

INTOUCH

December 12, 2010

Christmas Triumphant

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY – DECEMBER 12 *Third Sunday of Advent*

12:30 PM Missions Team Meeting Fellowship Hall (Kitchen)
 3:00 PM *Musica Dolce* presents a Baroque Christmas Concert Sanctuary
Medieval & Renaissance music on period instruments; narration by Guy Whatley
 4:00 PM New Song Singers & Campanitas Bells 206, 207
 5:00 PM Carol Choir & Bell Canto Bells 206,207
 6:00 PM EXCEL High School Fellowship Hall
 6:00 PM CORPORATE PRAYER Family Room
 led by Pastor James Hoxworth

MONDAY – DECEMBER 13

Angel Tree gifts brought into the office through and including Thursday (last day!)
 7:00 AM **Teleios: Women's Prayer & Bible Study** Family Room
 9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – *"Kick Boxing"* Fellowship Hall
 7:00 PM Community Bible Study Fellowship Hall and Classrooms

TUESDAY – DECEMBER 14

6:15 PM **Caroling for the residents of Osborn Health & Rehab** Scottsdale
All of CBC invited . . . families come and minister in song!
 6:30 PM Elder Board Meeting Family Room
 6:45 PM **Teleios: GriefShare** Library (205)

WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 15

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – *"That's A Stretch"* Fellowship Hall
 5:00 PM CBC Ringers Sanctuary
 5:30 PM Elder Prayer Sr. Pastor's Office
 6:00 PM Sanctuary Bells Sanctuary
 6:30 PM **EXCEL Junior High and High School** Swierenga's home
Christmas Party
 6:45 PM **LOGOS Kids Club Family Christmas Party** Fellowship Hall
A Family Event for the Whole Church

THURSDAY – DECEMBER 16

6:45 PM Sanctuary Choir rehearsal Choir Room
 9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – *"Cirque Du Soleil"* Fellowship Hall
 6:30 PM Young Adult Ministry Dinner/Study Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY – DECEMBER 17

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – *"Dance It Off"* Fellowship Hall
 7:00 PM **Angel Tree Christmas Party** Fellowship Hall
The CBC family hosting the children (& families) of incarcerated parents

SATURDAY – DECEMBER 18

2:00 PM **Desert Bells Joyful Sound Handbell Celebration** Sanctuary
The CBC family is invited and encouraged to come and enjoy this Christmas Concert (Tickets available on the patio & in the office are free for the CBC family!)

SUNDAY – DECEMBER 19 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

9:00 and 10:40 AM Prayer for Worship Services Prayer Room
 9:00 and 10:40 AM **MORNING WORSHIP** Sanctuary
 Dr. Tim Savage

HISTORY'S GREATEST SONGS: CAN YOU SING THEM?

"Simeon's Song"

Luke 2:29-32

9:00 AM Nursery (birth – 23 months) 301-304
 9:00 AM Children's Discipleship (24 mo – gr. 3) 101-103, 201, 203
 9:00 AM Adult Fellowship Classes 208, 209
 10:40 AM Nursery (birth – 23 months) 301-304
 10:40 AM Children's Church (24 mo. – gr. 3) 101-103, 201, 203
 10:40 AM **Teleios Study (Youth): True U Apologetics** 207
 12:30 PM Osborn H & R Ministry meets in Fellowship Hall
 2:00 PM Osborn H & R Ministry serves at Osborn Health and Rehab
 5:00 PM **Desert Bells Joyful Sound Handbell Celebration** Sanctuary

The CBC family is invited and encouraged to come and enjoy this Christmas Concert (Tickets available on the patio & in the office are free for the CBC family!)

6:00 PM **EVENING PRAYER** Library (205)

Triumph, this time of year, seems to come in many shades of success. Try as we may to keep a perspective of readiness for the coming of Christ, many of us feel most ready for Christmas when we have successfully beat every shipping deadline and reciprocated every Christmas card. Victories that we might otherwise find slight seem to become great feats during the holidays—finding a parking spot, getting the last box of Christmas lights in stock, beating the mailman to the mailbox. Other battles continue to brew over the accepting or rejecting of manger scenes, messiahs, and "Merry Christmases" in the face of less specific holiday tales and greetings. Though we may oscillate between who or what we are fighting against—the clock, the perfect hostess, the agendas of others—we seem to work toward Christmas one small feat at a time.

But as I sang the lyrics to a song during the lighting of the second Advent candle, I was silenced by the image of a victory I need do nothing but join:

*Joyful, all ye nations rise,
 Join the triumph of the skies;
 With th'angelic host proclaim,
 "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

The triumph Christians join as we celebrate Christmas is far bigger than our best Christmases and more real than our worst. There are generations of believers offering the same cries of victory shouted on the very first Christmas night: Christ was born! God came near. God is with us! Christ's birth was orchestrated at the hands of God long before the inn would be full or the shepherds would be in their fields by night, long before my traditions would seem etched in stone, or my culture would attempt to remove the Nativity from the public arena.

While there are perhaps some victories to rightfully seek this season, many others can likely be forsaken; for the triumph of a God who came near to bridge a separation forged long ago in the garden is a victory already won. The triumph Christians ask the world to join as we celebrate Christ's birth is a triumph known from the beginning, foreseen by the prophets, heralded by John the Baptist, and cherished by witnesses whose voices still cry out the incredible news of the Christmas story:

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

*'Glory to God in the highest,
 and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.'"*

Jill Carattini is managing editor of A Slice of Infinity at Ravi Zacharias International Ministries in Atlanta, Georgia. This article was sent as the daily devotional from RZIM's *A Slice of Infinity*, December 6, 2010 (Slice #2347). For more information or to subscribe free of charge go to www.RZIM.org/resources/read/asliceofinfinity.aspx.

Christmas at Camelback

**Saturday, December 18th, 2:00 PM
and Sunday, December 19th, 5:00 PM**
Desert Bells Handbell Celebration
"A Joyful Sound"

Sunday, December 19th, 9:00 and 10:40 AM
Christmas Service
with Music and Message of the season: "Simeon's Song"

Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve, 4:00 and 6:00 PM
Festival of Lessons & Carols
(Identical Services)

*A richly traditional service featuring Scripture Readers,
The Sanctuary Choir, Organist Dr. Guy Whatley and Brass*

FOR THE CAMELBACK FAMILY! Tickets for the Desert Bells Christmas Concerts (listed above) are available to the CBC family free of charge. Tom Cook (husband of bell director, Kay Cook) will be on the patio today and next Sunday with tickets. They will also be available in the church office. Don't miss this great opportunity!

THIS AFTERNOON at 3:00 PM in the afternoon Musica Dolce ("Sweet Music" in Italian) will present a concert telling the story of Christ's birth with 18th century music played on period instruments, with narration by Guy Whatley. This Early Music group was formed in 1978 and is lead by Janet Green, Artistic Director of The Phoenix Chamber Music Society. A free will offering will be taken.

BRING THE ENTIRE FAMILY FOR CAROLING to the residents at **Osborn Health & Rehab** this **Tuesday, December 14th at 6:15 PM**. The address is 3333 North Civic Center Drive, Old Town Scottsdale. After caroling, at 7:15 we'll host a party for the staff and carolers with chili, hot apple cider and cookies. If you'd like to contribute items, please contact David Haneke, dhaneke@gmail.com or 602-339-5639. Blessing these folks in this way brings the Christ of Christmas into their confined world and shines the light of His love into their lives.

LOGOS CHRISTMAS PARTY – A FAMILY EVENT FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH!

This Wednesday, December 15, 6:45-8:15 PM. Come as a family, enjoy some carol singing, a reading of the Christmas Story, and some excellent desserts and refreshments (do you like Cheesecake Factory Cheesecake?) No RSVP required. Please bring a plate of cookies or treats to share, homemade or otherwise! And please bring a non-perishable food item, as we traditionally bring gifts of food to give, in honor of the greatest gift ever given, Jesus Christ! **Children must be accompanied by parents or another responsible adult. Please do not drop children off. They must be accompanied. Thank you.*

CHRISTMAS EVE NUSERY WORKERS NEEDED, Friday, December 24!
2 SERVICES THIS YEAR, 4:00 PM & 6:00 PM: This is a great way to serve not only our own CBC body but the many visitors who attend on Christmas Eve. We need 10 volunteers for each service. Consider signing up as a family or small group. Please contact **Carmen Benford, 480-831-5059**, no later than Friday, December 17 and let her know your preferred time of service. Thank you!

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW to join your sisters for a relaxing and spiritually rejuvenating time at the **"Heart Spa" – the 2011 Women's Retreat**, coming up January 21-23 at Living Water Retreat Center in Cornville, Arizona. **Tickets are on sale at the table on the patio** and will continue each week until sold out. Be sure to invite your friends and get your tickets early as spaces are limited. The cost is \$125 and includes four meals and accommodations. New this year, gift certificates will be available for purchase. Financial assistance is also available. Please contact Tiffany Auger (602-748-8551 or tiffanyauger@cox.net) or Monica McQueen (602-432-5100 or monica@treschicaz.com) with questions or if you would like to contribute your time, talents or a partial or full scholarship.

NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR 2011 SPRING FLING! Originally scheduled for April 8-10, Spring Fling has been changed to March 4-6. Please change your calendars!

ANGEL TREE

The Angel Tree response from the CBC congregation has been amazing and heartwarming. All Angel Tags have been taken from the tree.

GIFTS: If you have yet to deliver your gifts or gift cards, please bring them to the church office (9 AM to 4 PM) **by Thursday**.

ANGEL TREE PARTY: The CBC family is invited to participate in the Angel Tree party which will be held in Fellowship Hall this **Friday, December 17, at 7:00 PM**. We hope to have many of our church family join us as we reach out to the children and their families in the name of Jesus Christ.

PARTY FOOD: We are seeking to provide healthy food along with the Christmas cookies – i.e. veggie and fruit plates, small sandwiches, cheese and crackers, and other healthy finger foods.

DRIVERS NEEDED: There will some families who will not be able to attend without transportation provided for them. We are hoping to have several drivers available this year if we have need of them.

If you would like to sign up to bring food, provide transportation for families in need of a ride, or deliver gifts to children who do not attend the party, and have not already signed up, please contact Nancy Baldwin at johnandnancy6543@msn.com or 602-956-9642.

Most importantly, we hope you will keep this ministry in your prayers, asking God to reach many hearts through the love expressed and received, and through the Good News of Jesus Christ presented!

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER POTLUCK! You are invited to dinner at 1:00 PM on December 25th! This is a potluck and a time to celebrate together the wonder of our Lord's entry into the most humble of circumstances. God's family at Camelback would love to share fellowship and worship on this wonderful day of celebration. Please RSVP by December 23rd. This time we would like to know beforehand what your potluck dish will be. Please call or email **Mardette Hemann** at (602-957-1438 or mhemann@cox.net). Guests are welcome. The dinner may be in Fellowship Hall or in a home, depending on the number of people joining in. You will be contacted about which location, if you make an RSVP.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED BLOOD at the recent Winter Blood Drive. Blood Services hoped for at least 15 units of blood and were thrilled to receive 22 units. They were very grateful for those who came to donate! Please mark your calendars for the 2011 donation dates: March 27, July 17 and November 27.

A YOUNG ADULT SKI TRIP is planned for January 1-5! Come be a part of the annual winter ski retreat to beautiful Durango, Colorado. Pastor Bryce Morgan will be sharing. The cost is approximately \$250-\$300. Email Pastor James Hoxworth ASAP to reserve your spot – Hoxworth@camelbackbible.org – Space is limited!

ARIZONA CITYFEST (the sponsoring organization of the *Season of Service* community outreach in which we are currently participating and is leading up to this March event) is looking for a truck to use from January 1 through April 10, 2011. If you have a truck in good condition that is currently not being used we'd love your help. The truck will be used to distribute promotional materials for City Fest being held at Tempe Town Lake, March 19-20, 2011. We will gladly supply insurance and all maintenance costs for the vehicle for the duration. Please call 602-385-0772 or email chad.damewood@palau.org if you have any questions or are able to help.

2011 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available in the narthex, laid out in alphabetical order. Please be sure to find yours and use the envelopes in the coming year; your use of the envelopes makes for easier processing and reporting back to you at year-end. If you've not had envelopes previously, you may sign out a set at the same tables where the assigned sets are located. **THANK YOU!**

CBC GIVING UPDATE

Financial Need to make budget by end of 4 th Quarter	\$902,488
Actual 4 th Quarter Giving To Date	\$335,182
Needed to make budget by end of 4 th Quarter	\$567,306
(Less Reduced Expenses)	(\$100,000)
Remaining Year-end Need	\$467,306
Last Week's Giving	\$30,847