

# INTOUCH

August 8, 2010

## Easy Streets and Long Roads

Stuart McAllister

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### SUNDAY – AUGUST 8

8:00-12:30 Summer Blood Drive Bloodmobile, east side of F. Hall  
 12:30 PM Missions Team Meeting The Family Room  
 6:00 PM EXCEL High School Fellowship Hall  
 6:00 PM SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER Library (205)

#### MONDAY – AUGUST 9

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "Kick Boxing" Fellowship Hall  
 9AM-5PM Cathedral Health Services Screening 209

#### TUESDAY – AUGUST 10

NOTICE: The Women's Prayer/Study held previously on Tuesday mornings at 7:00 AM will move to Monday mornings beginning August 30<sup>th</sup>. The time the same; meeting in The Family Room

#### WEDNESDAY – AUGUST 11

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "That's A Stretch" Fellowship Hall  
 5:30 PM Elder Prayer Sr. Pastor's Office  
 6:45 PM EXCEL Jr. High Fellowship Hall  
 7-8:30 PM EXCEL High School Small Groups:  
 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Graders @ the Pitrat's home, 4119 East Oak Street, Phx.  
 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders @ the Klontz home, 3917 E. Fairmount Ave., Phx.

#### THURSDAY – AUGUST 12

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "Cirque Du Soleil" Fellowship Hall  
 6:30 PM College & 20-Somethings Dinner/Study Fellowship Hall

#### FRIDAY – AUGUST 13

9:00 AM Women's Aerobics – "Dance It Off" Fellowship Hall  
 6-10 PM Bell Venture 2010 Directors' Clinic 208  
 7:00 PM Open House with the Blanchards! The Lindner's home

#### SATURDAY – AUGUST 14

9AM-3PM Bell Venture 2010 Directors' Clinic 208

#### SUNDAY – AUGUST 15

9:00 and 10:40 AM Prayer for Worship Services Prayer Room  
 9:00 and 10:40 AM MORNING WORSHIP Sanctuary  
 Pastor Ron Elwardt  
**"The Fearlessness of Faith"**  
 Hebrews 11:23-31  
 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 Sojourners Adult Fellowship 208  
 9:00 AM Diakonia Adult Fellowship 209  
 10:40 AM Nursery (birth – 23 months) 301-304  
 10:40 AM Children's Church (24 mo. – gr. 6) 101-104, 201, 203, 206  
 12:30 PM Osborn H. & R. Ministry meets Fellowship Hall  
 2:00 PM Osborn H. & R. serves at Osborn Health & Rehab  
 6:00 PM EXCEL High School Fellowship Hall  
 6:00 PM EXCEL Jr. High Small Group Parties (guys/gals) TBA  
 6:00 PM SUNDAY EVENING PRAYER Library (205)

Sunday, August 22  
 Pastor Bryce Morgan  
 concludes our summer series in the "Faith Chapter" of Hebrews  
 Hebrews 11: 32-40

Sunday, August 29  
 Dr. Tim Savage  
 begins a new series:  
**Crucified WITH Christ, Raised WITH Christ**  
**"New Life"**  
 Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:17

The Bible rings with some serious stories of faith, and the men and women involved become examples to those of us who reach for faith. We admire with reverence the way that these men and women of old dealt with difficult odds and how God accomplished incredible things through them. But what would happen in our own lives if we were given the chance to fight the same fight? Would we rise to the challenge?

I'm afraid that in our day, we often live with a glaring contradiction. We want to know God. We want God to be real and we want life to have deep meaning. And yet we want all this without any serious cost or effort.

We tend to assume that life is best when the waters are still—that life is best during those times when everything "makes sense." "This is how it's supposed to be," we tell ourselves. But just as soon as we do, the water around us gets rough, our boats are rocked, and we are back in another struggle of one kind or another. What's going on in these times? Why doesn't God just allow us to stay comfortable and content? Are the bad times merely distortions of the way life should be? Should the road of faith be an easy one?

Consider some key figures in the Bible and what they went through: Abraham was asked to give up his own son, the prize of his life, and he was willing to do it. Moses could have stayed in Egypt and enjoyed the pleasures of royalty, but instead he led the people of Israel through years of struggle. Because of his faith, the prophet Daniel defied a king, risking death in a lion's den. The three young men were willing to go into the burning furnace because of their faith, whether God rescued them or not. Before he was king, David patiently endured the rage of Saul because he believed God. Esther courageously risked her life to go before the king and beg for his mercy with the strength of these marvelous words: "If I perish, I perish" (Esther 4:16).

It was in the toughest acts of faith that these men and women came the closest to God and found life's deepest meaning. It was not the provision of comfort or happiness that led them to a deeper knowledge of God—it was often the lack of it. Is it possible that a life where everything stays calm and unchallenged isn't what we really need? Does peace mean as much if we never experience calamity? Do our hearts ring with gratitude if we are never in want? Does happiness bring as bright a smile if we never taste sadness?

Let us not idealize an easy life, or we may find that life becomes hollow. The writer of Hebrews has a much better challenge: "Let us run the perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1). The one we follow, the author and perfecter of our faith, lived a life of similar proportions, who for the joy set out before him endured the Cross, scorning its shame. He now sits at the right hand of the throne of God, beckoning us onward.

Stuart McAllister is vice president of training and special projects at Ravi Zacharias International Ministries in Atlanta, Georgia. This piece, Slice 2135, February 11, 2010, is one of the daily devotionals available through *A Slice of Infinity* – the email devotional ministry of RZIM, [www.rzim.org/USA](http://www.rzim.org/USA).

**EXCEL JUNIOR HIGH & EXCEL HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRIES** both start up this Wednesday evening! Our Jr. High students will be meeting in Fellowship Hall every Wednesday evening from 6:45 to 8:30 PM. And this year the Wednesday evening High School Small Groups will be meeting off campus at the homes of two of our church families: 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Graders will meet at the home of Jack and Kris Pitrat, 4119 E. Oak St., Phoenix, 85008 and 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Graders will meet in the home of Pastor Brent and Sari Klontz, 3917 East Fairmount Avenue, Phoenix, 85018.

**AND EXCEL STUDENTS (PARENTS WELCOME)!** Be sure to check out the YOUTH TELEIOS CLASSES which will start on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, and run for 12 weeks. These two classes are intended for any youth (Jr. High through College): at 9:00 AM – Fundamentals of the Faith; at 10:40 AM – TrueU (Apologetics and World View). Watch for the TELEIOS CLASSES flier that will be coming out soon for more details. Sign up will be available soon, at a table on the patio and in the office.

**OUR SANCTUARY CHOIR**, currently on summer break, will begin rehearsals again on Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> and we cordially invite any and all who have an interest in joining this vibrant music ministry to come on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Rehearsals are held every Wednesday evening from 6:45 to 8:15 PM in the Choir Rehearsal Room behind the chancel in the Sanctuary. More information about the Music Ministry at CBC and the Sanctuary Choir is available online at [www.cbcaz.org/choirs](http://www.cbcaz.org/choirs). For further information, please give Pastor Tom Bookhout a call in the church office, 602-955-6370.

**OUR RWANDA TEAM** has set up a blog on the internet which gives us the opportunity of following their ministry in Rwanda. Please go to <http://cbcaidsproject.blogspot.com/> to join them in this grand adventure that is theirs (and ours).

**NEXT SUNDAY, THE 15<sup>TH</sup>, IS PROMOTION SUNDAY!** All regular Children's Sunday Morning Discipleship (9:00 AM) and Children's Church (10:40 AM) classes will resume, including Grade 4-6 classes which did not meet over the summer. **Parents:** Please watch for a letter arriving next week which indicates children who have been promoted and their new classrooms. Please contact Renee Zuck at [renee@camelbackbible.org](mailto:renee@camelbackbible.org) with any questions. We look forward to starting a new year with all our CBC kids!

**AN AED UNIT (AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR)** is now available and located on the wall of the usher's closet in the sanctuary narthex (the wooden door to the left of the double glass doors into The Family Room). The use of this life-saving device is very simple and clearly given by the unit's verbal and pictorial instructions. However, to increase our familiarity with its use, a five-minute DVD will be run, over and over again, for half an hour after both morning services today in The Family Room. All are invited to stop by and view the brief presentation. We thank God for this provision, as well as our S.A.I.N.T.S. ALIVE! Ministry which made it possible.

**ONE OF OUR CBC FAMILIES**, recently back in town after living out of state for several years, is seeking a four-bedroom, two-bath rental home long term in east/central Phoenix. If you have or know of such a rental, hopefully one with a reasonable rental fee, please call 1-205-240-1556 and speak to the wife/mother of the family. Our help finding what they are looking for would be greatly appreciated.



**The Blanchards**

Tom & Lucy  
(France)

Marie  
(Spain)



We have one more opportunity to visit with all three of them at an **OPEN HOUSE on Friday, August 13, 7:00 PM**, at the home of Bill and J.E. Lindner, 321 W. Oregon, Phoenix. RSVP to 602-788-1172 if possible, but don't stay home if you don't!

Then on Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM following the Sunday Evening Prayer at 6:00 PM in the Library (205) we'll bid farewell to Tom & Lucy who will be heading back to France.

Come to one or both! They will be blessed and so will you!

## PRAYER

for our **Rwanda Missions Team**, who left on Monday, were delayed overnight in Ethiopia and again on the runway in Uganda, finally made it – please keep them and their ministry in your prayers, so important to each of them: for **Paul Van Liew** who underwent triple by-pass surgery on Friday; for **Patty Bruce and family** as they seek God's perfect will in selecting the proper post-hospitalization care for her husband **Phil Bruce**, who has suffered extensive debilitation following a grand mal seizure several weeks ago – they ask as well for your prayers that in and through everything God will be glorified.

## EARLY BIRD TELEIOS CLASS – ENROLL NOW! "Crown Financial Ministries Biblical Financial Study"

Taught by Tom Bonetto on Mondays, 6:30-8:30 PM, August 23 – November 1, it will be held at the Bonetto's home (Central and Thunderbird). With over 2,350 verses that address everything you need to know about handling money, the Bible is a blueprint for managing your finances. In this 10-week in-depth Bible Study, you will learn the profound impact managing your money has on your relationship with God. **NOTE: This study starts before our "official" Teleios kick-off begins. Registration begins now through Sunday, August 22.** Contact Tom Bonetto, 602-358-8138 or [tbonetto@cox.net](mailto:tbonetto@cox.net), or call the church office during the week, 602-955-6370. *Cost for materials (includes helpful software): \$55 for couples; \$45 for individuals.*

## URGENT NEED: MORE OFFICE VOLUNTEERS!

As you may know, Julie Shumate has resigned her position in the CBC office as Receptionist and Assistant to our Music and Worship Pastor, Tom Bookhout, to accept full-time employment elsewhere. She concluded her 9½ years with us on Friday. While we praise God for His great provision for the Shumate family, we are left with a huge hole to fill in our office. Until we, with God's direction and provision, can put together the missing pieces of our staff, we desperately need more volunteers to fill in as receptionist/office assistants. Our current wonderful team of volunteers is stretched to the max, and both they and the office staff are asking God to expand our pool of volunteers to share "the wealth" of tasks that need to be accomplished.

**Qualifications:** A love for the Lord God whom we serve, a servant's heart, a warm and welcoming phone voice and presence at the front desk, and although Computer skills are optional, they would be greatly appreciated!

**Hours Needed:** 9:00 AM – Noon, Tuesday-Thursday; 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Fridays. If you would like to be added to our pool of greatly appreciated volunteers, please call the church office (602-955-6370) and speak to Joy Bauerlein, Office Manager. We are eager for you to join in ministry with us during this "crunch time" – and beyond.

**THE S.A.I.N.T.S. ALIVE! (55+) QUARTERLY LUNCHEON** will be held on Sunday August 29, 2010 following the second worship service (12:15 PM) in Fellowship Hall. CBC Elder and Harvest staff member Keith Edwards and his wife Ann will be our featured guests. Join us for this wonderful opportunity to hear Keith and Ann's personal testimonies and stories!

**LOGOS KIDS CLUB** for all 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders is held on Wednesday evenings, from 6:45 to 8:15 PM, and is scheduled this coming year to meet from August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to May 4, 2011. Can your children tell you who Jesus Christ is? Do their lives reveal the impact that only Jesus can have? Are they confident in Christ? Do they share Him with their friends? LOGOS Kids Club helps you to present your child: "Complete in Christ." *LOGOS is also a great way to invite your friends and neighbors to church, so be sure to spread the word.* Join us for our **LOGOS Hot Dog Kick-Off Party on Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:15 PM** (registration/check-in begins at 6:15 PM). This first Club night is for the **WHOLE FAMILY!** We'll have a tasty hot dog dinner and a fun time of getting to know the LOGOS staff and other clubbers and their families. **Registration:** [www.cbcaz.org/logos](http://www.cbcaz.org/logos). **Cost:** \$15.00 per child (\$30.00 maximum per family), includes a Club T-shirt, awards and handbook.

## CBC GIVING UPDATE

Budgeted Need for 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	\$370,400
Actual 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Giving To Date	\$122,688
Remaining Need for 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	\$247,712
Last Week's Giving	\$18,175