



## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

**Jim Brannon**

Well, how are those New Year resolutions coming along? I wonder if this year's resolutions are much different from the ones of last year. Most people resolve to deal with the same issues they resolved to deal with last year. It reminds me of the man who went to the doctor with both ears badly burned. When the doctor asked what had happened, the man looked somewhat sheepish.

"You see, Doc", he explained, "I was ironing some shirts and had the telephone sitting right beside me. Suddenly the phone rang; but when I went to answer it, I picked up the iron by mistake. And to make it even worse, it was a wrong number."

The doctor was shocked. "That's terrible", he said. "But how did you burn the other ear?"

"That's the worst part," the man moaned. "The guy called back!"

Many of us are burned repeatedly by the same sin. We must remember that true repentance means more than sorrow for what we have done. God defines repentance as a turning away from sin while turning to God. The best thing we could resolve this year would be to yield ourselves to the Holy Spirit's guidance. Give up trying to do it yourself! Quit getting burned!

On another subject...did you know that the sweetest music comes from the smallest birds? As a matter of fact, only the smaller birds are the ones who really sing. You don't hear many beautiful notes from the turkey, the ostrich, the eagle, the crow or the buzzard. But you do hear beautiful music from the canary, the wren, the lark and the mocking bird.

Perhaps we need to learn a lesson from this. Jesus said if a person gives a cup of water in His name, it is significant. Why, then, do we persist in overlooking so many wonderful, little things that count for so much in the work of the kingdom? A note of appreciation or thanks, a hug for a special friend, an errand run for a shut-in, or a smile for the cashier at the grocery store. Don't discount the power of the small things!



## MEN'S MINISTRY

**Cris Alexander**

"What is truth?" Pilate asked this question without waiting for an answer. The reality is that Truth was standing right in front of him and he didn't know it. We read that passage in John 18 and scratch our heads a little, wondering how Pilate could be so dense. Why didn't he get it? Sadly, we're not so different. Truth is hard to come by in our culture. It's a scarce commodity. Many in our culture live such a lifestyle of deceit that they have lost track of reality. Tell a lie often enough and pretty soon it becomes truth, at least to the one telling it.

If there is anything that should characterize a Christian man, it is truth, integrity, honesty. God places great value on our words and will hold us accountable for them. How are we to function in our culture, in our workaday world without "economizing" on the truth a little bit?

We'll talk about that and more at the next RBC Men's Group breakfast and Bible study on Saturday, February 19. We'll eat at 7:30 and open the Word at 8:00. Bring a friend! See you there.

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

**Jeanne Fruh**



"God's prescription for an awakening is 2 Chron., 7:14 'If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin, and heal their land! Prayer is the thermometer of the church. Let's stir up ourselves to take hold of God.'"

Quote taken from "When God Breaks Through" Vance Havner



## YOUTH NOTES

**Radu Pasca**

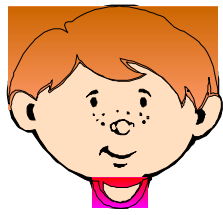
I am so glad that the God of the Christian faith (my God) is not a God of the past but the God of the present. God is more interested in what I will choose NOW than what I did yesterday or last year. That being said, I am looking forward to a new year without the fear that God will bring to my attention the shortfalls of 2010.

Another amazing thing about God is that he is not the God of the old but the God of the new. He is in the business of making new things. God is original. Everything He has made was done without anyone's help, imagination or ideas. God loves to give new years, new days and new hearts.

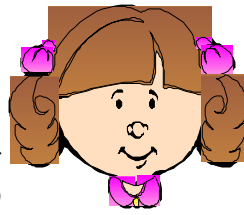
*"God's loyal love couldn't have run out, his merciful love couldn't have dried up. They're created new every morning. How great your faithfulness! I'm sticking with God (I say it over and over). He's all I've got left."* (Lamentations 3:22-23 The Message)

*"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh."* (Ezekiel 36:26 NIV)

God has created new and good things for us to experience in 2011. In fact, He has planned something special for each one of us. Those things are ready, waiting for us to walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10) However, we won't be able to embrace the new things God has prepared for us in 2011 unless we let go of the old things that we may still have in our hands.



## **KIDSTUFF** **Kathy Sanders**



Please don't shake your head and wad this up

when you read my next line - it's time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School! I will be picking the curriculum in the next couple of weeks and starting the recruiting process soon thereafter. This year's dates are June 27 - July 1. Be thinking and praying about how you can be involved. Teaching? Crafts? Recreation? Snacks? Skits? We have so many ways for you to help. Since a certain grandbaby is due to make an appearance later this spring, I'm going to do my best to have all workers recruited, curriculum distributed and be well into the planning process. Mark your calendars!

Completion of the playground and toddler/baby rooms construction are still in the works. We're plugging away on our interior construction projects and are waiting on the city for permission to fence our playground. We're also going to be working on the room by the front doors - reviving our children's library and creating a quiet corner for nursing moms. If you have any belongings in that front room, please remove immediately or they will find a new home in the dumpster. We are starting spring cleaning early!!

Don't forget about PraiseKIDS on Sunday nights from 6-7 PM. I'm really looking forward to hearing them sing this spring!

## **AWANA** **Cheryl and Steve**

If you have been around the church on Wed. night then you've seen the excitement! The children have been having a great time and are doing a wonderful job of "hiding God's word in their hearts."

We have a great group of people leading our 3 clubs: Cubbies, Sparks and T and T. Our game leaders have helped the kids to learn new and challenging games and channel their energy.

Several of our youth help out as listeners, helpers, and with record keeping as well as doing a skit each night to explain our special upcoming events. I am so thankful and grateful for each person's faithfulness and dedication. We are always looking for those who are willing to serve with us. We are in need of at least 1 adult who is willing to help us with our T and T club. Please let us know if you are interested in joining us.



## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY** **Julie Zgorzynski**

The Women's activity for January was a "Refreshing Moments" time. Many that shared had an enjoyable massage experience.

SECOR's Food Closet items for February are tomato sauces and canned fruits. Thanks for your generous support.

CardMakers will meet on Monday, February 7, at 6:30. We've been meeting in the kitchen.

Start watching the bulletin for updates on the upcoming In-House Retreat on March 11-12th

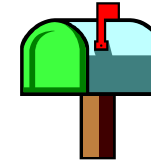
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**Redeemer Baptist Church**  
**18800 E. Iliff Ave.**  
**Aurora, CO 80013**

# **Redeemer Reflections**

*A Newsletter of Redeemer Baptist Church*  
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*February 2011*



Sorry for the lack of a newsletter last month, but it just didn't make it far enough up on the list of priorities to get done. Nobody to blame but me!

January has passed with the proverbial "blur" and February is bearing down on us with a vengeance. We have two banquets scheduled and the youth have their annual winter retreat. Sandy and I will be traveling to Phoenix to visit with family.

Our playground has been sitting in limbo waiting for our city fathers to give us clearance for a fence permit. The playground with all equipment has been in place for over a month as the bureaucratic wheels grind slowly. Now that our weather has turned really cold and the ground has frozen, we may have to wait a few weeks to finish up. Certainly by Spring, the little ones will have a nice, secure place to play.

We have had some vandalism to our property. For some unknown reason, somebody stole a bunch of the letters from our church sign. Don't know what they wanted with them but it amounts to a \$1,000 repair. Then several middle school students threw rocks through two of our entry doors. Another \$650 repair. Since these kids were identified, we will get reimbursement for the door repair. I suppose that we should be grateful that this is a first for this kind of thing in the 7+ years that we have been out here on the hill.

Don't know about you but I've about had all the global warming I can enjoy! It's cold! We are looking at a high temp of 2 degrees tomorrow and a low of -13 in the evening. Hard to believe that it was 68 degrees last Friday.

As I reflect back over last year, it was an unbelievably blessed time. In the midst of economical recession and trauma, we had the best financial year of our history. God added many precious members to our fellowship and our spirit of harmony continues to be precious. Thank you Jesus!!