

FEBRUARY 2012

Faith Witness

Faith Evangelical Free Church

Presenting Everyone Complete In Christ

THE POSTMODERN WORLD

We often struggle as Christians to fit in with some of the cultural attitudes that prevail. Though it seems increasingly extreme right now, this has always been true.

Throughout the centuries, Christians have not fit in because we are part of another kingdom. We are called "aliens and strangers" in 1 Pet. 2:11. Jesus said His kingdom is "not of this world" (John 18:36).

But have you ever wondered how we got to this point in our culture? We sometimes talk about our country being founded on Judeo-Christian ethics. What path has taken us to this place where the Christian church seems marginalized and where principles that are taught and accepted in the current culture sometimes seem at odds with biblical values?

David Wells gives his perspective on this in his book *The Courage to Be Protestant: Truth-lovers, Marketers, and Emergents in the Postmodern World*. Here are some excerpts from the chapter titled "Self."

During the 1960s a new worldview emerged. To a great majority of Americans, it now became clear that the self had become the source of all values. ...

... By the 1980s ... a large majority had begun to think that what was worthwhile in life had nothing to do with its

normal routines such as getting up each day and going to work. Nor with the traditional responsibilities of marriage and the raising of children. Rather, life is about its more exotic moments. ...

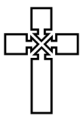
Thus it was that the individualism in which you should think for yourself, decide for yourself, provide for yourself, and work to serve others in personal or civic ways has ended up as something rather different. This older individualism has turned inward. Now it is about finding the self for yourself, discovering your inner potential for your own benefit, esteeming your self, and developing new ethical rules that serve the discovery of ... the self. (p. 136)

The chapter on our cultural understanding of God is just as good a read. I encourage you to look into this book and the many others available to inform us about how to better understand and relate to those around us.

Pastor Brad

SPECIAL DATES TO NOTE:

- Feb. 21 - Financial Peace University Preview
- Feb. 25 - Game/Dessert Night
- Feb. 28 - Financial Peace University Begins
- Mar. 3 - Women's Retreat at Church
- Mar. 9-11 - Teen Winter Retreat
- Mar. 10 - eBay Class
- Mar. 15 - Casting Crowns Concert
- Mar. 17 - Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?



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FEBRUARY MISSIONARIES



Grace House

Grace House, often called "God's House of Mercy in MetroWest", has been operating for over six years as a ministry of the Grace Evangelical Free Church of MetroWest.

This vital ministry, begun by Pastor Tim Horton and his wife, Allie, provides food, faith, and fellowship to the "least of these" in Framingham, Massachusetts.

At Saturday evening seeker-suppers and Sunday noon meals, many lives have been changed through hearing the message of salvation.

Hot, delicious meals are provided as well as warm clothing and groceries to take home. The need for The Grace House ministry has never been greater as many new faces are now coming.

Pray for financial support for this important ministry and that the Gospel can take root in people's hearts and lives as their physical needs are being met. Information about Grace House can be found on their website:

www.GraceHouseMission.org.

Ed and Janelle Graham



Ed and Janelle Graham are serving in East Asia with Campus Crusade for Christ. Ed attended Georgia Tech where he met Gary and Mary Shaw's son, Micah, a fellow brother in a Christian fraternity on campus.

A trip to Guatemala with Tech's Intervarsity group set in Ed's heart the desire for missions. From 2000-2001, Ed served overseas on a one year assignment in East Asia, but felt that the Lord was calling him to continue overseas because of the great need in that area for a Christian

witness on the college campuses.

After a number of years as a single missionary, God answered Ed's prayer for a wife and he and Janelle, a lovely Christian co-worker from the Philippines, were married. Together they seek to share the gospel of Jesus Christ and provide opportunities for students to grow in faith through Bible studies, support groups, fellowship, and training.

Ed has served in many capacities including campus evangelism, audio/video work, and

technical support on computers for other staff members, as well as training of teams or overseas ministry, and teaching.

Janelle has helped to coordinate training for this year's small group leaders and has assisted new college graduates in their transition into the workplace.

Ed and Janelle are excited to be serving in ministry together, modeling Christ's love to students, many of whom have never heard of Jesus and His gift of salvation.

NEW CLASS FORMING

Financial Peace University (FPU) consists of a 13-week video curriculum—taught by financial expert Dave Ramsey—that incorporates small-group discussions to encourage accountability and discipleship.

Financial Peace University is highly entertaining for everyone, with a unique combination of humor, informative financial advice and biblical messages.

More than one million families have already had their lives changed by attending FPU.

There will be a preview on February 21st starting at 7:00pm.

Classes start February 28th and run through May 22nd from 7:00pm-9:00pm. See Kelvin Wiebe for more information.



LEARN HOW TO SELL ON eBAY

Do you have stuff laying around the house you would like to sell online? Are you an artist wanting a broader consumer base?

Come learn how to buy and sell on eBay, Craigslist and Etsy from an eBay "Power Seller" with over 10 years of experience. During the two

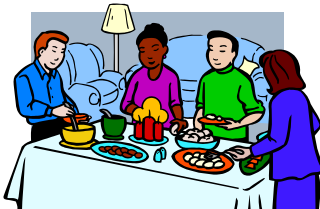
hour course we will cover topics such as: setting up an account, buying and selling, fees, shipping and payment.

I will include an additional 30 minutes after the course to address high volume selling. Bring to class one item you would like to sell.

*Faith Evangelical Free Church
Saturday March 10
10:00am-12:00pm*

\$5 Charge for printed handout. Open to general audience.

For more information and to confirm attendance, contact Kelvin Wiebe.
kelvinew2@yahoo.com



FELLOWSHIP

March 15th

Casting Crowns
7:00pm.

Lowell Memorial Auditorium

If we get enough people, we can get a group rate.

March 24th

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?

You'll find out if you host a dinner. Just provide a main dish and drinks, and your guests will provide the rest.

If you want to attend, you'll bring dessert or a salad.

Let Barb Rasmus know if you wish to host or attend and then find out who you will be dining with.

Hello, Girlfriends!

Wishing you could sneak away for a relaxing time at the beach? We've got the perfect plan!

SeaSide Escape is a relaxing beach-themed retreat the women of our church are doing together. It includes worship, Bible study, and time for laughter as well as time for quiet reflection. You are encouraged to bring your friends.

Registration begins with coffee/tea and snacks at 8:30am on Sat., March 3, with our first session starting promptly at 9:00am. We will finish by 4:30pm. Our retreat will be held at FEFC, and the cost is only \$30 per person, with scholarships available! This covers meals, fun and refreshing activities, gifts, materials, and a mission's project.

Call Mary Shaw at 978-692-2127 or maryshaw@gmail.com for more information.

Take time to relax, make new friends, worship, and bask in the warmth of God's presence. We hope you'll join us at SeaSide Escape.

Warmly,

Mary Shaw

SeaSide Escape Director

Permission to photocopy this resource from Group's SeaSide Escape Women's Ministry Retreat granted for local church use. Copyright © 2011 Group Publishing, Inc., Loveland, CO.



WOMEN'S EXERCISE CLASS

Come and get some great exercise doing Zumba, conditioning, strength training, stretching, and other heart-pounding activities.

This is not a certified Zumba class, but we

will all learn together and have fun doing it!

Tara Kasey will lead classes on Thursdays from 2:30-3:30pm here at the church

FUNNY BONE

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Thanks to Steven Willis (See Genesis 6-8)

01-14-2011

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Thanks to Peter Kuslic

11-15-2010

TECHNICALLY IT'S A ROD ... THINK IT WILL BE OK?

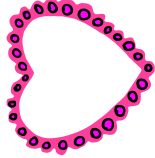
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Thanks to Ondrej Paika (See Matthew 14:24-33)

PETER FINDS HIS FAITH TO BE MUCH STRONGER IN THE WINTER

FEBRUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:45a Joy Bible Study	2 7:30p Prayer Group	3	4 8:00a Men's Ministry
5 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship 11:00a Worship 5:30p RealLife Super Bowl Party	6 9:30a Mom to Mom 7:00p Young Adult: The 72 7:30p Committee Mitgs.	7 9:45a Joy Bible Study	8 9:45a Joy Bible Study 6:00p RL to Life Care	9 7:30p Prayer Group	10	11
12 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship 11:00a Worship 5:30p RealLife	13 9:30a Mom to Mom 6:00p Deacons/Elders Mtg 7:00p Young Adult: The 72	14 	15 9:45a Joy Bible Study 7:00p RL Core Group	16 7:30p Prayer Group	17	18 8:00a Men's Ministry
19 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship 11:00a Worship 5:30p RealLife	20 President's Day Office Closed	21	22	23	24	25 8:00a Men's Breakfast
			School Vacation Week			7:00p Game and Dessert Night
26 8:30a Worship 9:45a Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship 11:00a Worship	27 9:30a Mom to Mom	28	29 9:45a Joy Bible Study 7:00p RL Core Group	7:30p Prayer Group		