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Dearly beloveds,

As history unfolds its trail at this conclusion of the first decade of the 21st century, we are engulfed with many questions, apprehensions, uncertainties and anxieties. I'm sure comforted by the truth from Psalm 139: **23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts . 24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**

I'm looking forward to digging into God's Word with you again this Christmas (I am allowed to use the term?) season. A series entitled "Emmanuel, His Eminence" will lead our Christmas thinking as we ponder together "God with Us, God in the flesh and the significance of that truth to every man, every generation and to every culture. If we succeed at magnifying God incarnate this season, then I believe our worship will be deeper and more far-reaching. Will you give it your best devotion?

It's a privilege to be writing this newsletter from my Michigan-son's home. And, just today I had a wonderful exchange with my Dad! I also noticed that it didn't hurt to bring him some of Precious's home-made sour-cream cookies!

I take great comfort in the God of all comfort. He has walked us all through some very troubled times, events and relationships. May He overwhelm you, personally, with His care and presence!

Ps 23:4 ... I will fear no evil: for thou [art] with me; thy rod and thy staff **they comfort me.**

Ps 119:50 This [is] **my comfort in my affliction:** for thy word hath quickened me.

Is 40:1 Comfort ye, **comfort ye my people,** saith your God.

Acts 9:31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, **and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit,** were multiplied.

Rom 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and **comfort of the scriptures** might have hope.

2 Cor 1:3 Blessed [be] God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, **and the God of all comfort** ; 4 Who **comforts us in all our tribulation,** that we may be **able to comfort them which are in any trouble,** by the comfort where with we ourselves are comforted of God

2 Cor 13:11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, **be of good comfort** , be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

I love you, *Pastor Jake*

Assimilation Seminar – Saturday January 9th (8a.m. – 12p.m.)

Pastor Dan will be offering an assimilation seminar on Saturday January 9, 2009 from 8a.m to 12p.m. for anyone who is interested in being a part of designing and implementing a more effective and thorough strategy in ministering to the visitors that God brings us each and every week. This would include those who may have interest in—or are already serving in such areas like: being a greeter, being a person who connects with visitors during the greeting time, those who would like to serve in welcoming and ministering to our guests on Sunday mornings with a Welcome Center, those who would like to deliver a baked good or gift during the week that says, "Thank you for visiting", those who would like to help visitors get plugged into classes, small groups, and in using their gifts in service, etc. Call Pastor Dan for more information and/or watch for more details through the bulletin/website.

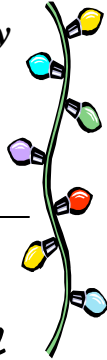
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

It's that time of year again and the youth are putting together their annual Christmas Program. The program will be held on Sunday Dec 13th, between services. All youth are welcome to participate. We will be learning the songs during God Squad time and are asking the older youth to participate in the readings. Come to God Squad if you are interested in participating or helping, or contact Tisha Thacker 632-8583 if you have any questions, or would like to offer your assistance in any way. There will be one brief practice on Saturday Dec 12th, from 3 to 4pm for a run through before the performance. Thank you for your support and we wish you peace and joy in the coming season.



Clubber's Christmas Party
Wed., Dec. 16 @ 6:20 pm!!!

Leaders, heads up on a coaches meeting
TBA in January for the Awana Games.
Quiz Bowl is set for Sat., Feb. 6th, at 9:00



Reminders:

- ☆ Dec. Deacon Lock-Up: Kevin Kaufman
- ☆ Valley Mobile Food Pantry, Fri., Dec. 18th at old SunMart building in Gering please have your food donations to the church by 9:00 am on Dec. 18th.
- ☆ Christmas Daily Breads are available on the foyer mission table ~ a great tool in spreading the gospel message!

Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm

Ladies Bible Study begins Wed., Jan 13th
9:00 am or 6:30 pm

EPHESIANS by Elizabeth George

As God's children, we have everything we could ever need for daily life. Yet we miss these riches because we don't know what they are. As you study Ephesians you'll discover...

- ✕ The keys to becoming spiritually strong
- ✕ The spiritual armor that protects you in life's battles
- ✕ The incredible spiritual blessings God has given you
- ✕ The ways you can make use of these riches

You'll find yourself overflowing with praise for all that God has given you—provisions that will make your journey with God more exciting, practical, & fulfilling.

If interested, please sign up sheet posted on the foyer announcement stand by Dec. 27th. Book cost \$10.00.

Senior Christmas Brunch
Sat., Dec. 5th @ 11:00 am

in the Fellowship Hall

This is open to all seniors 55+!
All food and table service will be furnished. Following the brunch is the Hallmark Christmas movie, Silent Night/Peace on Earth, a story of forgiveness & hope during WWII. Coffee/cookies for dessert following the movie. Donations accepted and will go toward Susan Stevens ministry in Peru. Please RSVP to Margy Schafer at 632-8095 by Thurs., Dec. 3rd by noon.

MBC Giving & Attendance Report

Date	Giving	Budgeted	Difference	YTD Giving	YTD Budgeted	Difference	1st	2nd	Attn.
11/1/09	10327.27	7614.93	2712.34	76584.41	68534.37	8050.04	144	280	424
11/8/09	9338.38	7614.93	1723.45	85922.79	76149.30	9773.49	114	129	243
11/16/09	6331.76	7614.93	-1283.17	92254.55	83764.23	8490.32	115	134	249
11/22/09	3458.25	7614.93	-4156.68	95712.80	91379.16	4333.64	94	159	253

Mission of the Month—Tim & Carol Sissel, Wycliffe Bible Translators

Dear MBC Friends,

We are continually honored that you partner with us in our ministry with Wycliffe Bible Translators, bringing God's precious Word to the speakers of minority languages in Mexico. We long to visit you again and look forward to the day when that will happen. It has been almost one year since we moved from Oaxaca to Arizona where Carol's parents joined us. We live together in a house that the Lord has provided that is a 5 minute walk from the Mexico Branch administration offices. I normally work at home, providing computer support to my colleagues and Mexicans involved in Bible translation. A typical day might involve 3 to 6 Skype calls ranging from a few minutes to many hours in length. During these calls I normally connect to the translator's computer so I can view the problem they are having and then fix the problem and get them back to the translation desk.

Besides myself, there are five other men providing computer support to the Mexico Branch of SIL. We currently have over 200 members involved in Bible translation. Each language project has between 2 and 6 computers, depending on the number of people involved in the project. Along with the computers used by Administration, we support over 500 computers. That keeps us pretty busy, and it is very rewarding to see the results of the assistance we provide. I am also the supervisor of the computer department. It is a blessing to lead these five men.

It has been good for Carol's folks to live with us. We accompany them to their doctor visits. Carol prepares all of our meals. This first summer was a difficult adjustment for them with daily temperatures over 100 for several months. They had not experienced this living in Colorado Springs nearly 50 years. We know the Lord has put us



into this position at this time to provide the care they need and yet continue full time serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators. It would not have been possible just a couple years ago to work so effectively remotely. I give thanks to the Lord for this technology. Enclosed are two pictures of Carol and I. The one of both of us was taken last January at the church we attend in Tucson at a missions conference. The picture of just me is in my home office with a great view of the desert while I work.



Thank you MBC for your friendship, for the cards you send to us on our "special" days, for your prayers for us, and for your monthly support. You are indeed a vital part of our ministry to ensure that all peoples of Mexico can have God's Word in their heart language. We are making great progress as there are only 11 more language projects that need to be started in Mexico out of 230 spoken languages.

Prayer items:

For Carol's folks, their health, and adjustments to a very different life

For Carol & I that we will have the stamina needed in this new role of caretaker and remaining full time in ministry
Serving Him, Tim and Carol Sissel

Children's Church - God Squad

Chuck Swindoll says, "If I could have only one wish for God's people, it would be for all of us to realize once for all that God's Book has the answers. The Bible is the authority, the final resting place of our cares, our worries, our grief, our tragedies, our sorrows, and our surprises. It is the final answer to our questions." I like that! I want that for my kids and the kids in our children's ministries. I want our kids to be in awe of God and His word, and I have been blessed to be surrounded with children's workers that I believe desire that same thing for our kids. Two of them are Josh and Mindy Lively - our God's Squad Directors. Josh and Mindy will be stepping back from this ministry in January and we are looking for others to step forward and help pick up the slack. If you would like to have a part in ministering to our kids in this way, I would love to visit with you about it. Thanks for praying for our kids that God would really grip their hearts!

Russ Garrett/Children's Christian Education Director