

# INTOUCH

November 27, 2011

## Traditions: New and Old

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 27

8 AM-12:30 Fall Blood Drive Blood Mobile, east parking lot  
 9 & 10:40 Angel Tree The narthex  
 6:00 PM SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER Library (205)  
 6:45-8:30 PM EXCEL Jr. High Small Group not meeting this week only  
 6:45-8:30 PM EXCEL High School Small Groups not meeting this week only

#### MONDAY – NOVEMBER 28

7:00 AM Teleios: Women's Prayer & Bible Study Library (205)  
 9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "Kick Boxing" Fellowship Hall

#### TUESDAY – NOVEMBER 29

6:45 PM GriefShare Recovery Support Group Library (205)

#### WEDNESDAY – NOVEMBER 30

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "That's A Stretch" Fellowship Hall  
 5:30 PM Sanctuary Bells Sanctuary  
 6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Choir Rehearsal Room  
 6:45 PM LOGOS Kids Club Classrooms, B'ball Court & Field  
 6:45 PM EXCEL Junior High & High School Fellowship Hall  
 6:45 PM Teleios: Intentional Spiritual Parenting Burch Hall, PCDS

#### THURSDAY – DECEMBER 1

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "Cirque Du Soleil" Fellowship Hall

#### FRIDAY – DECEMBER 2

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

#### SATURDAY – DECEMBER 3

10:00 AM  
**Women's Christmas Brunch**  
**"Christmas Unwrapped"**

*"...you will find a baby wrapped in clothes and lying in a manger"*  
 Luke 2:12

Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall

10:30 AM Messianic Bible Studies 209  
 1:30 PM Children's Christmas Pageant rehearsal Sanctuary  
 4:00 PM Cindy Baxter Memorial Service Fellowship Hall

#### SUNDAY – DECEMBER 4

### Advent

9: & 11:00 Angel Tree gifts brought in 206  
 9:00 and 11:00 AM MORNING WORSHIP Sanctuary  
 Dr. Tim Savage

ADVENT SERMON SERIES: *THREE BABIES FOR TODAY*  
**"Baby of Promise"**

Isaiah 7

9:00 AM Nursery (birth – 18 months) 301-304  
 9:00 AM Children's Discipleship (19 months – gr. 6) 101-103, 201, 203, 206  
 9:00 AM Adult Fellowship Classes 208, 209  
 9:00 AM Discovery I Library (205)  
 10:00 AM Children's Choirs – dress and prepare for pageant 207  
 11:00 AM Nursery (birth – 18 months) 301-304  
 11:00 AM Children's Church (19 months – gr. 6) 101-103, 201, 203, 206  
 11:00 AM Teleios: *Shepherding a Child's Heart* 209  
 11:00 AM Teleios: *Generous Justice* 208  
 12:00 PM Angel Tree gift sorting 206  
 12:30 PM Nursing Home Ministry meet at Subway, 44<sup>th</sup> St. & Indian School  
 2:00 PM Nursing Home Ministry serve at Osborn Health & Rehab.  
 4-4:30 PM Bell Canto Bells & Campanitas Bells rehearse 207  
 4:30 PM Children's Choirs (Bell & Voice) Christmas Party 207  
 6:45-8:30 PM EXCEL Jr. High Small Group The Collins' home  
 6:45-8:30 PM EXCEL High School Small Groups The Quick's & Pitrat's homes

The traditions of the holidays are in full swing around us. One of our newer traditions, a highlight of this Thanksgiving season, was the Camelback Choir Concert last Sunday evening. Those of us able to attend that service of praise and thanksgiving were joined by many unfamiliar faces. We heard a well led choir bring forth music of this special season accompanied by readings that accentuated our gratefulness to God.

In the near future, those many visitors who responded to our special invitation to join us will be welcomed into new space created these past few months. We are getting set to open on December 4. That is also the date we will begin the new worship service schedule of 9:00 am and 11:00 am, just as we enter Advent. For those visiting during this very special season of the year, we will be awaiting their arrival with a renewed readiness to share in the love that came down from heaven, Jesus Christ.

Our readiness is also being further extended to those who are physically challenged. Ongoing attention to how best configure the newly opened up space at the back of the sanctuary continues. That attention is best informed by those for whom it is intended. Please be sure to provide suggestions on how to utilize this area for that purpose.

Sunday mornings will take on a different feel as we enjoy the time and place to gather as a family. The desire to become more of a community, a true family on a mission, is being voiced in a variety of ways. It may be most explicit in the excitement expressed as a place to reach out to one another in this new gathering area.

That is why the service time for the second worship hour changes to 11:00 am on December 4. For those that attend that service, it is one of the easiest changes you'll ever make. Consider the recommendation to continue coming to church at the same time as always. When you arrive, those from the first service will be there waiting for you with a warm greeting and a hot drink.

During weekdays, the area formerly called the Family Room will continue to serve as excellent meeting space. Already in January a great use has been scheduled by a new ministry that is being led by Barbara and Dick Helstrom called Job Transition Workshop. On six Monday evenings early in 2012 they will help guide those who are unemployed or seeking employment change with discernment. Look for more information in December to explore this facet of our desire to seek renewal of all things.

The economy and our employment within it are areas of life that God intends for us to seek renewal. It is but one of the many new areas in which we anticipate God's leading us toward fulfilling our mission in the new year.

*a family . . . on a mission . . . for the glory of God*  
*extending the love of Christ to all people*  
*for the renewal of all things*

We also need to focus on finishing this year well. That includes financially. Even in the midst of difficult economic circumstances experienced by many. While the new construction has been paid solely through specially designated gifts, ongoing ministries are blessed by our financial support now more than ever as we close out the year.

It is another well entrenched tradition at Camelback that as the need is presented, God works through the generosity of the family here to meet the remaining expenses of the past year. This year is no different as indicated in the financial picture provided below. That targets giving for December to ensure all expenses are paid and \$100,000 remains in our checkbook as a cash reserve.

#### CBC GIVING UPDATE

\$825,000: 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Giving Goal  
 (Provides for all 2011 expenses paid and \$100,000 cash reserve)  
 \$180,678: October/November Gifts to Date  
 \$644,322: December Gifts Anticipated to Reach Goal

A primary focus in the month of December is to celebrate and worship the birth of the newborn king. Another focus is to gain an ever-increasing understanding of God's great gift to us that prepares our hearts for ways to express our gratitude to Him. May we be led in a variety of meaningful ways to do that throughout the splendor of the Advent season that lies ahead.

Don Swierenga  
 Director of Ministry Development



## Advent at Camelback

*with Music and Messages of the season*

*This Year's Sermon Series: "Three Babies for Today"*

**Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 and 11:00 AM**

**"Baby of Promise"**

Isaiah 7

**Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 and 11:00 AM**

**"Baby of Peril"**

Isaiah 8

**Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 and 11:00 AM**

**"Baby of Peace"**

Isaiah 9

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CONGRATULATIONS are extended from the CBC family to two of our young couples on the birth of each of their daughters! Don and Molly Fitzsimmons welcomed Kalli Jane on November 17<sup>th</sup> and Corey and Rachael White welcomed Callan Elise on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Born one day apart and sharing the same name (Kalli/Callie), what fun is that! Mom, girls, and dads are all doing well.

IT IS WITH SORROW AT OUR LOSS that we tell you of the unexpected home-going of CBC member Cynthia "Cindy" Baxter on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Only 50 years of age, she leaves behind four children – Beth (24), David (22), Becca (18), and Naomi (17). The memorial service will be held this Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 4:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. The presence of her church family would be a very meaningful testimony to her children, other family, and friends; please come and celebrate her life with us and her new life with our Lord and Savior in heaven.

SUNDAY GRADE 4-6 CLASSES (9:00 AM and 10:40 AM) CHRISTMAS BREAK includes Sundays, November 27 through January 1.

LOVELY 2012 "FAITH PASSAGES" WALL CALENDARS are available at the Welcome Center. Each year, in recent years, our brother in the Lord Paul Van Liew has provided these lovely calendars, graced by Scripture verses and scenic photos.

### Women's Christmas Brunch

Saturday, December 3, 2011 at 10:00 am

*Christmas Unwrapped*

*"...you will find a baby wrapped in clothes and lying in a manger"*  
Luke 2:12

Ladies, tickets are now on sale for the CBC Women's Christmas Brunch. Invite all the women in your life to hear about God's perfect plan for salvation through "a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suzy Kuhlman's message will especially bless the women in your life who don't know Jesus as their Savior.

Tickets are \$5.00, with scholarships available, and are available on the patio this morning and at the office this week. The morning includes a buffet-style brunch with homemade Christmas desserts! Reserved seating is available for anyone requiring special assistance.

Questions? Call Nancy Whalen at 602-677-5263 or email her at [ncwhalen@cox.net](mailto:ncwhalen@cox.net).

### PRAYING FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Monthly Prayers for our Children

**December:** Pray that they will be protected from the evil one in each area of their lives: spiritual, emotional, and physical. Pray that they stand firm in persecution. Pray that they will be patient in affliction and look to God, trusting in His faithfulness, when they have problems.

**Based on:** John 17:15, Romans 12:21, 2 Corinthians 4:17-18, Psalm 121.

ANGEL TREE MINISTRY provides a powerful opportunity to share Christ's love by helping to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the families of prisoners. Hopefully the tree in the narthex has been stripped bare of all the angels and the gifts indicated will be purchased this coming week. Please return unwrapped gifts by next Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Additional help is needed with the return of the gifts. Please let Winkie Schwartz (602-266-4005) or Nancy Baldwin (602-956-9642) know if you are willing and able to further participate in the Angel Tree program by: bagging gifts; attending the party we will have for the children and their families where we have the opportunity of visiting with the children and families; providing food or rides for the party; and/or delivering gifts to the families who do not attend the party.

OUR TRADITIONAL ANNUAL GRAPEFRUIT PICKING to provide Christmas gifts to Navajo families in northern Arizona is scheduled for Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 9:00 AM to noon. The gathering place is the Vucurevich home at 3637 East Colter Street (just five minutes from the church). Breakfast will be served and snacks provided throughout the morning. All are welcome – husbands and children of women attending the Women's Christmas Brunch, be sure to come! The more hands on hand, the more grapefruit gets picked. If you have a friend that would enjoy this fun outdoor project, invite them. It is fun and provides a much-appreciated touch of love. And this year, should you have any citrus fruit in your yard, or neighbors yards, please do bring what you can to contribute to this ministry. All we can provide will be used! Call Heidi Vucurevich with questions and let her know you'll be there, 602-955-7297.

VOLUNTEER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE NURSERY on Saturday, December 24, 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM (identical services) This once a year evening brings many from the community, as well as the CBC family, and child care is an important aspect of our ministry and outreach, especially to our visitors who need to feel secure about leaving their children. Since we have two services, volunteers can serve at one service and still attend the other. No one need to miss out! Consider signing up as a family or small group; singles and couples too. If you would like to serve, please contact Carmen Benford, no later than Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 480-8313-5059 or [cbenford4@cox.net](mailto:cbenford4@cox.net) and let her know which service time you prefer.

### DESERT BELLS HANDBELL CONCERT: A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS!

As has become a tradition at CBC over the years, our gifted Bell Director, Kay Cook, who brings her two community groups together for a Christmas Concert each year, has chosen our sanctuary again as their venue. They will present the concert three times, each time filled with: "Ring and singing, strings and flutes, drums and chimes for a joyful celebration in instrument and songs." This concert is a delight for all ages. Do plan to come and bring friends, family and neighbors along with you.

Saturday, December 17 — 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

Sunday, December 18 — 5:00 PM

Tickets - \$15 for adults, \$8 for children - may be purchased by calling 602-810-1959.

OTHER HOLIDAY CONCERTS TAKING PLACE HERE AT CBC include: The ASU Choral Department's *A Holiday Festival of Chorus* on Monday, December 5, 2011, at 7:30 PM – Tickets at the door are \$10, students with ID \$5. For more information go to [www.music.asu.edu/choirs](http://www.music.asu.edu/choirs); and The Orpheus Male Chorus' *Holidays with Orpheus* on Sunday, December 11, 2011, at 3:00 PM – Admission is \$15, Seniors \$12, and Children under 12 Free. For more information go to [www.orpheus.org](http://www.orpheus.org) or call 602-271-9396. PLEASE NOTE THAT CBC DOES NOT HANDLE TICKETS FOR ANY OF THESE COMMUNITY CONCERTS.

DO BE THINKING OF THOSE YOU CAN INVITE to join you through this wonderful season of the year in the various ways you celebrate the wonder of God's coming to us in His Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our Advent and Christmas worship services are particularly meaningful and filled with the good news of Jesus Christ. May God grant us hearts that desire others to know and love Him as well!