



# The Connection

Volume 10, Issue 1, January 2012

## Youth Stuff

by Ken Paine

December was a great month for our high school group. Besides the normal Sunday school and youth group, we had our Christmas party, where we had the obligatory 'Albino Pachyderm' exchange, and played 'Dirty Bingo'. We also had a potluck and went to the ice chalet for broom-ball just before Christmas. And some of the youth helped with a babysitting afternoon to allow parents to Christmas shop unhindered.

The New Years Eve party is being organized by the youth, but is open to all in the church (and friends). Bring snacks to share, and any

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## Children's Ministry Resolutions

by Kathy Nelson

The new year is fast approaching and many of us are making new year's resolutions. Webster defines resolution as "the act or process of resolving: as the act of determining." This usually involves making changes to one's life or behavior. Well, Children's Ministry is, in a way, making a new year's resolution. I am so excited to share with you what direction we are resolving to go and what changes we are making to get there.

Families are important and we want to show that by encouraging family worship. So starting January 1st, as many of you know, families will worship together in the sanctuary. This will enable children to experience worship as a part of the church body. Children will be checked in before service via our new Kid-Check stations which will be located in the main lobby and at Ministry Central next to the coffee cart.

If you are a parent, please sign up for your free KidCheck account at [go.kidcheck.com](http://go.kidcheck.com). If you have an existing account, please take a minute and make sure it is up to date. The children will then be escorted by a parent down to the Chapel for a lesson and some activities. Pre

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# Connecting Deeper

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## Celebrate Recovery is MOVING!!!

by Pete Erb

After careful consideration both in our own program and with thought given to the status of Celebrate Recovery in the Walla Walla Valley we are moving our program to Tuesdays beginning January 3rd. This is an exciting time as Celebrate Recovery continues to grow in the Valley. We now have four programs running. Three of those programs were born out of CR at Blue Mountain Community Church as our attenders are hearing the call to "take CR home" to THEIR church. Our move allows CR to be available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday every week.

We talk about how CR can help you find freedom from your hurts, habits and hang-ups and I have shared how I resisted attending because I had no hang ups with alcohol or drugs. While



this is still the case, I have learned over the years in CR that the program is about me finding me. CR provides a safe place to come and hear the struggles of others and find strength and power in their struggles to dig deep and find a way to pull the roots of my deepest hurts; those hurts that cause me to make the same bad choices over and over again.

Further and most important CR provides a safe place to share those struggles without fear of judgment and with the absolute confidence that what I share every week stays right there, in that room. It sounds way too simple and many argue that "Jesus has forgiven me why do I need this program?" Well, I can assure you, and if you are honest with yourself, you know that saying it out loud to another person is a whole other ball game. The release of that shame and/or guilt is very hard to achieve without saying our fears our hurts and our shames out loud to another person.

CR begins at 7:00 PM and ends when you want it to but we go as late as 9:30 PM. We move to Tuesdays on January 3rd. Dinner is served on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Men, we will begin a step-study program in January. This will probably be on a weekend but we have not firmed that up as we wait to see who might want to be a part of this growth experience. You can reach me at (509)301-9219 or [petert1965@msn.com](mailto:petert1965@msn.com). Thank you and may God bless you with the peace of a Bible reading, God-fearing life.

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schoolers may proceed to the preschool wing before service or stay with their family until dismissal time.

But wait there's more! Also, starting January 1st we will be opening a new class for 4th and 5th graders! This means that Kindergarten and 1st grade will be together and 2nd and 3rd grade will be together. We are thrilled to be offering this opportunity to our 5th grade students.

So, as the new Children's Ministry Apprentice, I resolve to partner with families in the spiritual formation of their children by having a safe place where children are loved and taught the truth of God's Word. I believe that these changes are one step toward that goal.



## Building & Grounds Update

by Larry Wachtel

With the holidays and winter upon us, B & G has been relatively quiet. There is one project I'd like to make you aware of. The big barn out back of our church has needed some reinforcement to support the second level that was added some years ago. God's timing was once again proven to be perfect.

Just before Thanksgiving, Alec Jones came to a B & G meeting asking if we had a project he could help us with. Alec is a member of Boy Scout Troop 305 and is working toward becoming an Eagle Scout. Part of that process requires that he complete a community service project. Our barn reinforcement project fit the bill perfectly. He had to submit documents to his scout leaders showing what materials were needed, how much they would cost, what tools would be required, how much they would cost (if you had to purchase them), estimate the time the project would take to complete and direct the work of the other 4 scouts who would be helping.

The work is now complete and Alec has submitted his paperwork to his leaders for approval. It was fun working with these young men and our church barn is now safer. If you see Alec at church, tell him thanks for a job well done.

*Thanks!*

# Connecting to Ministries

## Life Groups

Grow close to others in relationships centered on our faith in Jesus. For more info on joining a home group, contact Pastor Don at 529-1212.



Senior Adult Ministries meets January 5th and 19th at 10:00 AM. Anyone 55 years or older is welcome to come and see what they're all about. Laughter is the best medicine. Come join in the fun and fellowship.

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MOPS exists to encourage and equip moms of preschoolers. All moms are welcome.



MOPS meets January 12th and 26th from 9-11 AM in Baker Hall. Contact Lauren Kruzewski at [bmccmops@gmail.com](mailto:bmccmops@gmail.com) for more information.

MOMSNext is designed to meet the unique needs of moms of school age kids. MOMSNext meets January 4th from 9- 11 AM at the leader's home. Guests are always welcome! contact Penny Baslee at [baslee21@yahoo.com](mailto:baslee21@yahoo.com) for more information.



Everyone is invited! Meet Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM to share in support and encouragement to conquer your hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Dinner provided the fourth Tuesday each month at 6:00 PM for a small donation.

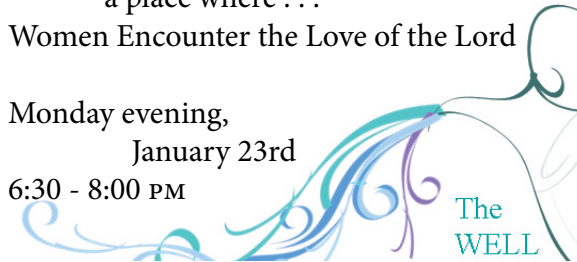
All are invited

Saturday Morning, January 14  
8:00 AM



All ladies are invited to *The Well*  
a place where . . .  
Women Encounter the Love of the Lord

Monday evening,  
January 23rd  
6:30 - 8:00 PM



# Connecting to the next Generation

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table games you want to play. We'll have games, the jumpy castle, ping pong, basketball, volleyball, and other stuff in the gym, lots of food, and if the weather cooperates, we'll have a couple of sky lantern launches. And if anyone has fireworks, we can set them off at midnight.

Not much is planned for January, although I'm looking into playing miniature golf some time, but we have the Superbowl party the first Sunday in Feb, the high school retreat over President's weekend, and the Revolve Tour for girls the last weekend in February.

I'm having trouble getting events organized for middle school students, since we don't have much participation. I'm looking for a couple parents that would be willing to sit down with me and organize a winter retreat and/or other events for the next few months. Please email me at youth@bluemountainchurch.com if you're interested.

Keep praying for the youth in this church and valley. They have many distractions and challenges in their lives.



## The Nexus- where parents find focus

by Kathy Nelson

The Nexus is a new ministry that held its first event in September. The goal of this ministry is to offer events that will give parents tools and skills to help them on their parenting journey. Let's face it, our children do not come with owner's manuals and sometimes we just need a little help along the way. The event in September focused on parenting skills and our latest event in the beginning of December was on internet safety. We are looking to offer the internet safety night again this spring, so be looking for it on the website and in the bulletin.

On February 5th we will be offering an interactive presentation on nutrition and how to prepare healthy meals and snacks. Our very own Leslie Snyder will be sharing her knowledge and expertise in this area. We will be taking the first 30 people who come down to the fellowship hall after the end of the worship service. Lunch will be provided as it will be a part of the presentation! Bring the whole family for this delicious event.

For more information contact Kathy Nelson at kathy@bluemountainchurch.com.

# Connecting to One Another

## Celebrating December Birthdays and Anniversaries

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Marty Ybarra         | Chris Osborn       |
| Sierra Ybarra          | Austin Walker      |
| 2 Reva Ewing           | 19 Ed Hendricksen  |
| 3 Jeff Simmons         | Elise Pettyjohn    |
| John Ermacoff          | Nancy Stewart      |
| 4 Doris Cook           | 21 Andrew McMillan |
| 7 Sara Huie            | 23 Chelsea Steiner |
| Angie Williams         | 24 Jessica Groat   |
| 9 Gary Burns           | 26 Jerold Cook     |
| Kariss Carrillo        | Betty Eyestone     |
| Travis Haen            | Donna Hibner       |
| Rosalie Vogt           | 27 Jean Lamb       |
| 10 Dona Rahn           | Steve Mize         |
| Allison Snider         | 29 Brenda Hobbs    |
| 11 Ben Brink           | 30 Anna Frazier    |
| 12 Kendra Voeks        | Bill Parker        |
| 15 Marie Hickman       | 31 Myron Rogers    |
| 16 Christine Alexander |                    |
| Shane Mings            |                    |
| 17 Louise Doyle        |                    |
| Frances Winters        |                    |
| 18 Rick Maxwell        |                    |

- 9 Jack & Debbie Sands  
Paul & Leanne Howard  
24 Vincent & Kelle Cannone

## January

### At a Glance

- 3 Missions Commission Meeting 6:30 PM  
5 SAMS 10:00 AM  
Celebrate Recovery Leaders 6:30 PM  
6 Leadership Essentials 6:00 AM  
9 EOD Commission Meeting 6:30 PM  
Worship Commission Meeting 6:30 PM  
CE Commission Meeting 6:30 PM  
10 Board of Elders Meeting 6:30 PM  
Building and Grounds 6:45 PM  
Quilter's Guild 7:00 PM  
12 MOPS 9:00 AM  
14 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM  
15 Newcomer's Lunch NOON  
17 Parachute Party 6:00 PM  
19 SAMS 10:00 AM  
26 MOPS 9:00 AM  
29 Semi- Annual Business Meeting

AFTER SERVICE

### Every Week

- Sunday** Evening Service 5:00 PM  
Middle School Youth 6:30 PM  
**Tuesday** Celebrate Recovery 7:00 PM  
**Wednesday** Bible Class 6:30 PM  
**Thursday** Taking Off Pounds Sensibly 5:30 PM  
Worship Team Rehearsal 6:30 PM  
High School Youth 7:00 PM

Our mission is to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

## Young Life Moment

by Dan Kilmer

The following is from the desk of Young Life president Denny Rydberg and is but one example of the effect your sacrificial giving to missions accomplishes through and by the Lord's leading.

*You might call it a cold metal moment. When Marcus felt the cold metal of a handgun pressed into his chest, he was compelled to make a choice. Would he hand over his merchandise and money to the man in the hooded sweat-shirt? And - if he lived - would he finally leave his life of dealing drugs behind?*

*I'm happy to say Marcus chose wisely. He surrendered his merchandise and money, and moments later he texted a Young Life leader named Kurt.*

*"Is it too late for me to go to camp?" Marcus texted.*

*Kurt couldn't believe the question. It has been nine months since Kurt and Marcus first made eye contact on campus. From that first moment, Kurt said, "I felt like the Lord was calling this kid."*

*So for nine months, Kurt strategically placed himself in the path between Marcus and the weight room twice a week after school. The two would banter back and forth - comparing biceps and triceps, exchanging "awkward guy handshakes," and then moving on. Eventually Kurt began inviting Marcus to Young Life club, but Marcus never made it. So when Kurt got the text from Marcus asking about camp, he had to rub his eyes. One week later, Kurt could hardly believe his ears.*

*It was the fourth day of Young Life camp when Marcus asked Kurt to help him pray. He was ready to surrender for the second time in 10 days. But this time he was surrendering to the Savior.*

*I'm grateful for your partnership. You might say it was one cold metal moment that compelled Marcus to make a choice. But it was nine months of warm, winsome moments that compelled him to choose Jesus. Thank you for giving countless kids like Marcus the chance to choose life in Jesus Christ.*

If you are not involved in God's command to "Go into all the world" it isn't too late. A portion of your tithe plus the Faith Promise and Penny Plan giving is used to "go."



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# Quick Connect

## Leadership Essentials

January 6th

6:00 AM

The very first of a series of dialogue and training sessions to create more and better leaders. Anyone who wants to grow in their leadership skills should plan on attending. RSVP to the church office.

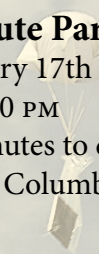


## Parachute Party

January 17th

6:00 PM

Make parachutes to deliver radios in Columbia.



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