

CHURCH Epistle

Bruce M. Humbert,
Pastor

A Monthly Newsletter for Our Members

Volume 17, Number 12

DECEMBER
2010

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Celebrate CHRISTMAS 2010

Celebrate CHRISTMAS! *“...she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.”* Join the Sauk Trail Baptist Temple Music Department as we take a look back at the events surrounding the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. No other season of the year brings as much joy as Christmas and no other reason for our joy could be as great as the redemption that God has provided through Jesus Christ.

December 12, 2010 – *“Joy Story”* A Christmas Musical Fantasy set in a wonderful place called The Joy Store. It is the ultimate toy store where the toys are priceless and the joy is free! Follow the toys as they step down from their shelves and into your heart to teach you about the Scarlet Thread that weaves its way through the Bible, tracing a path from God to man, and showing us the real reason for Christmas. Come along on this musical adventure on December 12, 2010, as the children of Sauk Trail Baptist Temple present *“Joy Story”*, and discover that God always gives power to those who will tell His story.

Mrs. Gass and the other directors will be hosting a pizza party and sound check for the kids December 11 from 4:15 to 5:00 PM, followed by a dress rehearsal from 5:00 – 8:30 PM.

December 19, 2010 – *“Candlelight Carols”* will be a night of Song, Scripture, and Candlelight. The Music Department of STBT, under the direction of Bric Bolin, will host an evening of Carols and Scripture concluding with a time of commitment in a candlelight service. No gift you receive this year will be nearly as precious as the one you will receive on December 19, 2010 as the musicians of Sauk Trail Baptist Temple present *“Candlelight Carols”*.

On December 18, from 4:00 – 7:00 PM, there will be a dress rehearsal. All involved in the musical, are encouraged to be in attendance.

December 26, 2010 –Join us as our Pastor brings a special Christmas message. Come at 9:00 AM for Sunday School / Adult Bible Classes. Then at 10:00 AM join us in our Worship Service as Bro. Bric and the Music Department lead us before the throne of God. At 6:00 PM join us for an evening of praise celebrating Christ’s birth.

PARSON TO PERSON

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

December is such a busy month! But, if you can live through it, it is a blast! This Saturday is the Victorian Tea. With nearly 200 ladies attending last year on the balcony, we have moved them down to the auditorium. The new location and the new day, Saturday, will allow more space and more time to enjoy this precious event.

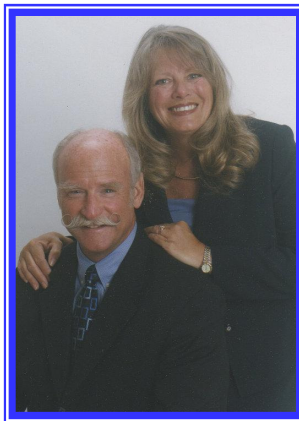
Next Sunday, December 12th at six o'clock, Melody Gass' Junior Choir will be presenting, "Joy Story." Several parents have told me that it is really a cute musical and worthy of your visitors coming to see.

The Choir and Orchestra will be presenting "Candlelight Carols" at 6 PM December 19th. I wonder if Christina has a solo since it is her birthday ... even if she doesn't, it is going to be a beautiful evening your friends and family will enjoy as well.

Several Christmas Parties are scheduled this month also. Saturday, December 11th the Homebuilders Class will be hiring babysitters so the young couples can have a delicious lunch and "adult" conversation and still get back in time for their little ones to practice for the Junior Choir program that night. The Pilgrims are going to Cedar Lake that Saturday night for a meal and a concert. They are inviting anyone that wants to join them. The cost is \$27 per person. See Brother John Musser if you are interested.

AWANA & Junior Church are hosting a party for the workers and their families on Friday night December 17th. The teens are taking their annual Christmas Shopping Trip Saturday December 4th. I hope they remember 'size large' for "You know who!"

Let's not allow what man has to sell overshadow what God has given! Many cliché's are really truths that have become vain repetitions. Jesus IS the reason for the season! The Son of God became the Son of man so that sons of men could become sons of God!



OUR TRIP TO KOREA

was the best missions trip I have taken yet. A big part of that was because I physically felt so good. In fact, I felt better those three weeks than I have in three years! Ray Redmon says it is because I had cabbage every day for breakfast . . . he may be right, but I am just thankful God allowed me to be on my A-game for the trip. You know

what I mean jelly-bean . . . it just feels good to feel good, Amen? Thanks for praying.

Some of our lasting memories include: The beauty of the country is picturesque; the mountains and the countryside are breathtaking. The cities are congested, but so clean! We did not see any graffiti, vandalism, trash, cans and bottles littering the city's worst streets. Even the people were dressed neatly, and in many cases were dressed very sharply. Most men wear suits and ties to church . . . not just the pastors, deacons, and choir members! I did not see one teenager in blue jeans! In fact, when we were in the airport awaiting our flight, we commented how every man had a suit and tie on . . . until a group of Americans came in . . . blue jeans, sloppy shirts, and (hate to say it) way overweight. The beauty of nature and cleanliness of the city was impressive.

The South Koreans are very beautiful people. First of all, they love Americans. They are still so grateful for the USA (General Douglas MacArthur) preserving their nation and liberty! Secondly, they respect preachers like they do a country's president or king. They not only listen, take notes, and do what the preacher says, but they also go out of their way to assist, honor, and bless him. I have never experienced anything quite like that . . . we were a little embarrassed at times with their kindness. Thirdly, they are a working people. From early morning to late at night, the majority are busy working.

I'll share some good stories later.

PARSON HUMBERT

Memory Verse December 5

*"Who is like unto thee,
O LORD, among the
gods? Who is like thee,
glorious in holiness,
fearful in praises,
doing wonders?"*

Exodus 15:11

GETTING TO KNOW YOU by DONNA NAJEWSKI

Don't all parents have some type of faith in their children? Parents have faith that their child can do well in school or in sports. They have faith that they'll try their best. Parents have faith in their children. Can you imagine how strong Mary's faith must've been to be able to realize the importance of her son? This Christmas season, let's all put our faith in the Christ child and let all of our souls magnify the Lord as we join in Mary's song of praise, found in Luke 1:47-55, *And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior...*



I have had the privilege of knowing the parents of **and** that of watching our GTKY candidates grow up and I'm certain they've exceeded their parents hopes and expectations! Jonathan and Kathleen Vanderbilt were married on June 5, 2009, at Riverside Baptist Church, in Kankakee, and are both thankful to have been raised in the church and having their families serve beside them. But, most importantly, "by the grace of God, meeting, dating and marrying each other!"

Jonathan Mark Vanderbilt was born on April 18, 1984, and was adopted by Mark and Juli Vanderbilt. Not only did he have a loving, older sister, Erin, but the family soon learned that Jon's biological grandfather is, Evangelist Herb Brail. As a young boy, Jon was saved at home in his bedroom and baptized on a Wednesday night by Bro. Mark Alt. Jon states, "I've been able to grow in faith because of the Godly leadership and influences through out the years." He has been at STBT for 26 years and is involved in such ministries as security, Awana, and Sunday School teacher for Preschool and Kindergarten. Today, Jon makes his living as a Career Facilitator, but his hobbies are: softball, basketball, soccer, football, fishing and snowboarding! He has traveled to the Bahamas and Castaway Key and did some cliff diving in both Puerto Rico and in Hawaii, while attending Jimmy and Amanda Paul's wedding. Jon would love to visit Alaska someday; but, the most unusual place he's visited was the only rain forest in North America.

Kathleen Christine Vanderbilt was born on November 22, 1984, at Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn, Illinois. On August 6, 1992, she was saved at VBS, taught by Melody Gass, and was baptized on August 12th, in the "original" baptistry. Kathleen serves in two ministries with her Mom, Greta Hoving, in choir and as a LIFT officer; but she has also taught Kindergarten Sunday School for 3 years and is T & T leader in Awana. Kathleen says, "Since growing up at STBT, I've grown in every way. I was the shy girl who never did Bible Drills, lessons or anything that involved 'speaking', and I'm *still* growing!" Today, Kathleen is a homemaker and does house cleaning as side work; but, her hobbies are watching college and NFL games with hubby and traveling anywhere in the car! The most adventurous thing she's done, was to explore the El Portal Rain Forest in Puerto Rico on her honeymoon. You might be surprised to learn that Kathleen loves to iron and clean, but would love to one day do massage therapy out of her home.

We conclude our interview with favorite life verses for our featured couple: Kathleen lists James 3:5-18, 4:6-11 and Psalms 46 as, "three sections of verses that have been eye-openers or comfort to me during hard times with others or the loss of a family member." Jonathan sites Job 23:10: *But He knoweth the way I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.* "Because if we walk in the will of God, we are immortal until God has finished his work in and through us."

Memory Verse December 12

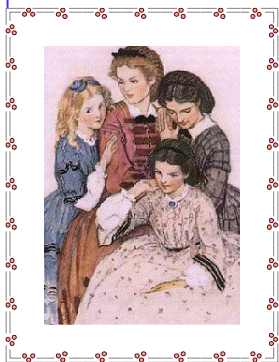
"For who in the heaven can be compared unto the LORD? who among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD?"

Psalm 89:6

LORES TO OUR LADIES

by LAURIE HUMBERT

Before I go any further, I must first express my appreciation to all those who have helped out with the many different projects and ministry opportunities that have been going on nonstop throughout the Fall until this Christmas Season. I pray God's blessing upon you all!!



Ladies, I sure hope that all of you have invited friends and turned in your reservation for the **Victorian Tea & Cookie Exchange** to be held on Saturday, Dec. 4th at 11:00 AM.

Another function (& yes, it will be FUN!) we have for the ladies is our **LIFT Christmas Party**. It will be held at my home (7215 W. James Lane, Monee) on December 20th at 7:00 PM. Please sign up at the Information Center to bring an appetizer or dessert. Among the festivities, we will have an optional \$5.00 gift exchange. I hope to see you there!

Memory Verse December 19

"To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?"

Isaiah 40:18

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

December 1	Enrique Gonzalez	December 17	Jim Janda
December 2	Gale Bain		Jim Torres
December 3	Linda Jackson	December 18	Dawn Gename
	Jessica Portillo		Jonathan Wegerson
December 4	Marlissa Capen	December 19	Christi Ellis
December 5	Amy Erbeck		Joel Mach
	Bill Tallarita	December 20	Deryl Banks
	Justine Asas		Joyce Crittenden
December 6	Mary Leintz	December 21	Sue Cole
December 7	Patty Grupp		Hailey Elliot
	Darion Hawkins		Max Elliot
	Joy Hill	December 22	Noemi Roberts
December 9	Rolland Smith	December 23	Beth Griffin
December 10	Ruben Vargas		Isaac Rietveld
December 11	Rose Bell	December 24	Marian Christensen
	Debby Gossett	December 25	Hannah Donovan
	Lisa Pinelli		Esther Tallarita
December 13	Andy Davis	December 28	John Boner
	Tom Novosel		Bruce Plumley
December 14	Dave Tucker		Alice VanRyn
December 15	Jenny Werner	December 29	Starlin Holmes
December 16	Allison Davis	December 30	Rick Stone
		December 31	Cheryl Weiser

'Tis the season to be jolly! We are already approaching the Christmas break and we have plenty to be happy about! We started the year off with a restructuring of the club night. This has allowed each of our clubs to have a night that is unique to them. No more sharing of space for games or council time except for the special nights like when **Our Favorite Pastor Humbert** is speaking. To date, we have had seven recorded salvations and we Praise the Lord for that!

We will be saddened this Christmas season to say goodbye to the Banks family who have been visiting while their father is in Afghanistan. But Dad is coming home and everybody is happy about that. Our leaders will be holding our annual Awana / Jr. Church Christmas potluck dinner and game night on December 17th from 6pm to 9pm. It is for all leaders of both ministries and their children.

Here are some dates to remember:

- December 2nd ~ What I-Wanna Be Night
- December 16th ~ Awana Store is open,
- December 17th ~Leaders Pot Luck / Game Night.
- December 23rd and 30th ~ **NO CLUB**
- January 6th ~ Club resumes with Team Color Night!



For myself, and for everyone in Awana, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

by *JIM PAUL*

Reflecting on The Family Fun Fest

The Family Fun Fest, held on 10-10-10, was a ground breaking, first time event for the Sauk Trail Baptist Temple. God accomplished much through our efforts . Here are some highlights:



- We had over 500 in attendance
- There was over 100 visitors
- We passed out 26,000 flyers
- There was 1 saved
- There was a 10 minute sermon by Pastor
- Good Adult Bible Class participation
- 1 added to the membership

This day reminded me of the night we started AWANA. That night we had a total of 47 children. Because of God's hand in the ministry and the efforts of many we reached a high of over 225 children. Somebody said numbers don't count, but they do - they represent souls that need to hear about Jesus.

What an opportunity to build on the event for next year! Thank you to all the people that participated in making this great. Especially thanks to the teachers who displayed great leadership for their classes, and Dominic and Tony Tallarita.

Memory Verse *December 26*

"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me."

Isaiah 46:9

COMING EVENTS

December 2010

- 4 Victorian Tea
- 11 Jr. Choir Rehearsal
- 12 Jr. Choir Program
- 18 Adult Choir & Orchestra
Rehearsal
- 19 Adult Choir & Orchestra
Program
- 20 L.I.F.T. Party @ Humbert Home
- 25 Merry Christmas!
- 26 Teen Winter Camp (26 - 29)

January 2011

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 6 Awana Begins Again
- 8 Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 17 L.I.F.T.
- 26 Annual Business Meeting
- 30 Camp Registration

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Printed by:

Printing Service of
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THERE ARE FOUR THINGS YOU MUST KNOW

1. All have sinned... Romans 3:10 & Romans 3:23
2. The Penalty for sin is death & hell ... Romans 6:23 & Luke 16:23
3. Jesus died to pay for our sins ... Romans 5:8
4. Jesus invites you to be saved today ... Romans 10:13

Service Times:

Sunday School 9:00 AM ♦ Morning Worship 10:00 AM ♦ Evening Praise 6:00 PM ♦ Wednesday 7:30 PM

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THAT THE WORLD
MAY
KNOW
JOHN 17:23

