



## Happy New Year from FCOG

E-TOUCH NEWSLETTER JANUARY, 2009 ISSUE 1 VOL.1

Wishing you every happiness this Holiday Season and prosperity in the New Year. We look forward to continuing our relationship in the coming year. Blessings!

### *Primitimers* **Senior Adults**

- PRIMETIMERS Senior Adults Ministry

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Praise the Lord for the new growth in our Senior Adult Programs! We have had now about 30 new people attend at least one event since October!

A Hearty WELCOME to all of you who have chosen to join us in some great activities!

All FCOG seniors are always invited.

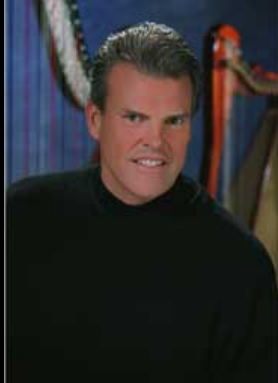
Pick up a program booklet in the church office.

- January 13, at 11:30am - We will begin the New Year with a very lively group - JERRY, THE SINGING DJ and THE DOLLS - who will take us down memory lane with the "golden oldies".  
We will enjoy catered chicken pot pie with members A-L bringing fruit & veggie dishes; members M-Z desserts.  
Let's remember the kids at Hibiscus Children's Center by bringing small gifts- anything that would please a child, age 2-18. Gently worn clothes and school supplies are always appreciated. If you are first time guest, please call the Jerrils to RSVP.
  - January 17 - JUPITER ISLAND LUNCHEON CRUISE  
We leave church parking lot promptly at 8:30am, returning around 4pm.  
Total cost is \$45 per person. There may still be seats available.
- Last but not least:
- January 25, at 4:00pm -  
GET ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR PASTORS' WIVES.  
Special music and ice cream sundaes!

For more information contact Bill & Elaine Jerrils at

[bejerrils@hotmail.com](mailto:bejerrils@hotmail.com) or 772.766.0356

## Greg Buchanan Concert



Greg is a world-class harpist whose enthusiastic jazz-style of playing sets him in a category all by himself, and his heart felt sensitivity when playing the hymns leaves one in absolute awe.

To hear Greg play is a deep spiritual experience that ushers the listener into the very presence of God. Greg is not just a musician; he is a true artist!

He will be playing in our Saturday evening service on January 17th, and also in our Sunday morning services on January 18th. .

His concert will be at the church at 6 pm.

## His Way Cafe

Dive right into the new year with an incredible night of Joy with the soul and gospel sound of "Aretha and the Voices of praise!" You've heard Aretha before as she appeared with James Broxton's band, and she blew the roof off! Now, she's "Our special guest" for the entire evening, Saturday night, January 3rd at 7:30 in the Oasis (youth-wing).

His Way Café, a coffee house for adults 18 and over, has become a favorite date night and meeting place for great music, delicious food supplied by Blessings Bistro, and a choice of gourmet coffees.

Still only \$5.00 at the door!

Free childcare provided for toddlers by calling in advance 562.2256.

Circle the date. You'll find it just behind First Church of God in the Oasis at 1105 58th avenue Vero Beach.



*presents:*  
**Aretha  
 & The Voices  
 of Praise**

**Saturday  
 January, 3rd  
 7:30 p.m.**

\$5.00 donation  
 includes refreshments  
 from: 

adult (18+)  
 Christian Coffeehouse  
 For Child care call  
 in advance @ 562.2256

First Church of God FCOG + 1105 58th Ave Vero Beach, FL 32966

## Women's Ministry



### A Special Treat

Ladies, you won't want to miss this! Jennifer Shaw is coming from Worthington, Ohio to share from her heart through the musical gift God has given her and the life experiences He has allowed to touch her life.

Jennifer is a passionate and skilled musician. Her heart's desire is to share her love story with Christ in music and ministry to women everywhere. Her story will touch your heart and inspire your soul. During the last five years, Jennifer has faced multiple times of turmoil and grief, which brought her to a point of decision. Was her faith a nice accent to her life or the true basis of her life?

Jennifer discovered God's faithfulness in the real darkness and pain of loss and letting go. When she found beauty in the midst of pain, she knew her life would never be the same. She desires nothing more than to glorify Him.

Come and expect to be blessed as Jennifer leads us in worship Thursday, January 15th, beginning sharply at 9 am, in the Oasis. This will be a brief time, just a half hour, to receive from and give back to our God with Jennifer.

**THEN ANOTHER SPECIAL EVENT** with Jennifer on Friday and Saturday, March 13th & 14th. Right here in Vero Beach, we will spend an evening and a day being rejuvenated and

inspired by our God to His glory!

So, come for the preview with Jennifer on Jan. 15th. You won't be able to keep yourself away when she returns for an extended time of sharing in March! Watch for further details as the time draws near.



Jennifer Shaw

## Missions Ministry



"WHOEVER FINDS HIS LIFE WILL LOSE IT, AND WHOEVER LOSES HIS LIFE FOR MY SAKE WILL FIND IT" - JESUS

Following are excerpts from a letter from John Clark (a pseudonym used for safety concerns). He is a Missionary supported by FCOG who risks his life on a daily basis ministering to those ensnared by the "peaceful" religion of Islam.

Dear Praying Friends,

Sometimes I wonder if the angel mentioned in Luke 2:10-11 could have known that the most joyful event in history would also give rise to such great suffering. I looked deep into the eyes of Brother Festus from Sudan. Along with his intense love for Christ, I could see pain as he recounted the persecution and death suffered by his fellow Christians. The fact that these Christians chose to worship Christ was enough for Muslims to bring wave after wave of attack against them.

In spite of all the persecution, and many times because of it, there are many accounts of how the gospel is advancing. One Believer somehow ended up showing the Jesus Film against the side of a mosque. The Imam (Muslim leader) of the mosque was somewhere in the crowd. The time for ritual prayer approached. The Imam demanded that the film be stopped. He climbed a tower to issue the call to prayer. All were surprised at the end of the prayer time when the Imam loudly demanded that the film be continued because he wanted to see how the story ended. God truly does work in mysterious ways.

A local pastor (we'll call him Embe) has a small congregation in Sudan. This nation is 70% Islamic, 25% Animistic and 5% Christian. As his fellowship began to grow, they built a small church. Soon thereafter the church was destroyed by Muslims, and they were warned with death threats if they were to rebuild. Rather than retaliate, they chose to pray for their enemies. The church was rebuilt a second and third time, and at this writing it

again remains in ruins. Embe spoke of several Christian church members being put to death during this time. One thing Embe made clear; they are going to faithfully continue to pray for their enemies, "because that's what Christ would have them do."

As I travel and meet leaders from across the world, accounts of intense persecution are common. In so many parts of the world those who choose to associate with the name of Jesus Christ do so at the risk of their very lives. Having studied, lived among, and intimately known Islamic leaders for more than twenty years, I can attest to the fact that this situation will only grow worse in the foreseeable future. These Islamic leaders HAVE to be reached with the message of peace and salvation through Christ alone.

We so much appreciate FCOG, and love the opportunity of partnering with you in the gospel. Festus and Embe agree that even through persecution and suffering, there is nothing that can compare with the joy of knowing Christ as Savior and Lord.

**Yours in Christ, John Clark Mead & Family**

## Prayer Ministry



A New Year's resolution: It's what we do each year. We make them and then we break them, but you say this year will be different, not so it is not in our nature. There is one thing you can do: pray that this is the year you will read the whole Bible from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22:21.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. II Timothy 3:16-17

Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Joshua 1:8

Did you know that if you read one chapter of Psalm a day you can read the book of Psalm two times in one year? Did you know that if you read one chapter of Proverbs a day you can read the whole book twelve times in one year? Did you know you can read any one of several books in one sitting? Ruth is only four chapters, Joel is three chapters, Obadiah is one chapter, Jonah is four chapters, Nahum is three chapters, Habakkuk is three chapters, Haggai is two chapters, Malachi is four chapters, Philemon is one chapter, II Peter is two chapters, II John is one chapter, III John is one chapter, Jude is one chapter. Here are 13 books you can read in less than two weeks.

You can buy the One Year Bible at the book store. Start each morning in your quiet time to ask the Lord to give you the time to do this. As He talks to you, you can talk to Him. The Holy Spirit will reveal many wonderful things to you.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:1, 2, 14 .

**Mickey M. Fox**

## Adult Education: Mark your calendars!

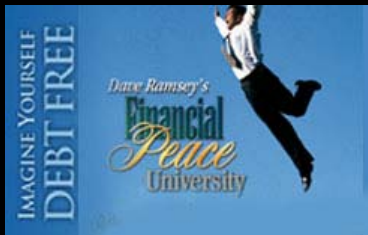


### DISCOVERING GOD'S WAY OF HANDLING MONEY

During this eight week class you will learn practical, proven and biblically based money management principles. Did you know that there are over 2350 verses in the bible that talk about money? This video based study will help you discover God's way of handling money and lead you to His financial freedom in your life, as well as draw you closer to Him. Class will start Jan. 25

Cost \$9 for workbook.

Facilitator: John Becker



### FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

D-51

Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University is a 13 week biblically based video and facilitator led small group study that teaches families to beat debt so they can build wealth, live and give like never before! Class orientation Jan 14, 2009 and class to start Feb 11, 2009

There will be a charge for materials.

Facilitators: Tim and Karen Smith.

### WELCOME CLASS

Join pastor Greg on January 31st. 8:30 am.

Learn about FCOG, your opportunities to grow and how to get connected.

Please contact Kerri T at 562.2256 x223. Registration required.

## In Sympathy with:

Friends & Family of Waldo "Hank" Fish  
Friends & Family on the death of Cinthia Hardy 10/31  
Pauline Hansen on the death of her father Marvin J. Mudd 11/14  
Holt Sutherland on the death of his father John Sutherland 11/9  
Brad & Brian Guinee on the death of his father Marvin Guinee 11/15  
Frances Woodward on the death of her husband Jesse Woodward 12/4  
Joe Johnston on the death of his wife Gladys Johnston 12/5  
Loretta Dangerfield on the death of her sister Gladys Johnston 12/5  
Frances Turcotte on the death of her husband Leo Turcotte 12/13  
Gloria Riepma on the death of husband Paul Riepma 12/17

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