

Community Christian Center



The Word
Fellowship
Prayer

The Good Tidings Newsletter

A Report on the Revival at CCC

MAY, 2015

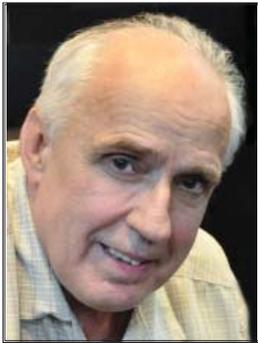
ERIC GIORGIO, PASTOR

VOLUME 17, NUMBER 5

Pastor's Corner

This month featuring **Associate Pastor Mike Stephens**

Father, we thank and praise You, You are an awesome God!!! There is none like You! First we want to thank You for Your wonderful gift of our precious Lord Jesus! And the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit! Oh for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glory of my God and King, the wonders of His grace! JESUS, the name above every name, you set the captives free! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!



LORD, thank You that You said in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith

the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." Some translations use the words, "I know the plans that I have for you (New American Standard version). "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you," Jeremiah 1:5. For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well."

Oh what an awesome God we have, Psalm 90:1 says, "you have been our dwelling place in all generations". The Bible declares in Isaiah 49:15 that we are inscribed on the palms of Your hands... that all our ways are open before Your eyes. Lord, thank You that You cause us to reign in life by CHRIST JESUS! - Romans 5:17. 2 Corinthians 2:14 declares, "Thanks be unto God who always causes us to triumph in Christ. And according to Romans 8:37, in all things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us! Romans 8:18 says that the sufferings of this present age are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. This verse speaks volumes to us. JESUS said, "In this world you will have tribulations", but He also said, "Be of good cheer, HE DECLARES THE END FROM THE BEGINNING. HE SAID I AM ALPHA AND I AM OMEGA! HE DECLARES IN THE BOOK OF ISAIAH THAT HE IS GOD AND THERE IS NO OTHER I have overcome the world.- John 16:33. Also Psalm 34:19 declares, "many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all". Yes, the battle rages down here, but God always causes us to triumph, because the battle is the Lord's. Be strong and very courageous because God (in Hebrews 13:5-6) declares He has promised never to leave us nor forsake us. Therefore we confidently say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What will man do to me?"

Oh these are exceedingly great and precious promises, whereby we are made partakers of the divine nature. - 2 Peter 1:4. The Word of God is so full of POWER!!! Isaiah 54:17 declares

that no weapon formed against us shall prosper, and every tongue that rises against us shall be proved wrong... this is the heritage of the saints of God. Doubtless they will come, the preceding verses declare, but I did not send them, so they will fall because of you. How awesome is our God! In this life we shall reign in Christ Jesus, and that is not all. He says in 1 Corinthians 15 that if we only have hope of HIM in this life, we are of all men most miserable. But I've got a home in Glory Land that outshines the sun! Oh yes! He is coming back... "in my Father's house there are many mansions; if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there you may be also - John 14:2-3!!!! 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 for the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words. He is our shield and our exceeding great reward -

Genesis 15:1. Jesus told us to watch and pray, for we know not the day of the Lord's return! But he is coming; eye hath not seen, ear hath not heard, neither has it entered the mind of man what God has prepared for them that love Him, but the Spirit has revealed some things! Let's be ready - our reward is coming shortly. EVEN SO, COME QUICKLY, LORD JESUS!!!!

DON'T FORGET

From a message by **Pastor Ken Clowds**

Genesis 3:13 and the woman saith, 'The serpent hath caused me to **forget** and I ate (the apple).. YLT We can learn a lesson from Eve. Let us never forget how much God loves us. How He chose us from the foundation of the world to be His beloved children. How He sent Jesus to die for us and forgive all our sins in an instant as we seek Him. Let us not forget how He has a magnificent Heaven awaiting us - mansions and all. And how He can use us on earth to change things for the better for now and for eternity. Don't let the serpent or devil cause you to forget these wonderful things.

PASTOR TONY'S BROTHER

Pastor Tony Paraspolo's brother, Sal, from New Jersey went home to be with the Lord last month. We at CCC didn't know him but he knows us because he has been a reader of this newsletter for many years - at his request, we mailed it to him in Tom's River, New Jersey every month.

We will be able to meet him personally someday in Heaven. We pray God's great comfort upon Pastor Tony and Sal's family.

Happy Mother's Day, CCC

NEWS FLASHES!

by CCC's Roving Reporter, *Debbie Shaw*
Happy Mother's Day!

✍️ Mother's Day was first observed on May 8, 1908 at the request of Anna Jarvis to her church in West Virginia. It was held on the third anniversary of her own beloved mother's death. Jarvis and her friends began a letter writing campaign to create a national Mother's Day observance. President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day in 1914. Wilson stated that the holiday offered a chance to "[publicly express] our love and reverence for the mothers of our country."

President George W. Bush echoed Wilson's sentiments by acknowledging mothers in his official statement on Mother's Day in 2002. He commended foster mothers as well as his own "fabulous mother" for their "love and sacrifice."

Did You Know?

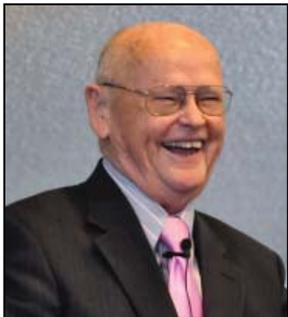
✍️ As long as revival is contained in church, it probably isn't revival. If there is a true fire burning, it will move us to create a fire in our city. Our prayer has to be, "God, if You are going to touch me with a spark, then cause me to speak to sinners. Anoint me to teach them about Your love. Send me into the byways with the compelling love of Jesus." -David Wilkerson

✍️ Aviation is proof that given the will, we have the capacity to achieve the impossible. -Eddie Rickenbacker

✍️ The Concorde cruises at around 52,000 feet altitude at about Mach 2 over 110,000 feet per second. However, it takes off at only about 250 mph and lands at about 190 MPH. During takeoff and landing the aircraft's long pointed nose tilts down so that the pilot can see the runway.

✍️ Featured Person of the month: Pastor Ken Clowdus and his beloved helpmate, Sandy.

Pastor Ken and Chick Saunders established Community



Christian Center 38 years ago. We had been meeting out of doors at a VFW hall in Duarte, but as colder weather was approaching, it was apparent a place was needed so we could meet inside a building. The pastors located this church at 3rd and Dexter. They each took out a mortgage on their homes for the down payment. Because of these two

men who trusted and believed God, we have a beautiful, Bible believing, and Spirit-filled Christian Church. Thank You, Lord.

Pastor Ken and Sandy have three children (who all know the Lord): Gary, Mark and Laura. Laura and her husband, David Gomer, have been a tremendous blessing to our church for many years.

Pastor Ken's favorite Bible verse is John 3:16 *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.* NKJV

Pastor Ken has a funny story to tell about a time when he had climbed up the ten feet into the bell tower of the church. He had put a ladder on a table to get up there, when he reached the top he accidentally kicked the ladder off the table. He was stuck. He called and called for help but since he was the only one in the building, there was no answer!

Pastor said, "So what was I to do, only one thing, I dropped the ten feet to the lower floor. I was not injured or anything else!"

He quipped, "If one of my Baptist friends would have come by they would have remarked, 'There's that Pentecostal preacher hanging from the rafters again!'"

Bit of Humor

✍️ What animal is the best one to borrow money from? The kangaroo, because it always has 'pocket' change.

✍️ Dear Pastor, Are there any devils on earth? I think there may be one in my class, Carla, age 8.

✍️ A little boy was overheard praying, "Lord if You can make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time just as I am."

✍️ It's no secret how the sunflower gets its name - the big heads of sunflowers turn from east to west to follow the sun. It is especially evident when looking at a whole field of the beautiful flowers.

✍️ Moses was 120 years old when he charged Joshua to take over the nation of Israel and to enter the promised land. Deut 31-6

✍️ Mercy is the greatest gift to others. - Pastor Tony

✍️ Pastor Al said, "When I look into the mirror I see signs and wonders. God took me from a life of drugs and alcohol, and gave me a new life!"

✍️ The ruby is the rarest and costliest of gems. Ounce for ounce it is worth more than diamonds. Rubies are made from a natural material, corundum or aluminum oxide. It is colorless in its pure state, but a trace of chromium oxide impurity gives the ruby its color. Sapphires also are made from corundum.

Prov 31:10 *Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies.* NKJV It is a wonderful to be precious in the sight of God and others.

So long for now. Your Roving Reporter, AKA, Jr. Scoop. *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.* Romans 16:20

CALLER ID

from the internet

On a Saturday night several weeks ago, this pastor was working late, and decided to call his wife before he left for home. It was about 10:00 PM, but his wife didn't answer the phone.

The pastor let the phone ring many times. He thought it was odd that she didn't answer, but decided to wrap up a few things and try again in a few minutes. When he tried again she answered right away. He asked her why she hadn't answered before, and she said that it hadn't rung at their house. They brushed it off as a fluke and went on their merry way.

The following Monday, the pastor received a call at the church office, which was the phone that he'd used that Saturday night. The man that he spoke with wanted to know why he'd called on Saturday night. The pastor couldn't figure out what the man was talking about. Then the man said, "It rang and rang, but I didn't answer." The pastor remembered the mishap and apologized for disturbing him, explaining that he'd intended to call his wife.

The man said, "That's, OK. Let me tell you my story. You see, I was planning to commit suicide on Saturday night, but before I did, I prayed, 'God if you're there, and you don't want me to do this, give me a sign now.' At that point my phone started to ring. I looked at the caller ID, and it said, 'Almighty God'. I was afraid to answer!"

The reason why it showed on the man's caller ID that the call came from "Almighty God" is because the church that the pastor attends is called Almighty God Tabernacle!!

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

by Sharon Johnson

We all have been tempted to sin – even Jesus was tempted, but He did not sin. However we sometimes fall into doing something we know is wrong. I have heard people say things like, “Oh, that’s just a little thing, God will understand.” God understands everything but He hates sin. It separated mankind from God until He sent His Son, Jesus, to take our penalty for sin by dying on the cross so that as we accept Jesus as our Savior, we are reunited with God. Oh, hallelujah. So when God looks at us Christians, it is as if He is looking at the perfect Jesus.

But we must be aware that the same evil spirit that might tempt you to steal a little something may be the one who already tempted someone to murder and torture. We are not dealing with mild evil – it is all vicious and its goal is to separate you again from God. He doesn’t tempt you so that you can have pleasure or gain something – no he hates all who are in the image of God and tries to put you into bondage to sin. He truly wants to kill you, steal from you and destroy you and others.

Christians are under God’s wonderful grace and Jesus’ atoning blood so that we are forgiven and we are not under condemnation. We must keep our eyes on Jesus at all times because when we do, we are really blessed and fulfilled in our spirits. Once we know life in His presence nothing else compares to it. It is when we take our eyes off Him or get distracted by lust of life, pride, resentments, and even things like feelings of worthlessness can get us into trouble. The enemy knows our weaknesses and that is why we must know the Word of God, believe it, and stand on it – even when our feelings are different from what it says. Give no place to the enemy’s lies. We all are overcomers in Jesus as we take every problem to Him and stand on His Word which is Truth.

Shipwrecked

from the Internet

There were two men shipwrecked on this island. The minute they got on to the island one of them started screaming and yelling, "We're going to die! We're going to die! There's no food! No water! We're going to die!"

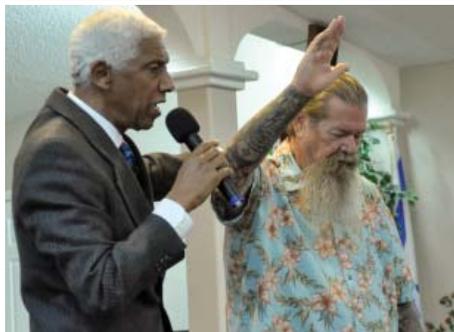
The second man was propped up against a palm tree and acting so calmly that it drove the first man crazy. "Don't you understand?!? We're going to die!!"

The second man replied, "You don't understand. I make \$100,000 a week."

The first man looked at him quite dumbfounded and asked, "What difference does that make?!? We're on an island with no food and no water! We're going to DIE!!!"

The second man answered, "You just don't get it. I make \$100,000 a week and I tithe ten percent on that \$100,000 per week. My pastor will find me!"

(((CANDID SHOTS)))



STRONGER

Taken from *Stronger* by Angela Thomas (with a few additions).

Whatever you are facing, the Bible promises that our God is stronger:
 Stronger than your greatest weakness
 Stronger than your deepest need
 Stronger than your past mistakes
 Stronger than your present stumblings
 Stronger than your physical suffering and death
 Stronger than your doubts and fears
 Stronger than your bad attitude
 Stronger than your broken relationships
 Stronger than leaders, authorities, kings, and nations
 Stronger than loneliness, depression, and sorrow
 Stronger than anxiety and worry
 Stronger than sin
 Stronger than anger, bitterness, and rage
 Stronger than bad habits
 Stronger, much stronger than oppression and anything that Satan throws at us
 God is stronger than everything, and everybody, and every circumstance.
 Oh hallelujah!

Kitchen Korner

from the kitchen of *Dee Paraspolo*

I want to thank each of my CCC family that prayed for me, sent cards, called and visited me as I was healing in the hospital and in rehab. I had a setback but I haven't quit. God and Tony were with me through it all.

When my lips were dry and cracked because I couldn't have water, a volunteer came in asking if there was anything I needed and gave me chap stick. We never saw any volunteer again. In the middle of the night when I couldn't sleep, my roommate, Linda, asked if I would like to read her Bible - it was a lightweight, large print Gideon New Testament. I open it to Philippians and read in 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ" -I'm counting on that. I shared it back with my roommate the next day. I needed to be in the acute hospital a total of three days to be 100% insurance covered. Amazingly (and I was praying) the social worker at the rehabilitation unit I was being transferred to could not reach my insurance company for authorization until after that third day of my being in the hospital. I received a week of rehab, with an absolutely phenomenal rehab team. Toward the end of the week, two of the team members even brought me home for a home safety evaluation. They also asked to do a safety evaluation of "somewhere I go often" - I chose my church and I got to introduce them to our church and our pastor. (Home and church "passed" inspection.)

All of these are pale in comparison to your prayers and your love, and in actuality they are all because of your prayers. I thank each of you and I love you all.

The following is Dee's Kitchen Korner article from a previous edition of The Good Tidings Newsletter - Suggested by *Gloria Cloud*.

Relax, mom. Just stop, enjoy the humor and have a Happy Mother's Day

25 REASONS I LOVE MY MOTHER

1. My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE: "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."
2. My mother taught me RELIGION: "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."
3. My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL: "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
4. My mother taught me LOGIC: "Because I said so, that's why."
5. My mother taught me MORE LOGIC: "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."
6. My mother taught me FORESIGHT: "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
7. My mother taught me IRONY: "Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."
8. My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS: "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
9. My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISM: "Will you look at the dirt on the back of your neck!"
10. My mother taught me about STAMINA: "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."
11. My mother taught me about the WEATHER: "This room of yours looks as if a cyclone struck it."
12. My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY: "If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"
13. My mother taught me the CIRCLE OF LIFE: "I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."
14. My mother taught me about BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION:

"Stop acting like your brother!"

15. My mother taught me about ENVY: "There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."

16. My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION: "Just wait until we get home."

17. My mother taught me about RECEIVING: "You are going to get it when you get home!"

18. My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE: "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they will freeze that way."

19. My mother taught me ESP: "Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"

20. My mother taught me HUMOR: "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

21. My mother taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT: "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."

22. My mother taught me GENETICS: "You're just like your father."

23. My mother taught me about my ROOTS: "Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"

24. My mother taught me WISDOM: "When you get to be my age, you'll understand."

25. My mother taught me about JUSTICE: "One day you'll have kids of your own, and I hope they turn out just like you."

Shackles

by Reporter and Photographer, *Stephanie Alexander*

"Shackles" was absolutely riveting, so realistic and emotional...I'm sure many lives have been and will be changed through this anointed production! It was presented at CCC last month by the Way World Outreach Church from San Bernardino.



Community Christian Center

165 West Dexter Street

Covina, California 91723

Phone No.: (626) 331-2059

www.communitychristiancenter.org

Senior Pastor: Eric (and Marie) Giorgio

email: ericgiorgio@gmail.com

Associate Pastors: Tony Paraspolo, Mike Stephens,
& Dustin Paraspolo

The Good Tidings Newsletter

Sharon Johnson, Editor & Publisher

email: sharonsue@roadrunner.com