

# Chatham Bible Church *Connections*

February 2012

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## **The Pastor's Pen**

by Pastor Dave Greiner

**T**ell me a story!

Two generations have beckoned me to tell them stories. First my kids, and now their kids. It's actually been one of my favorite activities with both younger generations, getting them all tucked in and then letting my imagination go wild. A flying gerbil named Buster for my kids. A flying pig named Barnabas for my grandkids. When I knew I'd be away for a week or two when my kids were younger, I'd tape stories that Maureen could play for the kids once they were ready for bed. I also developed a whole repertoire of stories using an assortment of their stuffed animals, and they delighted in watching them "come alive" in dialogue and, at times, strange activities!

Enjoying stories is not limited to children. I love a good story, don't you? God actually created us with that innate delight. How do I know? Because one half of the Old Testament is written in narrative (story) form. Not to be outdone, the New Testament, thanks to the four biographers of Jesus (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), as well as the book of Acts, also utilizes this genre of narrative in about one half of its content.

No one, outside of the Lord Jesus Christ, appears in more stories than King David. And no Biblical character is portrayed with such a variety of portraits. Think of how many different snapshots we have of David: David the shepherd boy, David the warrior, David the hunted, David the psalmist, David the musician, David the king, David the sinner, David the man after God's own heart.

No other character is seen as we see David, in the complete spectrum of the highest mountain top to the lowest of the lows. No one else ever opened his heart

up for us to peer into his innermost depths, as David. No one else left us with 75 psalms. Perhaps David is one of our favorite Biblical characters because he is so relatable to us. He's real. He was flesh and blood, like we are. He had great days, and terrible days, just like us. He pleased God often, and he grieved Him as well. Just like us.

In February I will begin a new sermon series on David. We'll look at the numerous David stories, and also some of his psalms, integrating them in the time periods in which he wrote them. You may want to begin reading through 1 and 2 Samuel.

I leave you with this insight from Pastor Eugene Peterson's "Leap Over a Wall:"

"Story is the primary way in which the revelation of God is given to us. The Holy Spirit's literary genre of choice is story. Story isn't a simple or naïve form of speech from which we graduate to the more sophisticated, 'higher' languages of philosophy or mathematics, leaving the stories behind for children and the less educated. From beginning to end, our Scriptures are primarily written in the form of story...

"Moses told stories; Jesus told stories; the four Gospel writers presented their good news in the form of stories. And the Holy Spirit weaves all this storytelling into the vast and holy literary architecture that reveals God to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in the way that He chooses to make Himself known. Story. To get this revelation right, we enter the story."

And I believe John Calvin got it right when he wrote in his commentary on the 28th Psalm, "Let us therefore remember that David is like a mirror, in which God sets before us the continual course of His grace."

## Reality Check

by Pastor Al Fuller

Some questions have been rattling in my brain for the past few weeks. Mind if I ask them of you? Of course you don't. And if you do, well, I am going to ask anyway. How many of you have been discipled by someone? How many of you are currently discipling someone? How many are currently being discipled?

"And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'" -Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV)

Jesus commanded the disciples to "go and make disciples." Not "live nice, comfortable lives and think about Me on the weekends and major holidays." Not "go and make converts," but disciples. Jesus demonstrated this in His time spent intensely with 12 men for 3 years. It was on the apostle Paul's heart as well as he wrote some final words to Timothy.

"You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."

-2 Timothy 2:1-2 (ESV)

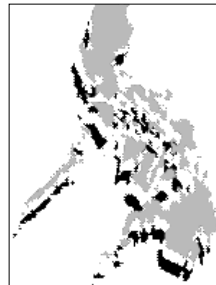
The first thing Paul makes clear is that he and Timothy have a close personal relationship, in that there is trust as they have co-labored together and apart. Discipling should be personal. This is why it is difficult to just mash people together and say "go and disciple." It should flow naturally. It should be something that fits. The problem is we are not focused

on making disciples. We are too concerned with our own successes and failures.

Paul then tells Timothy to "entrust." Another word might be "impart." Give this away. Raise up the next generation. As Paul has poured his life into Timothy, now Timothy must invest into other "faithful men," who then are to continue to pass the knowledge of the Gospel to others.

Follow me as I follow Christ. Paul was not just preaching to the masses and hoping for the best when it comes to discipleship. He poured his life into others. Why? Because Christ commanded it. We cannot simply sit idly by and hope that someone asks us to disciple them, or offers to disciple us. This has to be a priority, to reproduce what has been poured into us.

Hang in there. We are all in this together.



### **Very Special Missionary Guests Becky Martin & Marissa on the work of MSV in the Philippines**

Sunday, February 5  
1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.  
Preceded by lunch, 12:30 p.m.

Becky Martin, U.S. Facilitator for the Mindanao Strategic Vision (MSV), and Marissa, Executive Director of Bridge of Life Foundation, Inc. (BOLFI) from the Philippines, will share about the work the Lord is doing on the Island of Mindanao among local tribes. Chatham has supported two MSV missionary teams for several years. Becky and Marissa always have fascinating stories, and great matters of prayer and praise! Childcare will be provided for nursery through age 6.

We'll have lunch catered by Bandana's Bar-B-Que at 12:30 p.m. for those staying for the afternoon program. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. We'll also ask a small fee to help pay for the catering. Please contact the church office by February 2 to R.S.V.P.

## From the Elders

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by Kendal Walton

As I sit down to write this article, the following verses from Colossians 3 popped immediately to mind:

“So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience...”

-Colossians 3:12 (NAS)

There's a lot packed in those two little verses.

Pause. Think for a moment over the last 24 hours. Think about your interactions with your spouse, your children, your parents, your roommate, your co-workers.

When people complain, do we listen out of patience and compassion, or do we wish they would stop their griping? When requests or demands come at us, do we respond out of kindness and gentleness, or does our selfish desire to have our own way drive us to a sharp response?

This is what we are called to since “He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” (Colossians 1:13-14, NAS)

This is just a quick reminder to respond in ways that are consistent with our Lord's wonderful example to us.

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## Care for a Building, Honor One Another

by Tim Menke

“But Jesus called them to him and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.’”

-Matthew 20:25-28 (ESV)

The Lord calls us to serve one another, and cleaning up after ourselves is one way we can embrace the intent of this teaching. In an effort to ensure that we care for the facility, and honor one another and the Lord as we use this facility, the elders have developed some guidelines that will keep us accountable for our

actions. We trust that our adherence to these guidelines will contribute to harmony within the body and to our mutual sanctification as we live life together.

These guidelines are:

1) When an event is scheduled, check the church calendar for availability. If possible, contact the church office to put it on the calendar. Remember that scheduled events take precedence over unscheduled events.

2) If over 50 people are to be involved in the event, call Jim and Debbie Goldsmith, Chatham's custodians, at 314-838-0902, or e-mail [debbiedo\\_jim@yahoo.com](mailto:debbiedo_jim@yahoo.com), prior to the event as a courtesy.

Sign in on the sheet (posted in the kitchen). You will need to provide:

- a. Your name.
- b. The name of your shepherding elder.
- c. The date/time of the event.
- d. The rooms that were used.
- e. A brief description of the event.
- f. Comments regarding any facilities issues discovered during the event or resulting from the event that will need to be addressed by the Deacon of Facilities or a custodian.

3) Clean up after yourself per the cleaning list posted in each room (to a condition that is as good or better than the condition in which you found the facilities when you entered). If there is some question as to how much effort to expend in returning the facility to its previous condition, err on the side of grace and do more than what might be considered necessary rather than too little.

If problems are found with the facility after its use, it will be the shepherding elder who is contacted to remedy the situation, both to correct the condition of the facility and to ensure that those who used the facility understand the problem with the condition in which the facility was left.

Thanks for your gracious contribution to body life in caring for the facility that God has entrusted to us.

**4 Chatham Bible Church, Chatham Special Events**

**Feb 2012 (Central Time)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>29</p> <p>9 am - Sunday School 10 am - Fellowship/Prayer 10:30 am - Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30pm - Titus Women Study</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9 am - Women's Study 7 pm - Jr. High Youth 7 pm - Women's Study</p>	<p>1</p> <p>7 pm - King's Kids 7 pm - Prayer &amp; Worship 7 pm - Sr. High Youth</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7 pm - Leadership Meeting</p>	<p>3</p> <p>11:30am - Senior Group</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7 pm - Praise Song Concert</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9 am - Sunday School 10 am - Fellowship/Prayer 10:30 am - Worship 12:30 pm - Fellowship Lunch 1:30pm - Missionary Report 5 pm - Superbowl Party</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30pm - Titus Women Study</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9 am - Women's Study 7 pm - Jr. High Youth 7 pm - Women's Study</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7 pm - King's Kids 7 pm - Prayer &amp; Worship 7 pm - Sr. High Youth</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7 pm - Life Team Meeting</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9 am - Sunday School 10 am - Fellowship/Prayer 10:30 am - Worship</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30pm - Titus Women Study</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30 am - Ladies' Reachout 7 pm - Jr. High Youth</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7 pm - King's Kids 7 pm - Prayer &amp; Worship 7 pm - Sr. High Youth</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7 pm - Elder Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:30am - Senior Group</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9 am - Sunday School 10 am - Fellowship/Prayer 10:30 am - Worship 12:30 pm - Life Team</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30pm - Titus Women Study</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9 am - Women's Study 7 pm - Jr. High Youth 7 pm - Women's Study</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7 pm - King's Kids 7 pm - Prayer &amp; Worship 7 pm - Sr. High Youth</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9 am - Sunday School 10 am - Fellowship/Prayer 10:30 am - Worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30pm - Titus Women Study</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9 am - Women's Study 7 pm - Jr. High Youth 7 pm - Women's Study</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7 pm - King's Kids 7 pm - Prayer &amp; Worship 7 pm - Sr. High Youth</p>	<p>1</p> <p>7 pm - Leadership Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Women's Retreat 11:30am - Senior Group</p>	<p>3</p>

# DONATE USED & NEW SHOES



## George the Shoeman turns shoes into water!

Make a Charitable Donation  
Donate Shoes at 200+ Locations  
Have a Shoe Drive at Work, School, Church



WE'RE COLLECTING  
SHOES & CELL PHONES







## Turn Phones and Vehicles to Water.

Shoeman's new sister charity [www.Phones2Water.org](http://www.Phones2Water.org) turns used cell phones into water, and the Shoeman now turns boats, cars trucks, vans... into clean water too!"



## HAVE A USED & NEW SHOE DRIVE!

- You:**
-  1 Clean out your closet of any kind of shoes, used or new. Consider sharing the fun by requesting a shoe drive kit to use at your work, school, scouting group, church, or civic group!
  -  2 Tie or rubber band pairs together.
  -  3 Drop them in the shoe collection bag at a shoe drive or drop-off location.  
**Drop off shoes & phones in our church library.**
- We:**
-  1 Pick up your shoes from shoe drives and drop locations.
  -  2 Give them a second life, selling the shoes to exporters for resale in developing countries. These affordable shoes protect their new owners from deadly parasites and infections.
  -  3 Use the money to purchase well-drilling rigs, water purification systems, and other supplies to bring clean, fresh water to those in need.

Find out what the Shoeman's been up to!

 [facebook.com/ShoemanWaterProject](https://facebook.com/ShoemanWaterProject)

 [twitter.com/ShoemanOrg](https://twitter.com/ShoemanOrg)

 [youtube.com/user/ShoemanWaterProjects](https://youtube.com/user/ShoemanWaterProjects)

 [flickr.com/photos/ShoemanWaterProjects/](https://flickr.com/photos/ShoemanWaterProjects/)

Missouri & Illinois  
636.751.8197

[www.shoeman.org](http://www.shoeman.org)

## Deacon's Report

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by Paul DuBois, Deacon of Men's Ministry

Last fall I audited a class at Covenant Seminary which was designed to teach Biblical principles of spiritual growth and help students understand their personality and gifting. I was hoping to learn whether my personality and gifting are suited for counseling or not, and the class showed me that and so much more.

For the past 5 or 6 years I felt somewhat discouraged with my spiritual growth because my conscience had come to demand perfection from me while refusing to let me accept or realize the grace that God has provided for us. Many truths which I already knew God brought to a deeper understanding in my life through this class, so I want to share some of my journey with you via the following excerpts from my term paper:

"...My conscience, weak as it was, had led me into an 'inextricable maze' (to use Calvin's words) in which I began to see the slightest impure motive and slightest imperfect action as a massive sinful failure. Finally, about 2 years ago, it occurred to me I was actually worrying about my relationship with God. Corrosive, anxious worry. I knew this didn't make sense in light of grace. God's yoke should be easy and His burdens light. So I tried to trust in grace, but to no avail. I was entrapped. That is, until I took this class and came to a deeper understanding of grace..."

"...So where did the problems lie? For starters, my [feeling] that God was mad at me when I sinned, and, consequently, that He would favor me if I did good, was certainly not Biblical and kept me from experiencing the fullness of God's grace. My period of spiritual growth ended because I was still thinking as if grace was conditional.

While destructive to spiritual growth, this conditional mindset is attractive to us for two reasons:

1. Our whole world works on a conditional mindset. If we do good we are rewarded. If we do wrong we suffer the consequences. We hang on to this mindset just because it feels familiar to us. This is the only way we know how to operate, so it takes a work of God to change it, literally.

2. Conditions allow us to feel like we have something to hang our hat on. We can feel that somehow we have a claim to the reward. This proved to be my doom, since God's grace and our

effort to earn His approval are mutually exclusive. God gives grace on the basis of His character and our need, **not** merit..."

"...The catalyst the Spirit used to spark this [new] revival in me was realizing that even if I decided to continue in sin so grace would abound, God would still love me and at the end of my life welcome me home. We shy away from believing this for a couple basic reasons.

One, we find it offensive. We think an abuse like that shouldn't be allowed. We conclude that if someone ever did that, he's not really a believer. But if we add any conditions to grace it is no longer grace.

Second, we are afraid others, or even ourselves, will abuse grace and quit trying to live like Christ. But the opposite is true. When we realize Christ has made it so we don't have to obey to experience God's favor and go to Heaven we are overwhelmed with gratitude and want to obey..."

"...Now I see [God's] commands like a father speaking politely to his son. "Son, it would mean a lot to me if you would take out the trash." It is so polite it is not even in command form, but because of the position of authority the father has, the son knows it is a command and wants to obey it because of the loving relationship. When we see God's heart, our heart wants to obey His every request..."

I wish I could really express to you the acceptance I feel in spite of my sin, and the freedom to obey as God works to address the sin in me in His timing (not mine or anyone else's). The only one I have to please is God, and He has already chosen to be pleased with me based on Christ's work on the cross.

If you struggle with accepting God's grace, I encourage you to read the book "Transforming Grace" by Jerry Bridges. Perhaps God will use it in your life as He did in mine.





# coming events

## > Praise Song in Concert Saturday, February 4 @ 7 p.m.

Join us for an evening of praise and worship led by Praise Song from Hannibal-LaGrange University. Admission is free and an offering will be accepted. Praise Song will also help lead worship during our Sunday service on February 5.

## > Fellowship Lunch & MSV Philippines Report Sunday, February 5 - See page 2 for details.

## > Superbowl Party Sunday, February 5 @ 5 p.m.

Bring a canned good to donate, a snack to share and a friend.

## > Life Team Lunch/Video Sunday, February 19 @ 12:30 p.m.

Join us in the Fellowship Room following worship for lunch and viewing of the video "180." Watch for more details.

## > "Come & Hear" Women's Retreat March 2-3



This year's retreat will be at the Double Tree Hotel in Chesterfield. Cost to attend is \$50 for Chatham attendees and \$65 for non-attendees. Registration runs through February 19.

## > Good Friday Worship Friday, April 6 @ 7 p.m.

Join us as we consider Jesus' sacrifice for the sins of His people in His death on the cross, worshiping the Savior for His grace and love. Childcare available through age 3.

## > Resurrection Day Sunday, April 8

Worship with us as we celebrate the life, death and resurrection of our Lord and King, Jesus Christ.

## Condolences

To Sandy Storie whose brother, Gary White, passed away on December 24.

To Roy Robinson, whose mother, Nollie Robinson, passed away on December 27.

To Maureen Greiner, whose father, Leo Eller, passed away on January 2.

To Pat David, whose sister, Barbara Turner, passed away on January 12.

Please pray for the families.

## Congratulations!

Alexandra & J.P. Gobble on the birth of Calvin Lewis, born December 23.

Mark & Rachel (Hess) Moore, married January 21.

May the Lord bless your families.

# nursery schedule

## Sunday School/Worship

February 5

SS: Joni Hackett, Allyson Hartman  
W: Neil & Katie Theriault, Nikki Sneed, Grace Hotchkiss

February 12

SS: Phyllis Maxwell, Leah Poe  
W: Cheryl Hotchkiss, Leah Poe, Rachel Moore, Sara DuBois

February 19

SS: Karren Semones, Laura Mathias  
W: Lori Izquierdo, Heather Perez, Jessica Reed, Abby Menke

February 26

SS: Diane Bleikamp, Gwen Weatherbie  
W: George & Pat Barger, Danielle Mitchell, Samantha Tapp

## Wednesday Evenings

February 1 - Debbie Goldsmith, Elizabeth Heironimus

February 8 - Melanie Priest, Michelle Bleikamp

February 15 - Naomi O'Connor, Lorraine Haddock

February 22 - Claudia Stulce, Sarah Warren

February 29 - Craig & Clara Tebeau



## December 2011 Stats

Morning worship (avg. per Sun.) ..... 248

Monthly budget..... \$34,927

General fund for month..... \$35,347.81

Compared to monthly budget..... \$420.81 over

## What's inside?

- The Power of Story
- Discipleship: Commanded Priority
- Responding In Kindness
- Care for a Building, Honor One Another
- Turning Shoes & Phones to... Water?
- Beginning to Understand Grace

<http://www>

### Stay Connected by Mail?

Please let us know if your address changes. You can download this newsletter anytime at [chatham.biblechurch.org](http://chatham.biblechurch.org), read articles at our [Connectivity blog](#) and get instant updates on our [online calendar](#). We're even on [Facebook](#). If this is a convenient way for you to stay connected, let us know and we'll remove you from the mailing list.

## Happy Birthday!

- Feb. 2 Taylor Synowiec
- Feb. 3 Morgan Michalicek
- Feb. 5 Michael Bast, Mike Dallas, Jessica Reed
- Feb. 7 Donna Reed
- Feb. 9 Caleb Fuller
- Feb. 10 Emma Poe
- Feb. 10 Audrey Haley
- Feb. 12 Grace Chapman, Sara DuBois
- Feb. 13 Belle Phillips
- Feb. 14 Silas Smith
- Feb. 17 Peter Gobble
- Feb. 19 Becky DuBois
- Feb. 20 Larry Reed
- Feb. 21 Diane Mathias
- Feb. 22 Emily Bast, Travis McCall
- Feb. 23 Ali Whitworth
- Feb. 24 Victoria Mitchell
- Feb. 26 Samuel Hotchkiss
- Feb. 26 Brent Nygaard
- Feb. 26 Terry Lindsey
- Feb. 28 Victoria Tebeau

