

AUGUST 31,  
2009

## Café Grace

Beginning **September 2**, Café Grace will take on a new dimension. The doors will open at 6:30 as at present with refreshments and a time of fellowship. FriendSpeak will begin again at 7:00 as in past years. Thank you to Claudia Perez, Luz Giraldo and Konny Cross for making ESL possible.

In the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 we will offer Table Bible Studies in addition to the fellowship option. Since most of our teachers are over committed already, we will not have a Bible lecture, but a community study. Each participant is expected to bring his/her Bible and to contribute to the dialogue. If they want to study at home in order to contribute more the next week, that will bless the whole group. If you have a Serendipity New Testament, it might help pose some questions for discussion.

A COMMUNITY... CREATED... CALLED... LED... RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

# SOUTHWEST CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

## INVITATION

### MEN'S PRAYER LUNCHEON

Sunday, September 6, 2009

12:00 Noon - Fellowship Hall

Dear Brother:

The gospel of John is unique among the gospels. What an understatement! Over the next number of months we are going to look at several passages that are filled with promises, mystery and which have spawned large volumes of discussion. The purpose of the focused study is to bring all into a greater understanding of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of Truth). In doing so, it is my hope we all will be enriched and experience a stronger, more robust prayer life. Please join us.

*"I shall ask the father and he shall give you another Paraclete to be with you forever, the Spirit of truth whom the world can never accept since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him because he is with you, he is in you. I shall not leave you as orphans, I shall come to you." John 14: 16-18*

In Jesus Christ,

Dick Darroh

### *Prayer Team Meeting*

Please note that the next meeting of the Prayer Team will be Sunday, September 6 at noon.



# *Being Mindful of Mitzvot...*

Last Wednesday night we enjoyed hearing Cantor Robert Gerber talk about Rabbi Akiva as the last of our Summer Café Grace speakers. Robert is always fascinating, and Akiva has had a great influence on Robert's life and ministry.

One of his stories caught especially caught my attention. Akiva was asked whether it is more important to study Torah (Gen – Deut, i.e. the Law) or to fulfill Mitzvot (do good deeds). Akiva answered that Torah study is more important, because Torah study will lead ultimately to fulfilling the deeds of Torah.

I thought of how some ask today, "which is more important, to study the Bible or to serve others?" Should we spend time in Sunday School or should we use that time to feed the hungry or care for the needs of others. I think Akiva's idea was right. We should spend time in the Word, because it will lead us to doing the will of God for our fellow man as well.

It is sort of like the popular WWJD – What Would Jesus Do. Unfortunately, many people make their decisions based on their own values because they don't know the word well enough to know what Jesus actually did. You can't say what would Jesus do if you don't know Jesus very well. John Allen Chalk, a preaching mentor of mine in the early 70s, said he read one gospel through each week. That's 52 weeks a year of the life of Jesus. Because of that, I believe John was in a good position to answer WWJD. Many of us aren't.

Self created speculative spirituality rules much of our world. I'm not that smart or that arrogant.

Join me on Wednesday nights at the table(s) with open Bible. Let us read the word together, that we might go out and serve our fellow man in the name of Jesus. And if you aren't in a Sunday morning Bible Class, this is the week to get up and get going. Let us study Torah together that we might do the acts of Mitzvot that are truly God breathed.

-Steve Sandifer

## *ACU Lectureship*

Please join our group to attend the ACU lectureship on **September 20-24**, 2009. We will leave after Sunday morning services on the 20th and return around 4:00 p.m. on the 24th.

The cost will be half of double occupancy room plus the cost of food for yourself. There is no registration fee.

Please sign up on the bulletin board near the kitchen.

## *Sunny Glen Children's Home*

The Sunny Glenn truck will be picking up donations on **September 15**. They have requested paper towels, toilet paper, or 13 gallon trash bags. Monetary donations are also acceptable.

## *BIM needs Volunteers*

There is a need at BIM for volunteers to help in the Community Garden. Most of the work is done Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. No experience is necessary.

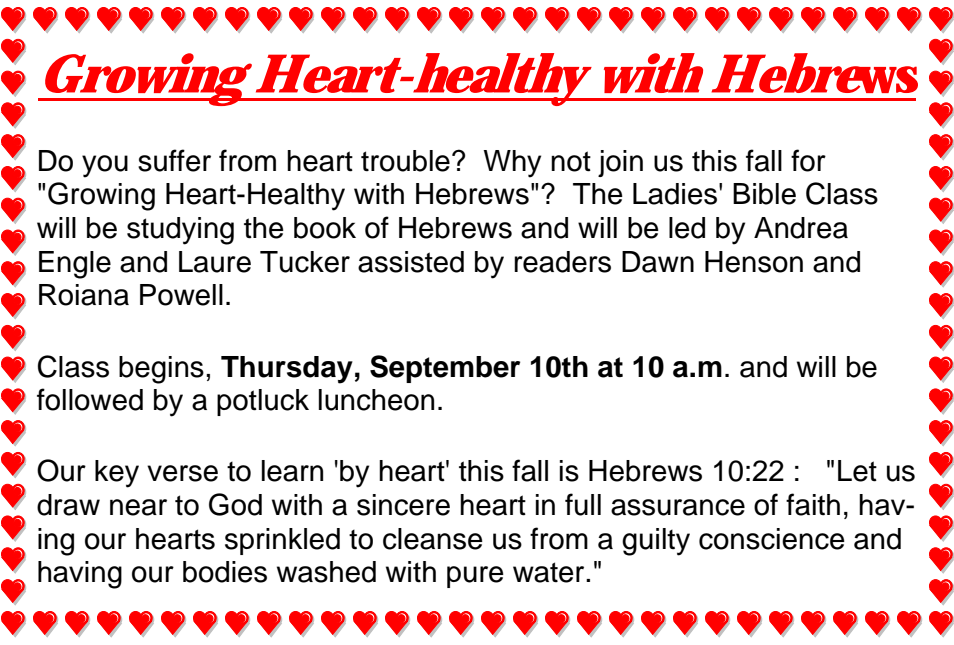
If anyone would like further information please contact: Bob Lonard (713-858-7025), Steve Hanrahan (713-667-4983), Larry Moore (713-771-9466).

**As God has loved us, we will meet people on common ground and journey together to the higher ground of life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

You are cordially invited to preview the **Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University** Class offered this fall by Laure and Michael Tucker with assistance from Luci and Michael Bell. Join us at 10:00 a.m. on **Saturday, September 12**, at the home of Michael and Laure Tucker.

We will share our views on Financial Peace and what it means to us. If you are curious about "Financial Peace," this is the time for you to investigate!

Please RSVP to (713) 806-9584.



## *Growing Heart-healthy with Hebrews*

Do you suffer from heart trouble? Why not join us this fall for "Growing Heart-Healthy with Hebrews"? The Ladies' Bible Class will be studying the book of Hebrews and will be led by Andrea Engle and Laure Tucker assisted by readers Dawn Henson and Roiana Powell.

Class begins, **Thursday, September 10th at 10 a.m.** and will be followed by a potluck luncheon.

Our key verse to learn 'by heart' this fall is Hebrews 10:22 : "Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water."

## Mark Your Calendar...

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4  
Bridge Night

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6  
Men's Prayer Lunch  
Prayer Team Meeting

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7  
Church closed. No newsletter.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10  
Ladie's Bible Class

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11-13  
Prayer Workshop, See Sandifer for details

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15  
Sunny Glenn Children's home truck picks up donations.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18  
Bridge Night

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20  
Feed Impact Church  
ACU Lectures



## Braes Interfaith Ministries

You are invited to join BIM on **October 1, 2009** at Corpus Christi Catholic Church for a 25th Anniversary Celebration of the ministry's founding.

Tickets are \$25.00 and available at BIM

## Prayer Workshop

You are invited to join our Prayer Warriors to attend the Prayer Workshop in Calhoun, Louisiana. It is being held **September 11-13, 2009**. The cost is \$100 per person. Please sign up on the bulletin board near the kitchen.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

September 1 .....	Ezekiel 17-19
September 2 .....	Ezekiel 20, 21
September 3 .....	Ezekiel 22,23
September 4 .....	Ezekiel 24-26
September 5 .....	Ezekiel 27,28
September 6 .....	Ezekiel 29-31
September 7 .....	Ezekiel 32,33
September 8 .....	Ezekiel 34,36
September 9 .....	Ezekiel 37,38

## Family Matters

**Jo Sandifer** has returned from her trip to Ohio... **Steve and Chelsie Sargent** spent a wonderful weekend in the Hill Country... Have a blessed Labor Day Weekend...

## Remember in Prayer...



**Richard Bustamante**, awaiting test result...  
**Michael Greenwood**, receiving treatment for cancer...  
**Evelyn Guinn**, is home recovering from surgery...  
**Beth White**, receiving cancer treatments...  
**Donna Young**, recovering from a recent fall...

## Directory Update

### New Phone and Address

*Beth Brown*

Cell phone: 806-773-2271

*Jeremy Brown*

Cell phone: 806-773-2291

2118 65th Place

Lubbock, Texas 79412

*Elizabeth and Christian Golden*

*Mary Skinner*

4045 Linkwood Drive, Apt 720

Houston, Texas 77025

## Continue to Remember:

Dot Beckett.. Mary Drehsel...  
 Reginald Gibbs.. Ginger Hanning...  
 Jonathan Winkles... Wonnie Short...  
 SWC friends & family in the US military... SWC families who are grieving.

**\*\*Please note that the church office will be closed for Labor Day September 7, 2009 and there will be no newsletter for that week\*\***

## Just for the Record August 30, 2009

Class .....	66
AM Assembly .....	130
Budget Gifts .....	\$6,375.87
Designated Gifts .....	\$250.00
<b>Year-to-Date</b>	
Planned Giving .....	\$427,800
Actual Giving .....	\$416,067.88
Giving Under Budget .....	<\$11,732.12>
Other Gifts .....	\$36,271.01
Special Contribution .....	\$525.00

## Elders

Dick Darroh	David Pipes
Michael Tucker	Larry Watson

## Staff

Mike McAlister	<i>Interim Pulpit Minister</i>
Steve Sargent	<i>Youth &amp; Family Minister</i>
Steve Sandifer	<i>Pastoral Minister</i>
Robyn Albright	<i>Secretary</i>
Antonio Zapata	<i>Maintenance</i>
David Louis	<i>Keymaster</i>

## Assembly Times

Bible Class .....	9:00 a.m.
Worship Assembly .....	10:15 a.m.
Evening Assembly .....	6:00 p.m.

## SOUTHWEST CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

4011 W. Bellfort  
 Houston, Texas 77025  
 (713) 667-9417, fax (713) 667-9135  
**Return Service Requested**