



HERITAGE BIBLE CHURCH of BAKERSFIELD

# Spread the Word

Sharing God's faithfulness, yesterday, today and tomorrow



JANUARY

## January Dates

2 Church Office Closed

10 School Uniform Sale

11 Wednesday Night  
Family Activities

Resume

17 Drive Thru Dinner  
Pick Up

26 HCS Fine Arts  
Festival

27 Lead One Training  
Event

29 Annual Owners  
Meeting

### Coming Up:

Feb 10 Date Night  
Challenge

Feb 26 Youth Room  
Open House

March 1 HCS Open  
House

March 2 That's Amore`

March 3-4 Missions  
Emphasis Weekend

March 18 HBC Youth  
Auction

April 13-14 MCC Sale

April 21 Real World  
Parenting Class

# Date Night Challenge



Plan to join us for a wonderful evening to encourage marriages as Heritage Bible Church presents the Date Night Challenge. This evening is meant for two: your mate and you! The date is February 10, 2012, time is 6:00 PM. The evening will include a catered dinner, a program from Focus on the Family (presented in video format) that includes speaker Dr. Greg Smalley, comedian Jeff Allen, and musician Michael O'Brien. There will be prizes to win, childcare for your kids (including a pizza

dinner and a movie geared just for them), and candlelight and romance geared just for you.

The date is February 10, 6:00 PM in the HBC auditorium. Tickets are \$40 per couple.

Be present to win a cruise to Alaska! Ok, there won't be a cruise giveaway, but be present to win big points for being a great spouse, and come enjoy a wonderful event that will encourage you both and bless your family. Date your mate on February 10th. See you there!

Here are some ideas for great inexpensive dates with your honey that will save you lots of cash without skimping on the romance.

-Eat a simple, nutritious dinner at home, and then go out for a truly decadent dessert.

-Pick wildflowers together.

-Go for a bike ride, hike, or run together.

-Pack a picnic lunch and go to the park or the zoo.

-Take a class together in something fun and creative: glass blowing, pottery, drawing, creative writing or photography.

-Browse a bookstore together.

-Attend a local high school or college sports game.

-Take a road trip to a nearby town, or even another neighborhood in your own city.

-Stroll around, talk with locals, have a drink at a local café.

-Read aloud to each other from a favorite novel, poem or short story.

-Attend a theater performance put on by your local college or community group.

-Go to a flea market or garage sale.

-Attend a local lecture on a subject of interest to both of you.

-Send the kids to someone else's house and stay in and cook together.

-Have a water balloon fight in the park.

### **NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK**

Taking place February 7-14 every year, National Marriage Week USA is a collaborative effort to strengthen individual marriages, reduce the divorce rate and build a stronger marriage culture, which in turn helps curtail poverty and benefits children. Together we can make more impact than working alone. To learn more, [www.nationalmarriageweekusa.org](http://www.nationalmarriageweekusa.org).

## CHURCH HEALTH ASSESSMENT

We want to express our gratitude again for your contribution to the Church Health Assessment conducted by Titus Solutions. The questionnaires you submitted and the interviews that were conducted, contributed to the Church Health Assessment Report that we received early in December.

While few of us were surprised by the general content of the report, we were all dismayed by the severity of our weaknesses. There are some wonderful things happening in and through HBC. We are very healthy in some ways. But the report has some strong things to say about our weaknesses. We were humbled.

We acknowledge to you that our leadership has been lack-



ing. As we went through a transition a few years ago we came across as insensitive and uncaring at times. Sometimes we did not cherish our relationship with the congregation enough and we put program or strategy above relationship. Some of the congregation was hurt by these actions. We are sorry and desire to change. When love is not nurtured among us as a community of faith the world does not see Jesus. Will you forgive us?

We are praying for God to renew our church family and to begin with us as elders. It is our desire that the church family pray with us as we reflect on the CHA Report, that we would hear God's voice before we respond. God is already bringing renewal to our church family. We have received a number of words of encouragement, confession, and expressions of forgiveness.

While we have not decided with clarity on the steps that will move us forward from here, I anticipate it may look a little like the following after our next meeting on 1/17:

- We will prayerfully continue to address the hurt present in our congregation and discuss how we can raise HBC's value of prayer.
- We will discuss how to implement a church culture where we deal with differences and offenses with an attitude of redemption, as peacemakers.
- We will address specific concerns that have been expressed regarding our pastors and elders.
- We will incorporate other data from the Natural Church Development survey, PRECEPT profile, and possibly other professionals to expand our understanding of life at Heritage Bible Church.

## GETTIN' IN ON THE FRONT END



In January, when most are thinking about winter, we children's pastors are thinking about VBS!

A few weeks ago I received the starter kit for our 2012 VBS slated for July 23-27, 2012. This year's theme is "Sky: Everything is Possible with God." I have been going over the director's kit and the catalog to get an idea about what our needs will be for this summer. Keep an eye out of VBS displays, bulletin inserts, or announcements about how you can help.

There are always items that you could donate to help up defray the cost of this amazing, labor intensive event. Lasts summer we had

a whopping 234 kids attend VBS at Heritage. Of that 234 kids, only half were from the church family or Heritage Schools. Our goal this summer is to top that number and reach 250 kids, and I know we can do it! This we want to draw even more kids to HBC to teach them how much God loves them!

Now if you want to know how you can help, on February 5th at 12:00 PM, right after church, we will host you at our VBS planning meeting. Lunch will be served, and it will be wonderful! We have to start early if we are going to finish well. Come find out more about our program and how you can help reach even more kids for Jesus.



- We will discuss what Biblical truths need to be emphasized over the next few years.
- We will begin to prayerfully focus on a renewed vision for what God wants to do in and through Heritage Bible Church.

This entire process will take a few months with some aspects becoming continual through the years ahead. You may not hear much from us in the next couple of months while we work on the redemptive process but as the spring months approach we will share more and solicit your feedback and cooperation.

This is a critical season in the life of our church family. We are dependent upon your prayers for renewal and wisdom.

Pastor Dave Froese  
Board of Elders

# NO-SEW FLEECE SCARF



Winter is a difficult time for people in need so make this scarf to help someone stay warm.

## What you need:

- Medium-weight polar fleece, 60' standard width (a 9' portion will make one scarf)
- Scissors
- An adult to help

## What you do:

1. Cut a piece of medium-weight polar fleece to the size of 60' x 9'. Cut the fabric across its width so the material is stretchy.
2. Trim off the edge binding. To add "fringe" along each end, make a 6"-long cut every half inch.
3. For curly fringe, pull each strand and then let go sharply. Another attractive option is to tie an overhand knot at the top of each strip.
4. Donate your scarf to a local group that helps people in need. For greater impact, encourage your Sunday school classmates or other friends to make scarves, too.

## The Coolest Room on Campus is About to Get Cooler!

Often considered the coolest room on campus, the HBC Youth Room is about to get cooler. Just before Christmas, a team began a remodel program consisting of building a platform for a staging area, painting, refurbishing the youth room furnishings, and adding to the functionality and "cool factor" of the room with additional features.

Pastor Joe Brown has worked with a number of people including school administrative staff, design, electrical, and construction professionals, and good old fashioned volunteers to accomplish the task. With full approval of the Stewardship Commission, Pastor Joe and team have been plotting and planning to squeeze the biggest bang for their budget bucks to spruce up the room where the youth meet. This room does double duty as a classroom, chapel, and band room during the school day so it sees a great deal of use. And with kids in the room, it certainly gets a great deal of wear and tear.

An open house celebration is scheduled for Youth Sunday, February 26, to reveal the updated room to the church family. Plan to join us for a youth-style lunch event as we celebrate the blessing of all the youth in our ministry who need a place to hang out; and also the blessing of a great place for them to come to and learn about our marvelous God!



Julissa Mosley on the ladder learning about drywall.



With stuff moved to the middle, remodeling begins for platform.

## DRIVE THRU DINNER Benefitting Heritage Schools

Cost: \$32

Payment Due: January 9 in the school office

Pick up Date: January 13 in the west parking lot by the church office.

This month's meal will be a casserole, bread and salad from Bonnie's Best Cafe

# Thank you!

## Women's Ministry News

*From My Corner*

By Michelle Welch



Dear Heritage Family,

Thank you for the gift you sent us for Christmas this year. We appreciate your generosity. Your gift will help us make our Christmas celebration extra special. Blessings and love, Randy and Holly Canada and family

Dear HBC,

...I was laid off last summer, shortly after my husband had knee surgery... he has been off work five months (recovering). We are blessed with your gift! God is good. Merry Christmas, Ritchie and Jodi Buford

HBC,

Thank you so VERY much for the gift card. We have been richly blessed by this gift... Keith and Emilee Powell

Dear HBC,

Thank you for the food (gift) cards. I've already gone up a dress size! Warmed in the presence of (his) love,

Joan Hammond

Much thanks HBC for your Christmas in October gift! It always comes at the perfect time! Blessings in the New Year!

Jenny Johnson



January 11 is the kick-off date for the Winter quarter Women's Bible Study. We will be diving in to the book of James, using the Beth Moore study guide, "James: Mercy Triumphs". Cost of the book is \$20. \$2 a week and the book will be paid for when class concludes. If you prefer to simply come and watch the videos and skip the homework book, you are welcome to do so. Worksheets will be available for note taking.

The auditorium doors open at 6:15 PM, class begins promptly at 6:30 PM. Come early and enjoy refreshments the first evening, and spend some time catching up with each other as we return from Christmas holiday break. This promises to be a wonderful time in the Word.

### KIDS MINISTRY CONFERENCE

The Kids Pastor's Conference is scheduled for February 27-March 1 in San Diego. This conference draws not only pastors, but all kinds of children's ministries workers. If your thing is ministry to kids, you should consider attending. Encouragement, instruction, inspiration are available in abundance. You will come away with a sense of affirmation to your call to kids ministry. A team attendance at this event would be an excellent way to build the HBC Child Ministry team, and you will come home with some free stuff! Call Pastor David to sign up.

If you are like me, you had at least one moment in the last two weeks of December where you blinked and glanced over your shoulder, wondering what just happened. Whew! It felt like Christmas whizzed on by like a whistle stop train!

I did get to enjoy a local performance of the Nutcracker with my daughter, and Christmas dinner with my family was precious time, indeed. Though I have to admit my son Mark brought a turkey that put mine to shame. He has the roasted turkey down to a delectable science!

I guess this is a sure sign I am getting older, because this year, I just couldn't bring myself to dig out all that Christmas décor boxed away in my garage. Instead I used some delightfully fragrant bay laurel branches from Amy Wagner's back yard to fashion wreaths and table centerpieces. I added pine cones from my pine tree, and that was that. The up side was not having to pack it all away afterward. I simply tossed the cones and tucked away the bay leaves for future cooking

adventures. My sister thought that was almost sacrilegious, not putting up a Christmas tree. I don't know about that, But I survived the Christmas season without a tree and I had plenty of time to read through Luke, dwelling on the story of Jesus birth. What a blessing.

Now as I look to the new year, I am excitedly anticipating the women's Bible study in James. The challenge issued by Beth Moore in her study guide is to choose one of five levels of participation: 1. simply come and watch the weekly videos; 2. Watch videos and complete homework; 3. Video, homework, and handwrite the book of James; 4. Video, homework, write out the book of James and read extra challenge articles; or 5. the afore mentioned plus memorizing the book of James.

I confess I am afraid to say I will memorize, because I do not trust my memory for such a task. Still, I am drawn to the thought of memorizing such a precious book. In any case, there are options for all, *and you are welcome to join us at any level you choose*. Please come!



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Submit articles for publication to [hbc@heritagebible.us](mailto:hbc@heritagebible.us). All submissions subject to editing.

Worship Services - Sunday 9:00am & 10:45am, Adult Bible Classes 9:00am & 10:45am Youth Sunday mornings 9:00 AM only

Children's Sunday School - 9:00am & 10:45am ~ Church office hours Mon. thru Fri. -8:00am - 5:00pm except holidays

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