

INTOUCH

October 4, 2009

The Struggle with Perspective

Stuart McAllister

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 4

12:30 PM	Nursing Home Ministry meets	Fellowship Hall
2:00 PM	Nursing Home Ministry serves	Osborn Health & Rehab
4:00 PM	New Song Choir (4 th -9 th Grade)	206
	Campanitas Bells (K-3 rd Grade)	207
5:00 PM	Carol Choir (K-3 rd Grade)	206
	Bell Canto Bells (4 th -6 th Grade)	207
	CBC Ringers (7 th -12 th Grade)	208
6:00 PM	Sanctuary Bells (Adults)	208
6:00 PM	Sunday Evening Prayer – all invited!	Library

MONDAY – OCTOBER 5

9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – <i>"Turbo Blast"</i>	Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM	Teleios: <i>"Biblical Financial Study"</i> (Crown)	The Bonetto's
7:00 PM	Community Bible Study	205-207, 209 & Fellowship Hall

TUESDAY – OCTOBER 6

7:00 AM	Teleios Women's Prayer/Study: Ephesians 5	Library
9:00 AM	Teleios Women's Precept Study in <i>Colossians</i>	207
9:15 AM	Teleios: <i>"Say Goodbye to Whining...."</i>	206
9:15 AM	Teleios Women's Study: <i>"The Apostle's Creed"</i>	Library
6:45 PM	GriefShare Seminar/Support Group	Library

WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 7

9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – <i>"That's A Stretch"</i>	Fellowship Hall
6:45 PM	LOGOS Kids Club	Classrooms
6:45 PM	EXCEL Student Ministry (Jr. High & High School)	F. Hall
6:45 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
6:45 PM	Teleios: <i>"Say Goodbye to Whining...."</i>	Library

THURSDAY – OCTOBER 8

9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – <i>"Cirque Du Soleil"</i>	Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM	College & 20-Somethings Ministry (dinner/study)	Fellowship Hall
7:00 PM	Teleios: <i>"Memory and Scripture"</i>	Library

FRIDAY – OCTOBER 9

9:00 AM	Women's Aerobics – <i>"Dance It Off"</i>	Fellowship Hall
3-6:45 PM	Men's Retreat arrival and check-in	Chapel Rock in Prescott

SATURDAY – OCTOBER 10

Continues	Men's Retreat	Chapel Rock in Prescott
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SUNDAY – OCTOBER 11

9:00 and 10:40 AM	MORNING WORSHIP Dr. Tim Savage	Sanctuary
	CHANGING THE WORLD Part XXIV <i>"Resurrection and What It Means to Us"</i> Mark 15:40 – 16:6	
9:00 AM	Nursery (birth – 23 months)	301-304
9:00 AM	Children's Discipleship (24 mo – gr. 6)	101-104, 201, 203, 206
9:00 AM	Adult Fellowships	208, 209
9:00 AM	Teleios: <i>"Charity and Its Fruits"</i>	207
9:00 AM	Teleios (Women): <i>"Delighting in Your Calling"</i>	205
10:40 AM	Nursery (birth – 23 months)	301-304
10:40 AM	Children's Church (24 mo – 3 years)	101-104
10:40 AM	Children's Church (4 years – grade 6)	201, 203, 207-209
10:40 AM	EXCEL (Jr. High & High School)	Fellowship Hall
10:40 AM	Teleios: <i>"Passionately Pursuing Peace"</i> does not meet today	
12:30 PM	Missions Committee (?)	206
Noon	Men's Retreat ends, lunch on the road on the way home!	
4:00 PM	New Song Choir/ Campanitas Bells	206, 207
5:00 PM	Carol Choir/ Bell Canto Bells/CBC Ringers	206, 207, 208
6:00 PM	Sanctuary Bells (Adults)	208
6:00 PM	Sunday Evening Prayer – all invited!	Library

I must confess to a certain curiosity with why things turn out as they do. I read a lot of history, biographies, and stories of human successes and failures. Being a child of a particular age, I was raised with a certain degree of optimism. The bad times—World War II, the Korean War—were behind us, and once again we could get back to the normal business of pursuing happiness and success, which I was led to believe were easily within my reach.

Optimism is not hope, yet it is a recurring feature of life in good times. It is also a feature that all too quickly vanishes and reveals itself for what it is when bad times return. As a European, I lived through one of history's great turning points, a turning point powerfully demonstrated in the tearing down of the Berlin Wall. The wall was not simply a physical reality, which had divided families, a nation, and a continent for decades; it was a symbol of the clash of visions and worldviews that battled for a season, not only for Europe, but for global dominance.

I can well remember the astonished newscasters as Germans embraced each other on top of the despised symbol of separation. Europe and the world seethed with the euphoria of change. The brave new world was being born, and optimism was the mood of the day (1989-1991). I heard breathless gurus of the age proclaim the dawn of unfettered freedom, and one, even wrote shortly thereafter about "the end of history and the last man" in the sincere belief of the triumph of free market capitalism and liberal democracy.

Yet wisdom bids us to stop, look, and listen. In the first decade of the twenty-first century, we have witnessed 9/11, bombings in Spain, Bali, and London. We have seen the debacles of Enron, WorldCom, and the fiascos of "Bear Stearns" (USA) and "Northern Rock" (UK). Optimism has met its match. Perhaps for some, they are seeing the collapse of hopes and the fulfillment of fears. The movie scene is reflectively filled with apocalyptic and nihilistic visions.

When hope fades, cynicism is often waiting in the wings. And this is indeed one of the great challenges of our time. Skepticism (there is nothing good and I know it) and cynicism (I can't trust anybody or anything and I know this) seem reasonable choices. But is this a necessary outcome or orientation for us? I think not. Yet, if we have bought into a rationalist vision, if we have embraced the vision and values of our age uncritically, if the Christian faith is merely a part-time investment in an over cluttered life, then we don't have the necessary orientation or resolve to face the issues and challenges of our time.

The Scriptures open up for us a view of the world that is very different. There is a God. This God is the creator, and He is personal, loving, willful, and particular. We see that despite being a good creation, a disruption and disorder has occurred and the drama of redemption unfolds. But the central character here is God! It is what God does, whom God appoints, and what God decides that makes the difference. Now please don't go rushing to theological dictionaries or well-entrenched beliefs to determine "whose" side I'm on in terms of God's purpose and human will. I'll tell you. I believe in both.

I have seen too much, experienced too much, read too much, and pondered too much to believe that my choices are determined, socially conditioned, or illusory. I believe they are real. However, I have also seen too much, experienced too much, read too much, and pondered too much to believe that they are, as Lewis would say, "the whole show." History is not a fatalist's game. Humans do act, and often with serious and sad outcomes. The good news is that we are not alone! Writing to the Romans, the apostle Paul reminded them that hope is real because it is anchored in one who is able to carry it, sustain it, and fulfill it (Romans 8:24-25; 28-30). History is moving to an end, and the Bible offers a good end. Thus, the difference between optimism (short term and easily overcome) and hope (eternal and anchored) is where they are rooted. One leans on human effort; the other rests in God and God's promises.

Stuart McAllister is vice president of training and special projects at Ravi Zacharias International Ministries (RZIM) in Atlanta, Georgia. This article was "Slice 2020" sent September 2, 2009 as the daily devotional of the RZIM daily email devotional ministry *A Slice of Infinity*. To receive this free devotional go to www.RZIM.org/USA/Resources/Read/ASliceofInfinity/SliceSignup.aspx.

Teleios: An Equipping Ministry

REGISTER NOW!

"Memory and Scripture" led by Gordon Donaldson, **Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 PM**, October 8 – November 12, 2009, in the Library. *No doubt every Christian, at some time, has memorized a few Bible verses. Yet, some think they cannot memorize, or are too old to do so. But perhaps few have looked into the principles involved in strengthening one's ability to memorize. This class is on memory development with Scriptures in mind. Our objective is not just the memorizing of verses as such, but the training of the mind to memorize, through the use of the "laws of memory." Obviously, our aim will be to equip one for grasping Scripture in this manner – to carry it within one's thinking and apply its truth, when a Bible may not be accessible.*

"Delighting in our Calling (Part 1)" for women led by Sharon Moore, **Sundays at 9:00 AM**, October 11 – November 8, 2009, in Room 205. *The book For the Family's Sake, The Value of Home in Everyone's Life by Susan Schaeffer Macaulay, provides the springboard for discussion in "Delighting in our Calling." Come to find fresh motivation for being God-centered, home-centered, a manager of the home, a teacher of wisdom and kindness, and a servant in community. A section on Bible journaling is also included. Contact Sharon Moore at 602-866-7453 or sharon.moore@cox.net, or call the office by TOMORROW, OCTOBER 5.*

Do seriously consider these offerings as the outstanding opportunities they are for spiritual growth and call the office to sign up tomorrow!

THE MEN'S RETREAT BEGINS THIS FRIDAY but you can still register through today! Register and bring a friend! Go on line to www.cbcaz.org/men/registration. Spaces are still available and this promises to be a refreshing time away together, with an excellent speaker, Senior Pastor Reddit Andrews III of Soaring Oaks Church in California, a friend of Vernon Pierre and co-member with Pastor Savage of The Gospel Coalition. Together we'll be looking at the Old Testament book of Daniel, seeking God's guidance in living out the Christian faith in our time and in our world. Scholarships are available so please don't let lack of funds stop you from registering!

A DEAR ELDERLY CBC ATTENDEE, Ernestine Wilson, is in need of transportation to and from the 10:40 worship service every Sunday. Caring for her need is a wonderful ministry. Until recently the Keffers have enjoyed sharing this ministry with the Kinkels – picking her up, attending church with her, and then treating her to a Costco hot dog before taking her home. Due to a new addition to the Keffer family, they are unable to fit her and her wheelchair in their car. If another family or couple would enjoy the ministry to this delightful lady on a rotating basis, please call either Trinetta Keffer at 602-418-5184 or John and Stacey Kinkel at 602-808-0660. Ernestine lives off of Scottsdale Road between McKellips and McDowell.

HARVEST PARTY, Wednesday, October 21, 6:30-8:30 PM, Cost is FREE! Join us as we continue our series of Family-Oriented Events with our annual Harvest Party. You'll enjoy Hay Rides, a Bonfire, Bounce House, Face Painters, Food and much, much more. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite family members, friends and neighbors as we seek to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ. If you, your family and your friends are interested in coming, please RSVP on line at www.cbcaz.org/children/family_events/rsvp/harvest. We hope to see you there!

DONATIONS NEEDED for this event are graham crackers, marshmallows, Hershey's milk chocolate bars (regular size), M&M's and Lemonade Mix. Please bring donations to the church office by Sunday, October 19.

FIREWOOD IS ALSO NEEDED. Please contact Randy Shumate at randall.shumate@gmail.com if you are able to donate firewood. Thank you!

INVITE AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TO YOUR THANKSGIVING DINNER! Be a missionary just by being friendly and opening up your home to a future leader. Model Christian hospitality to your children! You will really enjoy this experience, and the friendship begun may continue on to have a huge impact on you, your family, and the world! Call Beth Weise at 602-639-0657 to get a name and number.

DON'T THROW IT AWAY! "IT" being any good usable clothing, tools, furniture, books, household goods, etc. for a "Treasure Hunt" sale to be held on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. This CBC Missions Project is to fund the well needed to develop the site of the Masters Vineyard Ministry to the Karamoja peoples of Uganda. This ministry, and the key role that our own Susan Nsubuga is playing in it, will be described more fully in a coming issue of the IN TOUCH. In the meantime, please keep this rummage sale in mind as you do your fall clean-up and clean-out at home, and at the office. Volunteers will be needed to sort, tag, or collect items. CBC donation drop off information will be updated October 30th. For more information contact Susan Nsubuga at www.mvministry.org or Peg Miller at 480-948-6780.

THE BECKHAMS WILL BE WITH US IN OCTOBER for a few days. You are invited to the home of Bob and Jan Schill at 11422 North 44 Court (near Tatum and Cholla) for an evening of hearing about what God is doing in Richard and Jennifer's lives. The date and time are October 10 at 7:00 PM. For details, call the Schills at 602-923-8871 or rjschillaz@cox.net.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who endured the cross for such as us!

PRAYER

That we would seek God's face and implore a mighty movement of the Holy Spirit, in each of our lives, in the life of this church body, and in the lives of those with whom we come in contact – may God's kingdom come and His will be done! For our men as they retreat to Prescott this coming Friday and Saturday, may the Holy Spirit fill each to overflowing and may they be physically refreshed and spiritually revived, as they look into God's word, fellowship, and worship together; for Kevin Houlihan and his full recovery from recent surgery; for Doug Landro as he readjusts to his life back in Ukraine and for his ability to downsize his work load; for Audrey Hejhall who was admitted to the hospital for four days with another heart incidence, and is now home; for the many in our church family who bear heavy burdens – in Christ, may their load be lightened and in our love may they not bear their burdens alone.

RYAN, JEANNINE AND JESSIE SILVERSTEIN would like to thank all of their brothers and sisters in Christ for your love and support throughout the illness and following the homegoing of Jeannine's mother, Marriann. Your presence, prayers, calls, cards and support will be forever treasured. "Now, our God, we give you thanks and praise your glorious name."

CHILD DEDICATION is scheduled for Sunday, October 25. Please call the office soon if you desire to bring your child(ren) forward for dedication: the child to the Lord, you to their rearing in the Lord, and us to be the body of Christ for you and your child(ren). Should this be your first such dedication at Camelback Bible, we will need to schedule an appointment with the pastor by the 22nd.

A new season of serving through our partnership with Neighborhood Ministries has begun. The EXCEL youth group continues their legacy of serving the meal on the last Monday of each month to over 300 attending Kids Club. This is one example of the Camelback connection to Neighborhood Ministries as a partner serving distressed families living in urban Phoenix. It is a partnership that helps our church realize its mission to "serve in our world as Christ served his." A planning session to discuss how we can deepen this relationship is set for Sunday, October 18 at 12:30 pm following the worship services in Room 209. Curious? Come for a light lunch to consider how this may come about. Please RSVP don.swierenga@cox.net if you can make it. For those who want to get involved with Neighborhood Ministries immediately and can't wait for the outcome of a planning session, consider an invitation to join a community work day there on Saturday, October 17. Who: Adults, teens, women, men. All are welcome to spend any amount of time available between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm. The day is focused on readying the new Thrift Store scheduled to open in November. Please email don.swierenga@cox.net or call 602-315-1698 to sign up or get more information.

"PACKAGES FROM HOME" – a ministry to our service men and women overseas – is being coordinated by two in our church family: David Haneke and Jack Pitrat. Through this non-profit organization packages of donated items are sent abroad to those who serve us so faithfully, and such are several from our own congregation. The deliveries they receive are reminders that Americans love and care about them! We at CBC have the opportunity to participate by donating items here on campus through October 18th. Containers will be spotted around campus beginning next Sunday. The following is a list of the top ten very specific requested items: 1) **AT&T International Phone cards** – specifically for calls from the Middle East to the US; 2) **Pre-sweetened Powdered Drink Mixes** (Crystal Lite, Gatorade, Kool-Aid etc.); 3) **Coffee** (ground, vacuum pack or small cans); 4) **Beef Jerky** (small packages); 5) **Foot Powder** (Gold Bond, etc.); 6) **"Cool Ties"** (homemade ties that provide cooling around the neck – check the website for details); 7) **Eye Drops** (for desert environment); 8) **Lip Balm** (Blistex, Carmex, Chapstick etc.); 9) **Men's Deodorant** (stick type – NOT anti-perspirant) and 10) **Hand Sanitizer** (small and medium size). For additional items, see www.packagesfromhome.org/things-to-donate. For more information, contact Jack Pitrat at 602-233-1432.

SOME HAVE ASKED AND WE HAVE TO GIVE YOU the contact email addresses for two or our families who now serve on the other side of the Atlantic: Robby and Suzy Kuhlman in Ukraine may be reached at suzykuhlman@gmail.com or robbykuhlman@gmail.com; Tom and Linda Emerson in Qatar may be reached at Tom_Emerson@msn.com or Tutor_Linda@comcast.net.

OUR CBC FAMILY ALBUM AWAITS YOU! Our new church directory is ready and we can't wait for you to have your copy! It is our desire that this directory be a blessing and a wonderful prayer tool for the whole church family to enjoy. What an exciting way to celebrate God's faithfulness in ministry and in bringing us together to be a part of this wonderfully unique church family! If you have yet to pick up your household's copy, please check with the office. (And please know that any donation you might like to give toward the production cost of this beautiful directory would be appreciated.) Additional copies may be purchased for \$20 each. May God be praised, and bless each of you as you peruse and use this new directory!

CBC GIVING UPDATE

Budgeted Need through September	\$1,174,677
Actual YTD Giving	\$980,321
Remaining Need	\$194,356
Last Week's Giving	\$17,274