

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Tony

Love Others

Early in September I preached a few messages from Titus. The messages focused on how to live as “Christians In A Pagan World”. The Word in Titus gives us many specifics about our relationships with non-believers and tells us what kind of attitudes we should have toward others. Chapter three reflects on the blessings and joys of knowing Christ, His sufficient and amazing grace, and His unbounded love given to every one of us even while we were yet sinners.



I have come to a simple conclusion ... Christ followers love people! They know how to love strangers, how to love non-believers and they know how to love fellow believers. It is not a hard task, but it is one that God has commanded. “We must love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength. And we must love our neighbors as ourselves.” This is the first and second greatest commandments found in Mark 12:33; Matthew 22:37, 38. God’s Word also tells us that “the world will know we are Christians by our love” John 13:35.

1 Corinthians 13 tells us how to express that love. It tells us of God’s agape love and, at the end of the chapter, it says that if we perform every act of service toward others and have not love, we are living in vain. Christ’s love is genuine, it is heartfelt, it is pure, it is not superficial. As we read in 1 Corinthians 13, “it is not puffed up, it does not demand its own way, it is patient and kind.”

Love is the heartbeat of every believer who wants to fulfill God’s plan for their life. When Christ is the Lord of your heart and Savior of your life, love flows from you like a gushing spring of water. Love is not self-seeking but seeks to esteem and encourage others. Love does not boast and is not easily angered but finds ways to love people in spite of bad manners, loose tongues, and mean spirits. Love trusts, hopes, protects, and perseveres. Live as a believer who “Loves God and Loves People”. It is truly more than a slogan, it is God’s call upon our lives as believers. Live by it, learn by it, give God’s grace through it, but above all things, practice it. The greatest gift we have to give to others is Jesus Christ. Jesus is the greatest expression of love God has ever given to a lost world. John 3:16, “For God so loved the world...” He gave us His only son, His precious son, so that we could have life and share it with others. Love others as God has loved you.

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RCC STUDENT NEWS

OUR STUDENTS



Matt and Linda during a top secret mission to decorate Josh's office while he's gone.

Coryghan, Brandon, and Matt are attempting to guess what they are eating.



What a good looking group!



Notable Dates

October

31st Fall Festival 3-5pm be at the church by 2.

November

1st Scavenger Hunt (after Sunday school)

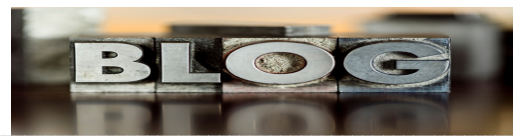
15th SALT team meeting after Sunday School

29th Turn in M&M tubes, \$65 due for AYC

↓ PARENTS ↓



IYC2010 is not far away and there is still a lot of planning ahead. Right now we have planned to take a week long trip with other groups from Alabama and around the country to Orlando, Fl. If your student(s) are interested in attending this life-changing event sign them up on the sheet at the church entrance desk.



Check out what the students are experiencing and learning on Wednesday nights at <http://242studentministries.wordpress.com> You can also find this link on our website at www.Riverchase.cc under the student ministries link.

*Don't forget how important it is for you to discuss your faith and encourage your child!

Kid Chat

Pastor Christy

The children are now practicing for the Christmas Musical as a part of the Wednesday night program from 6:30-7:30 (from 6:00 on 11/4 & 11/14).

**The musical will be on Sunday morning,
December 6th at 10:00 am.**

After the musical we will have a fellowship brunch. Plan to invite family and friends and be blessed by our children ministering to us.



November 6th 6-9 pm Theme: India

Call the church to register

A King is Coming to Town



Church of God News



Church of God Ministries invites you to join a new social networking site on the Internet designed specifically for the Church of God family. MyCHOG offers users similar functionality to that offered by sites such as MySpace and Facebook. Using technology, the church can now span geographical distances and come together in the virtual realm to strengthen our relational connectivity.

“It is all about building and strengthening our community within the Church of God,” said David Farlow, chief of strategic communications for Church of God Ministries. “This site is specifically designed to help improve fellowship, worship, networking, and communication to foster greater relational connectivity across the movement. Now, everyone has a place to come to raise issues, share opinions, dialogue, and learn from one another as we seek to serve Christ and minister to his children.”

The growth in popularity of social networking sites has fostered numerous commercial sites where people connect with each other. Initially, it was primarily the younger generation who used these sites. In recent years, a growing number of adults now stay in contact with friends, share their lives, and interact with one another using the Web. MyCHOG offers those associated with the church the opportunity to join interest groups, participate in discussion forums, establish personal blogs, share photos and videos, and much more.

Pastors, we encourage you and those in your congregation to consider becoming part of this online family. Please check it out. You can experience MyCHOG by visiting <http://MyCHOG.ning.com>.

Learning Center

Mrs. Mel



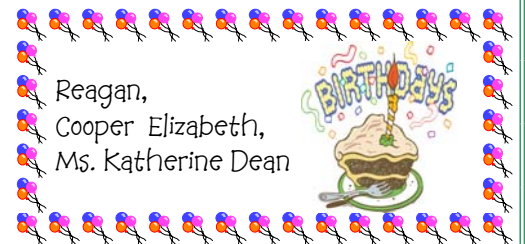
On November 11th, MDO will be closed and daycare will be open with reservations.

On November 25th, the MDO will be closed and daycare open with reservations.

The entire center will be closed in celebration of the Thanksgiving Holidays on November 26th & 27th.



Katie Jane, from the Hoover Library, will come and lead our children in a Story Time based on Family.



Counseling Corner

Alan Swindall

So, why do people keep repeating detrimental behaviors in their relationships? Well, of course, the answer is sin, and that answer puts us in the same boat that Paul writes about when he penned Romans 7.19, "For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing, (NIV). And the antidote is growing in Christ likeness. Ok, what then gets in the way of this growth, which leads us back to where we started: Why do people keep repeating detrimental behaviors in their relationships? In a word, fear.

This keeps coming up in my professional experience, except perhaps a more refined description of this fear would be anxiety. We usually have more awareness when we are afraid, and most of the lapses into unhealthy activities take place before we have time to think about it – it's like an automatic reaction. Triangles, which I wrote about last month, are but one of several automatic reactions that we trigger when we are anxious. Other anxious reactions include, conflict, emotionally running away, over functioning or under functioning behaviors. The more anxious we are, the more likely we will be to resort to behaviors that tear down rather than strengthen our family relationships.

Now, nobody can make us more anxious than members of our family. But Jesus said explicitly, "Do not be anxious," (Matthew 6.25). You might say, "Well, Jesus never had to live with ____ (fill in the blank)! I'll grant you, growing healthy relationships with family members isn't always easy. Changing the way we behave requires that we have to act with intention or be deliberate in our choices. Developing more fulfilling family relationships requires that we learn to discipline ourselves to move beyond the anxious, automatic responses that keep us stuck in harmful patterns. Improving family relationships involves learning to recognize our anxiety, increase our capacity to stay calm so that we do not react automatically, and then make a more thoughtful response. Making these changes possibly will involve conferring with someone who can coach you along this new path - someone who can help you manage your fear, instruct you in developing new skills, and provide encouragement as you move toward the kind of fulfilling relationships that God intends for your family.

In Revelation 21.5 we read, "I am making everything new!" The time is right to find out what new God has in store for your household.

Alan Swindall, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist provides family life coaching at Riverchase Community Church. He can be contacted at 668-2344 or AlabasterFamily.org



Looking Ahead

Our Church's Anniversary



June 7, 2010
30 Years!!

Do you still stay in touch with people who used to attend church here? We would like to invite them to our Anniversary Celebration that is coming up soon. Please send their contact information to the church office.

Coming in



- 4th—Kids' Rally
- 5th—Men's Prayer Breakfast & Seeker's Christmas Party
- 6th—Children's Musical
- 8th, 22nd—MOPS
- 8th, 15th—Upward Practices
- 9th—Choir Practice
- 13th—Choir Christmas Cantata
- 15th—BOE meeting
- 17th—Learning Center Christmas Program & Class Parties & Gideons' Meeting
- 18th—Last Day MDO/PS
- 21st-23rd, 28th-31st—MDO/PS Closed, Daycare Open
- 24th, 25th—Office & Entire Learning Center Closed



Friend Day

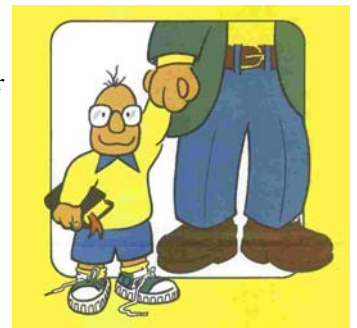
Who Is Your Friend?

On November 22nd, we are asking that everyone bring a friend to church with them. There will be a special time of worship on this day along with our annual Thanksgiving Meal. Think about who you would like to bring to church with you on this day. Will you bring a relative, classmate, neighbor, or a special friend? After choosing someone, take special time to pray for that individual before asking them to attend.

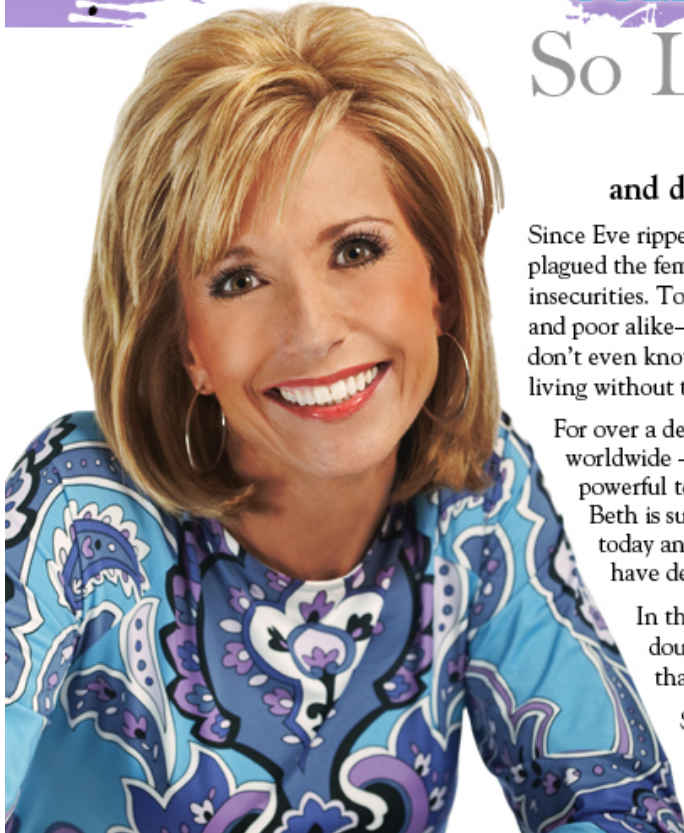
In the weeks leading up to "Friend Day," look for handouts and special tips on how to reach your friends.

John 13:35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.



Girls' Night Out



So Long, Insecurity

**Kiss your insecurities good-by
and discover the joy of living with confidence!**

Since Eve ripped the first leaf from a tree in the Garden, insecurities have plagued the female gender, and as our world has expanded, so have our insecurities. Today's women—young and old, churched and unchurched, rich and poor alike—are suffering from such deeply embedded wounds that most don't even know how to identify them, and beyond that they can't imagine living without them.

For over a decade, Beth has transformed the hearts of women worldwide – offering freedom, deliverance, and depth through her powerful teaching of God's Word. In her new message *So Long, Insecurity*, Beth is sure to make yet another remarkable impact on women today and for generations to come as she exposes the lies that have debilitated women for ages.

In this one-day event, women will learn to conquer fear and doubt and will discover the liberating confidence and security that can only be found in Christ.

Share Beth Moore's contagious passion for God and His Word on **Saturday, April 24th** LIVE and In-Person at First Baptist Church in Woodstock, a suburb of Atlanta.

If you are interesting in making the trip to Atlanta to see Beth Moore, contact Caprice Lawrence. Tickets are going fast so don't wait!! Visit the website for more information: www.bethmooreatlanta.com.



Okay, more than once I've been asked when are we going to Sips & Strokes for a Girl's Night Out! I took a poll and the winner is a Christmas Tree painting on Tuesday, November 17th. The cost is \$25 and we will be at the Pelham location. Go to: www.sipsnstrokes.com to register. Get your paint aprons ready and a bottle of water or soda to sip!

Deborah



MISSIONARY SPEAKER

Mike & Heather Webb

Missionaries from Tanzania, Africa will speak
November 1st.



November 6th 6-9 pm Theme: India

Call the church by September 30th
to register your child.



Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 18th
at 12 noon

Wednesday, November 18th at
7:30 pm

Sunday, November 29th at 12 noon




November 10th and 24th, 6:30-8:30 pm



Malachi 3:10 "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse... Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty.

September Tithe income:	\$18,766
September Preschool Income:	\$20,018
September Church Expenses:	\$24,034
September Preschool Expenses:	\$19,303
Net income:	\$-4,553



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  MISSIONARY SPEAKER Daylight-Saving Time Ends 9:30 AM Missionary Visit: The Webbs 12:00 PM 242 Scavenger Hunt	2	3	4 5:45 PM Wed Meal 6:00 PM Scream-Free Parenting 6:30 PM Wed. Night Activities	5	6 6:00 PM Kids' Rally	7
8  BUSINESS MEETING 11:45 AM Business Meeting 12:00 PM Choir Practice	9	10 6:30 PM MOPS	11 Daycare Only with Reservations Veterans Day 5:45 PM Wed Meal 6:00 PM Scream-Free Parenting 6:30 PM Wed. Night Activities	12 JOY Class in Gatlinburg	13 JOY Class in Gatlinburg	14 JOY Class in Gatlinburg
15 JOY Class in Gatlinburg 12:00 PM SALT Meeting	16	17 6:30 PM Board of Elders Meeting	18 Newsletter Deadline 5:45 PM Wed Meal 6:30 PM Wed. Night Activities 7:30 PM Choir Practice	19 6:30 PM Gideon's Meeting	20	21
22  Bring a friend to church Friend Day 12:00 PM Thanksgiving Lunch Meal at Jessie's Place	23	24 Preschool Thanksgiving Feast 6:30 PM MOPS	25 Daycare Only with Reservations NO WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES	26 Entire Learning Center Closed Thanksgiving Day	27 Entire Learning Center Closed	28
29 Advent 12:00 PM Choir Practice	30					



A place for you to Know, Grow in and Go for Jesus Christ

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