



The Trinity Times

January 2012

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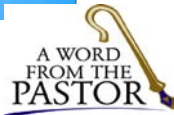
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Beyond Daily Devotions

Let's start with daily devotions, because you can't go beyond them until you've first reached them. Daily devotions is the practice of spending time interacting with God some way on a daily basis. Usually it includes reading some portion of the Bible, and time spent in prayer. This practice has come to be called "devotions" for some reason. Probably because it is our way of showing devotion to God, but the word itself is not that important. Even people who use the term and "do devotions" don't think of it in terms like, "I am now going to show my devotion to God by reading the Bible and praying." Far more likely, they think, "I'm going to spend my time with God now. If we were coining the phrase today, we might very well call it "God time," and say things like, "I'm going to have my God time now."



Once, Christian leaders spoke of Spiritual Disciplines (some still do). One website (buildingchurch.net) categorizes them this way: Internal disciplines: Meditation, Prayer, Fasting, Study. External Disciplines: Simplicity, Stewardship, Solitude, Submission, Service, and Evangelism. What we now call 'Devotions,' can also be described as the Internal Spiritual Disciplines.

Devotions are tools we use to help us grow in our faith. If we feed and exercise our body to be physically fit, does it not make sense that we feed

and exercise our spirit to be spiritually fit? David taught this principle in various Psalms. For example, Psalm 119:11 is the memory verse to prove the value of memory verses: "Your word have I treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You." David also wrote of the value of meditating on God's Word in

Psalm 1:1-2: "How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of Scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night." Daily devotions are how we seek to be spiritually fit.

Today, there are a huge variety of devotional tools you can choose from. One we have available here at church is a small booklet called "Our Daily Bread." It is put out quarterly, and has a Scripture reading and a topical short lesson for each day, usually with a poem and/or quote at the end. There is also a Bible reading plan for those who might want to read through the Bible in a year. There are several versions of the 'One Year Bible' available. The Bible is broken into daily sessions of Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs. It takes real determination to get through the Bible in a year. The good news is, there is no penalty for not finishing on time. You just continue until you finish. You can go to the Christian Book store and ask where the devotionals are.

Photo of the Month



Cowboys and Shepherds? You may be a redneck church if this is the way you tell the Christmas story—but it worked! The kids did a great job! Many thanks to everyone involved in putting this on.

"Our mission is to proclaim the Word of God, leading people to a saving faith and a growing relationship with Jesus Christ."

There is a section dedicated for them. You can type “Devotional” on your web browser, and shop for hours. You can get Bibles with specialized devotional notes – The Bible for Students/for Athletes/for Women, etc.

Perhaps you are offended by how all this is merchandised. Maybe you feel like you’re a step removed from God if you are using someone else’s material. Congratulations, I know just what you need! It’s called the Bible! You could pick a book to be your book of the year. You’re not hurrying through, as with the One Year Bible; and you’re not getting it filtered through someone else’s devotional ideas. It’s just you and God and His word. Take your time. Read and reread. Meditate. Ask questions and pray for answers. Go as deep as you want, and deeper than you thought you could.

For many, Bible reading is the easy part of devotions, but prayer is hard. It can be. I think we have all experienced times in prayer where we don’t even remember what we’ve just said. I confess that I’ve bumbled and said, “Thank You for this food” when there was no food involved! Good news – just as there are helps for Bible reading, there are helps for prayer. Operation World (you can get the book or go to www.operationworld.org) has a daily country prayer guide. The news is an excellent source of prayer needs. Too impersonal? Read the missions news from our this newsletter or grab your church directory and start praying for the people in our congregation. Instantly, you will find that instead of not knowing what to pray for, you don’t have enough time to pray the

way you’d like.

I’ve seen people reject daily devotions with spiritual sounding explanations. They are too structured or man-controlled; better to let the Spirit guide. That’s a lofty sounding statement, but I haven’t seen it work. Seeking spiritual maturity without doing the spiritual work is like wanting dessert without eating your vegetables first. It seems pleasant for the moment, but it doesn’t lead to health.

But I called this “Beyond Devotions.” Why? Devotions comprise the “Internal Disciplines,” the ones that affect us personally. They are good – even necessary for growth – but if we don’t include with them the external disciplines, then we have become Pharisees. We do not learn God’s Word so we can get a pat on the back and be told, “Good job, you read it.” Instead, daily devotions give us spiritual strength; which allows us to be of value in the world.

Peter wrapped them all together. *“Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love”* (2 Pet 1:5-7).

Daily devotions are not an end, but a means. Do daily devotions, and then go beyond them.

In the Library

The next upcoming Christian holiday is Epiphany, on January 6th. Actually epiphany means manifestation or coming to light. Celebrated more in the Orthodox church, this often forgotten day acknowledges the arrival of the Wise Men, which in turn is regarded as the “manifestation of Christ to the Gentile world.” Thus Epiphany is a good time to meditate about the manifestation of the Lord in our lives. It’s also a good day for gift giving. In fact, in many Latin American countries, gifts are not exchanged until this day. For many years we would save a gift—often a Christian book or something else with Christian significance—to be opened on Epiphany. Matthew’s account of the arrival of the Wise Men can be read before such gifts are opened. In keeping with the same theme, Epiphany can also be a good time to visit someone special to bring “tidings of great joy.”

The book *52 Simple Ways to Make Christmas Special* has many suggestions for celebrating Epiphany (including the suggestions to save a gift for this day), which is actually the final day of the Twelve Days of Christmas. *“Epiphany has many wonderful concrete and symbolic aspects to its celebration.*

Don’t miss out by ending your holiday season too soon!”

The library has lots of devotionals or Bible studies for the new year. These books for all ages, as well as families, are located on the bookshelves in the hallway outside the Sunday School Classrooms due to lack of space in the library.



by Judy Crowell



Heart Talk

by Mark Smith

Resolutions at this time of year can be such a bother, but the start of a New Year can be a great opportunity to reevaluate our lives and purpose to make necessary changes.

I want to be known as an “intentional” Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ who means business with Him and for Him. I’ve found that to be intentional about my faith, I must know who I am in Christ – that God has accepted me, faults and all, has secured my destiny with Him and has given me a mission to represent Him (that’s how my life becomes truly significant). All of this is because of what Jesus did for me on the cross and through His empty tomb.

So, I resolve in 2012 to make more of an effort to learn about who I am in Christ with the result that I would live more truly in light of my identity as a Christ-follower.

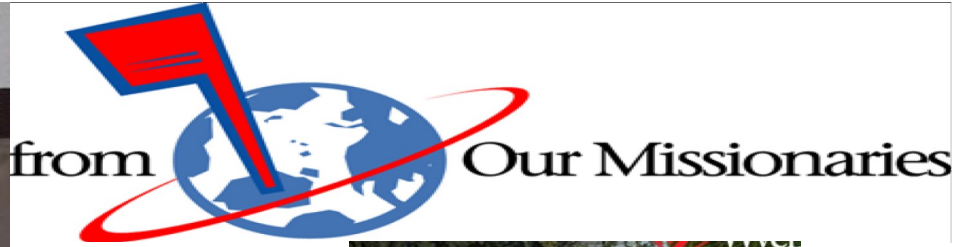
I will seek to glorify God as my first priority and to allow Him to use me according to His purpose for creating me in the first place and redeeming me through Jesus’ sacrificial death and resurrection. I will, as Peter said in his second letter, “make every effort” to follow my Lord in servanthood, to make His intentions my own.

May I suggest that not only can you know beyond a shadow of a doubt where you will spend eternity, but as a Christian, you also can chart your growth in Him. John wrote in his first letter that his purpose in writing was so

we would know we have eternal life by believing in the name of the Son of God (5:13). A few verses before that, he declared that “God has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life” (5:11-12). Have you invited Jesus into your life as your Savior and Lord?

Those who have may be described by their growth levels – babes, young people, fathers (mature ones). John points these out in 1 John 2. We can evaluate our lives to determine whether we are still dependent upon others for our growth, have developed some level of independence (feeding oneself from the Word, praying, serving in God’s church family) or are interdependent (giving back while continuing to allow others to minister to us). Someone has described it this way: Everyone should be a “Paul” (discipler) to a “Timothy” (disciple), and everyone should be someone else’s “Timothy” and everyone should be and have a “Barnabas” (someone at or near the same level of growth in Christ).

A healthy resolution is to “make every effort” to determine your status with the Lord and take whatever steps are necessary to make additional progress in your growth, which could include making your Sunday School and worship service participation more regular than it has been, or setting goals for serving others in His name.



December 17, 2011

Merry Christmas!

Our house has but a few decorations as our boys surprised us with some tickets to show up in Baker City, Oregon for Christmas. We'll help them decorate.... We've had our first snow, and we are at the end of the semester here at the MTC. A great group of students graduated December 16th and are heading out to continue their journey with God in future ministries! We count it a privilege to be involved in this ministry and we appreciate your generous giving to allow us to be here. Thank you.

Here is a quick family update. ☺ Tiahna is a freshman at Bible school and enjoying it. Caleb and Savannah live in Arkansas and are doing well. Haden / family and Kenyon are in Oregon. Their business, etc. keeps them busy. Randy continues to serve at the Tech Center, etc. and Laura at the bookstore, etc. We love our ministries!

At the Tech Center last week we had 25 very heavy boxes ready to go to Papua New Guinea. These are solar electrical supplies for three tribal homes being built, repair parts for a generator in the Islands region, supplies for one of our Tech Specialists, plus some miscellaneous items. This seemingly random pile of boxes is a purposeful effort to get the gospel to many more people in PNG in 2012! Please KNOW and REMEMBER during this Christmas season that YOU are involved in many parcels, headed all over the world, with contents that are very important to getting the gospel to tribal people! Thank you again! We are honored to have you as a team member in this ministry. We've had a very busy year in the Tech Center and this was only one shipment. We ship and provide consulting to NTM ministries and a few other mission organizations all over the world.

So, in all of this, we are thankful to God and to you! We are grateful to God for YOUR generosity, and kindness, and faithfulness. Please pray we'll be faithful in our part in this ministry and to all of the other things God has for us. If you have some specific prayer requests please let us know. We'd love to hear from you! Again, a very merry Christmas to you! God's blessings to you in this coming year!

Grateful to Serve,

Randy and Laura Damschen



Praise the Lord!

* We have had a nice Christmas celebration at church and then before and after church at home - stockings, special foods, friends to share it with.

Thank God for holidays - and such nice ones to remember Jesus' coming to earth!

* Everyone is healthy!

* The school room is getting organized better every day. Noah and Elly are doing Kindergarten and Pre-school together while Jojo indulges in play dough.

*Four languages now have the Christmas story consultant approved for use in their churches this Christmas. We were impressed at the good report that our Bafanji team received from their teachers.

* Jojo is potty trained now!

Lord, we need You . . . in Bamenda

*Pray for us as we have a meeting with the chief of Bafanji. We will present some gifts from Canada/USA and the first copy of the Christmas story.

* We visit our friends in Bafanji tomorrow for Christmas - on Dec 26. Pray for a good visit, and that we would also have safety travelling there and back on the same day (4 hours on the road).

* Thank God that Jane and Janelle, two ladies in our cluster, are making progress in their work. Pray for good communication and direction as Cam gives advice and orientation to their work.

*Pray that God would direct us for how we will work in January. Cam making village visits for one or two nights per week - it is quite draining to move around too much.

Cameron and Valerie Hamm



Dear brother in Christ Steve McLachlan and the saints at Trinity Bible Fellowship, Greetings in the blessed name of our Lord and new born King Jesus!

Hope this will bring happiness and prosperity in the Lord. You might be very busy with Christmas celebrations in your Church. This is our time to share the love of Christ to the non-Christians in India by giving food and clothes to those who are in great need. By the

grace of God here the ministry is going very well.

During 29th of November to 1st of December I conducted 3 days special meetings and it was a time of God's visitation. Over 50 people made decisions to follow Jesus and 10 people were Baptized on the last day. I thank God for His grace. On 15th of this month I dedicated a new Church we built at Tadevalligudem and on 30th another Church at Kenguva village to open it. One more Church is coming up but it is not yet finished. Please ask the Church to pray for us. This whole month until 30th I will be preaching and travelling to many places. Please remember me in your prayers.

We are having fun to watch our new grandson Cherry, how he is growing and he is giving us lot of happiness. Please pray for Rachel the mother of Cherry who is my youngest daughter. And my another daughter Dr.Evangelin is a very busy doctor at the hospital. Her son Justin is also doing very well too. All my family is sending their special Christmas wishes to all of you.

Thank you once again for your regular prayer support to our ministry. Please let me know how you people are doing. Thanks.

My wife Mary is sending her special greetings to all of you. Thank you.

In Him,

CH Daniel



We find ourselves in a time of transition. We are leaving a church family we love and among whom we are very comfortable and we are leaving a ministry in which we had

six years of joyful service.

Our new duty station will be Puebla Christian School in the city of Puebla (Pop. 2.1 Million), Mexico's fourth largest metropolitan area. Puebla is a city where both third world and first world meet. While one is surrounded by modern buildings, elegant houses, wide boulevards, Costco, Starbucks, Sam's Clubs and Walmarts, the evidence of poverty is everywhere to be seen.

Call us, writer us, "friend" us, visit us. We would love to hear from you.

Yours by grace,
Bruce & Lynda

Good Bye, Monday Night Football

Turn out the lights, the party's over. But it was fun while it lasted. **Big thanks** to James Dilgard, Dave Fitzpatrick, Knute Hernas, Fred Bell, Brad Cain, Robert Boleneus, and John Regan for hosting the motly crew that showed up every Monday. Thanks to James Faulkner, Brad Cain, Knute Hernas, Josh McLachlan, and Pastor Steve for handling halftime devotions. Thanks to all the good cooks who provided chili, wings, and ribs; as well as to all the buyers of chips, cookies, candy (especially licorice), and pop.

No thanks go out to Josh Regan, who came out on top of the picks contest with a record of 13-4. Dave Fitzpatrick has a solo hold on second at 12-5. The pack bunches up after that. Jared Regan (11-2), Josh McLachlan (11-4), Josh Cooper (11-6) and Steve McLachlan (11-6) all picked right 11 times. If you're interested, you can check out the TBF page on Facebook to see the complete listing. Out of the goodness of my heart, I removed the three bottom-feeders (all 0-1) to save them from disgrace.

Beware the Yellow Flag!

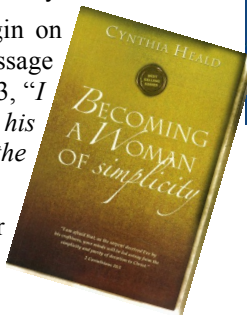
Trinity Bible Fellowship is probably the only church in America where the pastor lives in fear of having a penalty flag thrown on him during the service. Delay of Service and Inappropriate Use of Illustration are the two major dangers of offense. How the penalties will be applied is under debate, but five and ten yard penalties (moving closer to the door) have been discussed. Walt has his flag and is ready to throw it. All is fair, though. Steve has his own flag, which he can throw if he catches someone sleeping in the service.

New Studies

Becoming a Woman of Simplicity

A new ladies Bible study is scheduled to begin on Tuesday morning, January 17th. The key passage the study is based on is Second Corinthians 11:3, "I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity fo devotion to Christ."

Sandy Buchanan will be hosting the study at her house. The study begins at 9:30 and ends...? I guess that depends on you, ladies! For more information, call Sandy at 725-1710.



Church Funds	
11/30/11	
Building Fund	
Benevolence Fund	
Missionaries Reserve	
Mission Trip	
General Fund	
<hr/>	
Overall Total	

Building Report

On Sunday, December 18th, we voted to spend the money necessary to have complete architectural plans drawn up for our new church building. Just drawing up plans may cost as much as \$35,000. This is actually a good deal. This process is now underway, and we've taken the next big step toward our new facility.

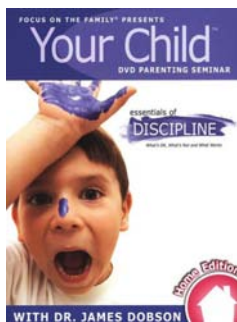
Looking Ahead to February

We don't want to get ahead of ourselves, but there are some big things coming in February, and we want you to be able to be there! Our annual **Valentines Banquet** is on the calendar for Friday, Feb 10th. This is always a lot of fun. You might want to start practicing for the Truly-Wed Game!



On Thursday, Feb 16th, **Chosen People Ministries** speaker Olivier Melnik will visit us. Mr. Melnik is a Messianic Jew who is also an artist and writer. His topic for the night will be 'Israel and Current Events.' You can learn more about him at www.oliviermelnick.com.

Essentials of Discipline



By James Dobson. "The content has substance, but this video seminar also includes animation and man-on-the-street interviews. Lessons from Dr. Dobson have never been this fun!" Tuesday evenings at 6 pm at church, beginning January 10. Books will cost about \$8. Call Tyson and Rachel Lacy for more information.

Operation Christmas Child



We have not yet received an update on where our shoeboxes were delivered—hopefully we'll hear something soon. Would you like to start now for next year's shoeboxes? Josh and Leslea McLachlan have volunteered to store donations until it's time to bring them out for shipping!



by Josh Cooper

Youth Stuff

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."—*Philippians 1:3-5*.

Paul wrote these verses to the church of Philippi because they encouraged him, prayed for him, and supported him in his ministry for the gospel. Paul knew that he couldn't do it without people like them.

As I read these verses I am very thankful for everything everyone at TBF has done for me especially with all the encouragement, prayer, and support in my mission trip to India.

As you know I left on December 27th for Canada, and then on December 29th I left Canada for Kolkata, India and I come home on February 5th. As I go on this mission trip I

would like to ask for continued prayer. Pray that everyone on the trip stays healthy, that the gospel will be presented clearly, pray for wisdom for the leaders and for physical and spiritual protection.

Again, I want to thank you so much for all the gifts, prayers, and encouragement that everyone has given me. I will see you all in February.

Upcoming Events:

January 14-15—**Winter Camp** at Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp. You are all welcome to come to Winter Camp! There will be games in the snow, sledding, indoor games, a food relay race, and encouragement from God's Word. Robert McDowall will be the speaker! The camp costs \$55 if registered by January 4th. You can register online and get a free t-shirt, visit www.clbcamp.org for more info.



Our Sunday morning Sunday School and children's church ministries are vital to our growth together as fellow believers at TBF. These will grow in effectiveness as the ministry leaders grow in their understanding of why we do what we do.

Generally, our goal is to first lead students to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, then guide them to "grow in grace" (2 Peter 3:18) and fulfill God's will in and for their lives. We help them in their progress toward spiritual maturity, challenging them (and ourselves) to be more consistent in our Christian living, more intentional in our faith.

Specifically, through our lesson preparation and delivery – and our sharing of our lives with them – we seek to increase students' factual knowledge of Scripture, a necessary framework to the development of faith in real time.

We also work to improve attitudes, helping them bring their emotions and desires under the control of the Holy Spirit, "taking every thought captive to make it obedient to Christ" (2 Cor. 10:5). Attitudes involve ideals and convictions – people make their choices based on what they truly believe. Our attitudes – and those of our students – should

Teachers Corner

reflect the values of Jesus Christ.

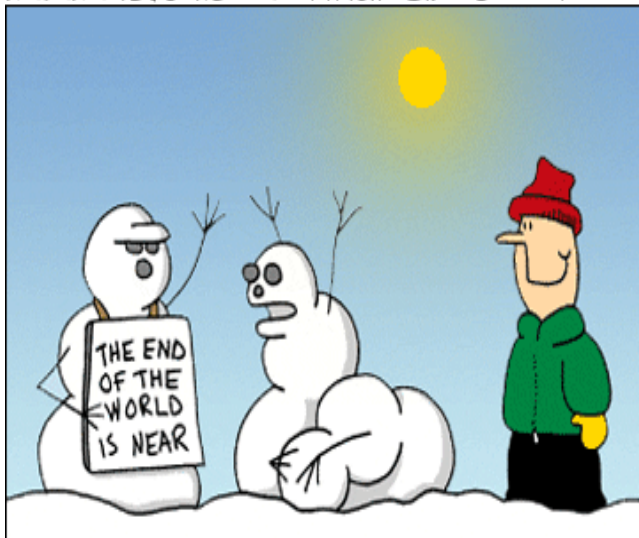
And, truth that brings positive attitude adjustments should result in a change of behavior that demonstrates a real change from "sinner to saint" is going on. The Bible emphasizes action. Jesus said, "Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it" (Luke 11:28). James pointed out that "faith without works is dead" (James 2:26). The "works" are necessary to be "salt and light" for those around us to experience and become interested in the cause behind them, giving us a basis for sharing our faith with those in need of Christ.

As we prepare lessons, we teachers should have goals on each of these levels in mind. What do we want our students to *know* as a result of the instruction – what information (facts) do we need to include? What *commitments* do we want them to make in light of that knowledge (attitudes)? And what *behavioral* adjustments will we want to see that demonstrate the truth is actually taking hold?



Trinity Bible Fellowship
P.O. Box 853
Davenport, WA. 99122

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Welcome to 2012!

12-31-2004

Awana January 2012

Special Nights:

Jan 4	Summer Night (Slushies!)
Jan 11	Hat Night
Jan 18	Sunglasses Night
Jan 25	Inside Out Night

"Dear Awana Friends at Trinity Bible Fellowship, Davenport,

Thank you all very much for the Christmas gift from your "Penny Parade" at Awana!! You are a blessing to us!!

*Jim & Bev VanMersbergen
Awana Missionaries"*

A New Commander for January!

Awana Commander Josh Cooper is in India this month! He has gone to help tell people about Jesus there! While he is gone, our previous commander, Terry Anderson is making a cameo appearance to make sure everything runs well. His first act as Interim Commander? "Let there be Slushies!" A special treat for Summer Night on January 4th.

Missionary of the Month: Brad & Shilo Cain



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brad_cain@ntm.org**

January 2012

Women's Ministry Leader: Judy Crowell



Group Members: Sarah Sweetser, Allyson Morrison
Rachel Lacy, Kathlene Shumway
Joan McLachlan

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1 Happy New Year! Coffee Fellowship</i></p> <p>Kym Faulkner Amanda Plumb Kerry & Kelly Hensley Steve & Susan Holzapple</p>	<p><i>2 Men's Coffee 8:30 am</i></p> <p>Emily Abell Tiffany Choate Elizabeth Dilgard</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>Elizabeth Faulkner</p>	<p><i>4 Awana 6:00 pm Summer Night (Slushies!)</i></p> <p>Maddie Shumway</p>	<p><i>5</i></p>	<p><i>6</i></p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>Nathan Choate</p>
<p><i>8 180° 6:30 pm</i></p>	<p><i>9 Men's Coffee 8:30 am Missions Committee meeting at McLachlan's, 6:30 Youth Leadership, 7</i></p> <p>Rebecca Seim</p>	<p><i>10 Quarterly Board Meeting 6 pm Essentials of Discipline, 6 pm</i></p> <p>James & Leanne Wilson</p>	<p><i>11 Awana 6 pm Hat Night</i></p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>Will Copeland</p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p>Sandy Buchanan Randy Damschen</p>	<p><i>14 Winter Camp @ CLBC</i></p>
<p><i>15 Winter Camp @ CLBC</i></p> <p>Joan McLachlan</p>	<p><i>16 Men's Coffee 8:30 am Winter Camp @ CLBC</i></p> <p>Knute Hernas</p>	<p><i>17 Ladies Bible Study @ Sandy Buchanan's 9:30 am M & M's 6 pm</i></p> <p>Micah Choate James Dilgard</p>	<p><i>18 Awana 6 pm Sunglasses Night</i></p> <p>Millie Guhlke</p>	<p><i>19</i></p> <p>Denise Hayes Mike & Sharon Coleman</p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>Katelyn Bell Noah McLachlan</p>	<p><i>21</i></p>
<p><i>22 180° 6:30 pm</i></p>	<p><i>23 Men's Coffee 8:30 am Youth Leadership, 7 pm</i></p>	<p><i>24 Ladies Bible Study @ Sandy Buchanan's 9:30 am Essentials of Discipline, 6 pm</i></p>	<p><i>25 Awana 6 pm Inside-out Night</i></p> <p>Mary Bell</p>	<p><i>26</i></p> <p>Dion & Annie Ricketts</p>	<p><i>27</i></p> <p>Seyler Lacy</p>	<p><i>28</i></p>
<p><i>29 Communion Benevolence Offering 180° 6:30 pm</i></p> <p>Denise Sampson</p>	<p><i>30 Men's Coffee 8:30 am</i></p> <p>Murray Eaton Kim Tarbert Dave & Deanna Fitzpatrick</p>	<p><i>31 Ladies Bible Study @ Sandy Buchanan's 9:30 am Essentials of Discipline, 6 pm</i></p>				