

INTOUCH

December 6, 2009

THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY – DECEMBER 6

12:30-3 PM Angel Tree – sorting 205
 12:30 PM Nursing Home Ministry meets Fellowship Hall
 2:00 PM Nursing Home Ministry serves Osborn Health & Rehab
 3:00 PM **SANCTUARY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT** Sanctuary

Sacred Baroque Masterworks

Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Handel's *Messiah* (Part I)

with Southwestern College Chorale, Soloists, and Orchestra

5:00 PM Bell Canto/CBC Ringers 207, 208
 6:00 PM Sanctuary Bells (Adults) 208
 6:00 PM Sunday Evening Prayer Library

MONDAY – DECEMBER 7

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "Turbo Blast" Fellowship Hall
 5-8:30 PM EXCEL Serving at Neighborhood Ministries meet at CBC
 7:00 PM Community Bible Study F. Hall, 205-207, 209
 7:30 PM ASU Festival of Choirs Concert Sanctuary
 (\$2 at the door)

TUESDAY – DECEMBER 8

7:00 AM **Teleios Women's Prayer/Study:** Library

WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 9

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "That's A Stretch" Fellowship Hall
 5:30 PM Elder Prayer Pastor Tim's office
 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: "Say Goodbye to Whining...."** Library

THURSDAY – DECEMBER 10

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "Cirque Du Soleil" Fellowship Hall
 6:30 PM College & 20-Somethings Ministry (dinner/study) Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY – DECEMBER 11

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "Dance It Off" Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY – DECEMBER 12

9 AM – 4 PM Angel Tree – Wrapping 205, 206

SUNDAY – DECEMBER 13 *Third Sunday of Advent*

9:00 and 10:40 AM MORNING WORSHIP Sanctuary
 Dr. Tim Savage

STEPPING STONES TO ADVENT *"Elizabeth: Ecstasy of the Spirit"*

9:00 AM Nursery (birth – 23 months) 301-304
 9:00 AM Children's Discipleship (24 mo – gr. 3) 101-104, 201, 203
 9:00 AM Adult Fellowships 208, 209
 9:00 AM Teacher Training (Teachers of children ages 0-3) 207
 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 3) 201, 203
 10:40 AM EXCEL (Jr. High & High School) Fellowship Hall
 10:40 AM Teachers Training (Teachers of children ages 0-3) 207
 12:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting 209, kitchen
 6:00 PM CORPORATE PRAYER Fellowship Hall
led by Pastor Ron Elwardt and Elder Keith Edwards
 5:00 PM CBC Ringers (Still to be decided) Room 208
 6:00 PM Sanctuary Bells Room 208

Sunday afternoon/evening rehearsals for vocal choirs and bell choirs in Grades K-6 take a break tonight, the 20th, the 27th & the January 3rd. They will resume again on January 10th.

Inspiration Inexhaustible

by Jill Carattini

On February 23, 1685, the man whose music would forever inspire the world was born in Halle, Germany—ironically, to parents who would have seen him become a lawyer. But George Frideric Handel would quickly grow to be a famed composer and beloved musician.

By the time he reached his twenties, Handel was the talk of all England and Italy. Queen Anne had him commissioned as official composer of music for state occasions. Seats at his performances were often fought over, and his fame was quickly spreading throughout the world.

But the glory soon passed. Audiences dropped off; his popularity was eclipsed by newer talent. Financial ruin, failed productions, and festering stress took their toll on the musical giant. Weary from the strain of overwork and disappointment, Handel suffered an attack of a paralytic disorder that left his right arm crippled. At 52, the once famed musician was now seen as invalid and obsolete. "Handel's great days are over," wrote Frederick the Great, "his inspiration is exhausted."

But sounds of the harpsichord soon reported otherwise. Not long after Handel withdrew to recuperate, his fingers were moved to play again and the artist set out to compose. Nonetheless, his next two operas were altogether unsuccessful. A charity concert he had promised to conduct in Dublin had become his only prospect for work. Yet, given a manuscript that included the opening lines from Isaiah 40, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people," Handel was stirred to write.

On August 22, 1741, at the lowest ebb of his career, George Handel enclosed himself in a room and set to composing *Messiah*. The entire oratorio was sketched and scored within three weeks. April 13, 1742, the first audience in history resounded in applause to the stirring music of *Messiah*, conducted by Handel himself.

The composition would become his best known, and most beloved work, unsurpassed as sacred music. Taken from both Old and New Testament Scriptures, the work considers the entire human experience. Listeners are moved from creation and hope, to suffering and death, to redemption and resurrection. As one scholar remarks of Handel's *Messiah*, "It portrays in succession every shade of devotional sentiment from piety, resignation, and repentance to hope, faith, and exaltation."

Ironically, *Messiah* enjoyed only moderate success while Handel lived, though he performed it annually each Easter for his favorite charity. In fact, he continued to conduct oratorio performances and revise his scores throughout the rest of his life, even in blindness the last 7 years. Of his lasting effect on humanity, a British historian once commented, "[Handel's] oratorios thrive abundantly—for my part, they give me an idea of heaven, where everybody is to sing whether they have voices or not." Perhaps for this reason audiences everywhere continue to stand in reverence to the last lines of his inspired work, words of inexhaustible inspiration:

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
 For the Lord God, Omnipotent reigneth.
 Hallelujah!

Jill Carattini is senior associate writer at Ravi Zacharias International Ministries in Atlanta, Georgia. This article appeared as Slice 1394 on April 11, 2007, the daily email devotional ministry of RZIM,

TODAY at 3:00 PM
CBC Sanctuary Choir Christmas Concert

*Celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with two of history's most beloved sacred works for chorus, orchestra and soloists as our Sanctuary Choir is joined by the Southwestern College Chorale, and orchestra, to sing Handel's **MESSIAH, Part 1**, and our choir sings Vivaldi's **GLORIA**. These Christ-centered musical offerings provide the perfect setting in which to include others in your Christ-centered celebration, and, perhaps, give opportunity to invite them to our Advent services and Christmas Eve Service.*

WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE we thank the six members of the CBC family who gave three hours of their time on Saturday morning the 28th to give the entire church family, and our guests through the Advent and Christmas season, the joyous atmosphere we have come to love in our sanctuary. They were blessed by their time together and they pray that God will use their decorating efforts to glorify His name and bless all who come into our sanctuary. May He touch many lives through the ministry of CBC and its people this Advent and Christmas season!

WE PRAISE GOD for the work of His Holy Spirit in and through the Women's Christmas Brunch held yesterday. The servants' hearts and hands of many provided each woman in attendance with a beautiful morning of Christ-centered fellowship, message, and gift, as well as a delicious brunch buffet. The message of the morning, "At Peace," by Lesli Savage provided all with the truth and hope of God's good news and gracious gift, His Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May He be that for all who came. And may His love and peace reign in their hearts now and forevermore.

PROJECT ANGEL TREE is our opportunity to give Christmas gifts to children of parents in prison. And we are so grateful for the response of the CBC family! **Gifts are due back today** (to the table in the narthex or Room 205). And the sorting of the gifts will take place today from 12:30 to 3:00 PM in Room 205. Other ways to get involved include buying Fry's grocery gift cards, providing postage stamps, providing Christmas cards, delivering gifts, and attending a party for these children on Thursday, December 17th. If you would like to participate, please call Winkie Schwartz at 602-290-3672 or email Kai at kai.schwartz@hotmail.com.

CHRISTMAS EVE NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED. During our Christmas Eve service (Thursday evening, December 24th, 6:00 PM) we want to provide a place where parents, especially visitors, feel secure about leaving their children. The nursery not only needs to provide a safe, secure and fun place for the children, it needs to stimulate our spirit to serve God by serving the people Jesus wanted around Him, our children. These children are a blessing not only to their parents, but to all who serve them. Consider signing up as a family or small group! Please contact Carmen Benford, no later than Friday, December 18th, at 480-831-5059 or cbenford4@cox.net if you would like to serve (5:30 to 7:30 PM). Thank you!

DESERT BELLS needs to postpone their three Christmas concerts, originally being held next weekend, December 12 and 13. If you have already secured tickets, please hold onto them. A new date will be announced shortly. If you have any questions, please call 602-494-RING (7464).

GIVING ENVELOPES for 2010 will be available the next three Sundays in the narthex. They are sorted alphabetically by last name. If you cannot find your envelopes, please contact Ivonne in the church office at ivonne@camelbackbible.org.

Christmas at Camelback

Sunday, December 13, 9:00 & 10:40 AM
Third Sunday of Advent

Stepping Stones To Advent "Elizabeth: Ecstasy of the Spirit"

Sunday, December 20, 9:00 & 10:40 AM
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Stepping Stones To Advent "Mary: Miracle of Faith"

Thursday, December 24, 6:00 PM

Christmas Eve Festival of Lessons & Carols

A richly traditional service set in the warm glow of candlelight, featuring the Sanctuary Choir, Organist Dr. Guy Whatley and Brass.

For the Son Who came in loving obedience and self-sacrificing love.

PRAYER

That God would bring many to Himself through this wondrous season of the year, using us, His people – drawing us more intimately to Himself while drawing others, through Christ's love in us, to His saving grace and unshakeable peace.

COME NEXT SUNDAY EVENING to Fellowship Hall at 6:00 PM to join others of the CBC family as we come before God to offer our hearts in all humility and seek our Lord's face. Given who His is and what He has done and promised, how can we not but come before our all-glorious God and pour out our hearts to Him. COME and be with your CBC family; led by Pastor Ron Elwardt and Elder Keith Edwards.

Parents of 4th - 6th Graders Please Note: Grade 4-6 Sunday Morning Discipleship (9:00AM) and Grade 4-6 Children's Church (10:40AM) will **NOT** meet **Sundays, November 29 through Sunday, January 3**. Classes will resume Sunday, January 10.

Advent Booklets are Available Parents, please help yourself to a "Celebrating Advent at Home" booklet to use at home with your family during the advent season. This booklet is designed to help prepare you and your family for the wonder and awe of once again celebrating our Savior's birth. Booklets can be picked up in the narthex or the church office or can be downloaded from our website at www.cbc.org/children/advent2009.

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY and carol through the hallways of Osborn Health and Rehab (3333 N. Civic Center Dr. Scottsdale) on Thursday, December 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The residents love to hear cheerful singing voices! For many, this is the highlight of the year. We'll deliver gift bags to the residents and conclude the caroling with a Christmas Party (food only, no gifts) for the staff from 7:30 to 8:00 PM, letting them know how much we appreciate their work with the residents. Homemade chili, cornbread and hot apple cider will be provided for everyone. If you'd like to make cookies and treats for the staff, please contact David Haneke at dhaneke@openingmoments.com or Doug White at ashpenaz@cox.net.

LOGOS FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY, Wednesday, December 16, 6:45-8:15 PM in Fellowship Hall. All clubbers and their families are invited to join us for this wonderful celebration of Christ's birth. We will have a dramatic Christmas presentation featuring some of our own clubbers, Christmas carol singing and yummy dessert. This is a great night to invite friends and extended family. **Donations Needed:** We would appreciate Christmas cookie donations for this event. If you would like to donate cookies please bring them to the church office during the week or on Sunday mornings. Thank you!

BUDGET COACH: Has the downturn in the economy produced stress in your finances? Is there too much month at the end of the money? Camelback Bible Church has a trained budget coach from Crown Financial Ministries who is willing and able to assist you with your financial questions and to help you along your "Journey to Financial Freedom." There is no charge for the coaching. Please contact Sandra Cook, our Crown Budget Coach, at 480-229-9784 to get started.

LOST! AND LOOKING FOR the wonderful book about the Karamoja people in Uganda entitled *Karamoja* that belongs to Susan Nsubuga. PLEASE, if you should have this book return it to Susan or Doug White; and, if you don't, please pray that God will prompt whoever does have the book to return it. Thank you!

MASTER'S VINEYARD MINISTRY to the people of Karamoja is holding monthly meetings of those interested in this ministry. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, December 19th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at 8224 East Monte Vista Road, Scottsdale, 85257. Please join us for the monthly meetings of this mission outreach as we plan and celebrate God's goodness and vision for the Karamojongo people. We will also discuss the short term Mission trip planned for January 2010. Please RSVP at 480-945-3481 or 480-330-9266. Thank you!

CBC GIVING UPDATE

Fourth Quarter (Oct.-Dec.) Giving Need	\$ 795,679
Fourth Quarter Giving to Date	\$ 223,922
Remaining Need	\$ 571,757
Last Week's Giving	\$ 16,963