin and the mess of the world. It is true that we are still sinful people and will slip up at times, but if we are truly endeavoring to be holy, we should be setting ourselves apart from sin in our lives.

In the eternal state, we will be privileged to bring praise and glory to the One who created us. We can be doing that now by living our lives in ways that will bring glory and honor to God. In fact, Paul actually commands us to do that very thing. We are to be living the entirety of our lives in ways that bring glory to God. 1 Corinthians 10:31 says, "So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." As we head into this New Year, let's endeavor to be living our lives as *holy* and bring God glory in all that we do.

### Middle School / Senior High Upcoming Events

- Parent/Youth Fellowship / January 13 / 7:00 p.m. at the Davidson's Home
- Middle School Winter Camp / January 20-22 / The Pines Cabin / Overgaard, AZ
- The "5th" for Senior High / January 29 / Details to come...
- Senior High Winter Camp / February 3-5 / The Pines Cabin / Overgaard, AZ



#### January

4 / No Club  
11 / Double Bucks  
18 / Layered Look Night  
25 / Pet Potato

#### February

1 / Buck Store #2  
8 / Hugs & Kisses  
11 / Grand Prix  
15 / Goofy Goggles  
22 / NO Club (Rodeo Week)  
29 / LEAP

We are on the web: [cdobaptist.org](http://cdobaptist.org).

# The Edge

#### Middle School

Sundays / 9:00 a.m.

Wednesdays / 6:30 p.m.

#### High School

Sundays / 9:00 a.m.

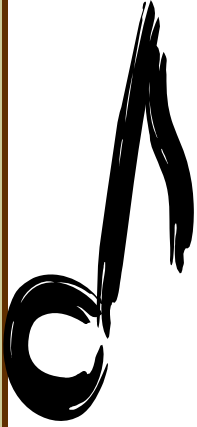
Sundays / 6:00 p.m. @

Pastor Scott's home

*"We should be living our lives in anticipation of how we will be living when we are actually with Christ."*

### Children's Ministry

Teachers and assistants are needed for pre-school through 2nd grade. If you are willing to serve, please contact our children's director, Ashley LeFiles, at 850.6843.



## Pastor Joseph Berko / Authenticity and Worship

In last month's article we talked about how corporate worship needs to have a balance of being both rooted and relevant. We must recognize how God has moved in the past while being sensitive to how He is moving now. We do not strive for relevance in an effort to be cool and cutting edge and we do not root ourselves in tradition because it is what we have always done and has worked in the past. Our goal, rather, is to effectively and meaningfully communicate God's truth to those who attend our church and to engage as many people as possible in this pursuit.

Another balance that we need to strive for--both in individual and corporate worship--is that of head and heart. In his book "Worship Matters," Bob Kauflin asks his readers to picture two different churches: "The first loves expository preaching, Bible study, and theology...but there's no life. People seem cold and unaffected by the teaching. The second church is warm and friendly and sings passionately...but there's no truth. Scriptures are often taken out of context, and spontaneity is everything."

To worship God the way that He deserves, we must first engage our mind. Who is God? How has He revealed Himself? What has He done? "The gravest question before the Church is always God Himself, and the most portentous fact about any man is not what he at a given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like... What comes into our *minds* when we think about God is the most important thing about us ("The Knowledge of the Holy," pg. 1)." Our mind is what allows us to *know* God and knowledge based in truth (God's Word) is essential if we are to worship Him in a way that is pleasing. If our worship is *not* based in truth, we run the risk of committing idolatry--worshipping a false god.

It is crucial for us to use our minds in worshipping God, but we must engage our hearts as well.

Since marrying Kim, I have learned a thing or two about how to make her happy. One of the things I like to do is bring home flowers just because. On those days I try to beat her home so I can have the flowers ready and waiting when she walks through the door. I love to see how excited she gets and that gives me great joy. I am excited about my gift of flowers because I love Kim and want to make her happy. Now imagine if Kim got home, walked through the door, saw the flowers and then saw me on the couch watching a football game--oblivious to her reaction. She is a little confused with the mixed signals--the gift of flowers and my lack of interest in her response to them--but she nevertheless thanks me profusely. My response? A flat "No big deal. I know you like flowers. Enjoy." When our hearts are not engaged in worshipping God, our worship does not mean much. "I know You want me to sing songs of praise, so here you go God. Enjoy. You want my obedience in this particular area of my life? I'm not happy about it, but I'll do it. You owe me for this." Most of us *know* what God wants from us, but how often do we act like the Israelites in Isaiah 29:13, honoring God with our lips while our hearts are far from Him? As we think about all that God is and all that He has done, our hearts should engage naturally. But it's important to note that the affections we're seeking to stir up are "more than fleeting, shallow, self-induced emotions." We aren't leading a pep rally for band. Godly affections are deep and long-lasting. They're the result of focusing on what God has done and who He is. A clear picture of the living God moves our hearts. His transcendence causes us to feel awe. His holiness evokes sorrow for our sin. A view of His mercy leads to gratefulness. The knowledge of His sovereignty brings great peace. Meditating on the price the Savior paid to reconcile us to God leaves us lost in wonder, and rightly so. ("Worship Matters" pages 166-167)

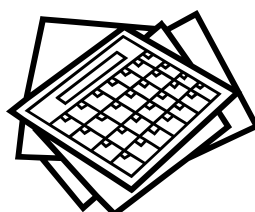
As I look at my own life, I realize that my struggle is more with engaging my heart than it is with knowing truth about God. At the root of this struggle is the battle between my flesh and the new nature. My flesh knows that when my heart becomes engaged my motivation for serving God is greatly strengthened, so it tries to plant seeds of doubt: "If you give God your heart, you will be disappointed. You are locking yourself into a life of rules and unhappiness." But that is a lie. Psalm 119:2 says "Joyful are those who obey His laws and search for Him with all their hearts." I've learned that the decision to engage my heart involves a step of faith. It means taking what I know to be true about God and then believing it and living it out unabashedly.

Matthew 22:37, a familiar verse, says this: "You must love the Lord Your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." How are you doing with this? How am I doing with this? Are we allowing our minds to be transformed by God and His truth, or are we filling it with things of the world? Are we allowing our hearts to become engaged or are we holding out on God? God wants it all--our hearts and our minds--and it is only by learning to give Him both that we will become the worshippers He wants us to be.

**"To  
worship  
God the  
way He  
deserves,  
we must  
first  
engage our  
mind."**

## Upcoming Events / 2012

- January 2 / Church Office Closed
- January 7 / Men's Breakfast
- January 8 / Communion / Prayer Gathering
- January 10 / Women's Bible Studies Begin
- January 19 / Golden Corral Luncheon
- January 29 / Business Meeting
- February 4 / Annual Growth Conference
- February 5 / Communion / Prayer Gathering
- February 11 / Grand Prix
- February 16 / Golden Corral Luncheon
- February 19 / Rodeo Fest
- March 4 / Communion / Prayer Gathering
- March 10 / Men's Golf Outing
- March 15 / Golden Corral Luncheon
- April 1 / Communion / Prayer Gathering
- April 6 / Good Friday Service
- April 8 / Easter Brunch
- April 19 / Golden Corral Luncheon



**Church Calendar**  
[cdobaptist.org/events](http://cdobaptist.org/events)

**Don't forget to turn  
 in your directory  
 card with your  
 updated information  
 to the office in  
 preparation for our  
 new 2012 Church  
 Directory! You can  
 also go to:  
[cdobaptist.org/  
 directory.](http://cdobaptist.org/directory)**

## Annual Growth Conference / Saturday, February 4, 2012

This year's conference features Pastor Greg Rohlinger of Palm Valley Church in Goodyear. The theme is "Jesus Community WORKS" emphasizing that the community Christ calls into existence through His church has the power to ignite and cause change in lives, neighborhoods, communities, regions and the world...His community works.

The day begins at 9:00 a.m. until 3:45 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church, 2130 E. University Dr., Mesa, Arizona, 85213. The cost is \$30 per person / \$40 per person after January 23, 2012—lunch and 2 breakout sessions included. Child care will be provided for children 0-10 yrs. @\$10 per child—lunch provided. Child care registrations must be received by January 23, 2012—no registrations will be taken at the door.

Register online at: [swchurchconnection.org](http://swchurchconnection.org), by phone at 602.788.8990, or by returning a registration form (found in church office) with your check to: Southwest Church Connection, 855 E. Schoolhouse Gulch Rd., Prescott, AZ, 86303.



**Greg and Lori  
 Rohlinger  
 Lead Pastor,  
 Palm Valley Church**

## 2012 Lay Leadership

### Elders

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

### Deacons

Noel Delgado  
 Donald Horton  
 Kyle Randels  
 Tom Trappman

### Deaconesses

Sheryl Cottrell  
 Meghan Davidson  
 Minnie Delgado  
 Tonya Haynes  
 Shirley Horner  
 Beth Kolbuss  
 Beth Silveira  
 Debra Wylie



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**cdobaptist.org**

# Rodeo Fest



**February 19th**

**(save the date & watch for details)**

