

**Are You Coming to *Christianity Explored*?**

If not, why not? Starting on September 4, Jim Spitzel and I will be teaching the Adult Sunday School Class on the topic of evangelism.

We want everyone in the church to come to Sunday School. We also want everyone in the church to be more faithful in evangelism. So to kill two birds with one stone, we decided to make this class the only class on offer this fall.

For many, including myself, evangelism is a struggle. You know evangelism is important but you don't see yourself as a particularly effective evangelist. There could be a number of reasons for that. Perhaps you lack confidence in your grasp of the Bible or ability to defend the faith, perhaps you're afraid of being pegged as a religious zealot, or even worse as a pious odd-ball, or just maybe you simply don't know how and have never been taught.

While evangelism may not be your gift, it is your duty. Evangelism is not simply a job for "professional Christians" such as pastors, elders, evangelists, and theologians. Evangelism is the joyful work of every Christian. It is an essential task of Christian discipleship and a vital component of the ministry of the local church (cf. Matt. 28:18ff; Acts 1:8). For those needing help in evangelism (and that's all of us!), this class is for you.

*John*

**10 Years Ago**

Can it be ten years already? When our nation watched in disbelief the horror of 9/11 on that beautiful September 11 morning. Remember? I was at the Jersey shore when my sister found me on the beach and said, "you've got to come inside Jim and see this!" We were close enough to Manhattan to see the smoke plume from our beach rental. It was a dreadful and evil day for our nation. Our hearts break every 9/11 when the names are read by loved ones and the bell tolls for each victim.

In the ensuing days I remember cringing when hearing Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell suggest this is God's judgment upon America. Then I remembered Billy Graham's famous line, *If God doesn't judge America, He will need to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah!* Billy has it right.

*Continued on next page*

**COMING  
EVENTS**



**SEPTEMBER 4**

*New classes begin for children, youth and adults*

**SEPTEMBER 7**

*Youth Group Kick-off  
At Agates*

**SEPTEMBER 10**

*Guy's Barbecue at  
Linhart Park*

**SEPTEMBER 11**

*Seneca Sunday*

**SEPTEMBER 21**

*Truth Troop begins*

**SEPTEMBER 23-24**

*WIC Training Event*

**SEPTEMBER 25**

*Choir Picnic*

*Choose...  
Instruction  
instead of silver,*

*Knowledge  
rather than gold*

Proverbs 8:10



*Continued from previous page*

RC Sproul recently wrote, *The American psyche has no place for a God who judges peoples or nations. God can bless us, but God forbid He ever judges us...* On 9/11/2001, *more babies were destroyed in the wombs of their mothers [abortion] than people were killed in the terrorist attack on New York.*

On September 11 (Sunday this year) remember these truths:

*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, says the Lord, neither are your ways my ways. For as the heavens are higher than the earth so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts (Isaiah 55:8-9).*

Elisabeth Elliot writes: *The best answer to Why Lord? Why did you allow this awful thing in my life?*

**Trust Me**

*Jim*



### *A Visit to Seneca Manor*

“Thank you so much for coming,” she said. I didn’t recognize her from our earlier visits. Her eyes were dim, redness around the sockets, like she had been rubbing them. “I can’t hear very well, and I cannot see, either, but I have missed church so much. I thought I would come and be with you.” I sat down next to her.

Mrs. Yarbrough came to the edge of the group. She smiled with joy and when she looked at me she said, “Thank you SO much for coming. I miss church so much. I went to Hebron, you know. Now I cannot get anywhere. But you come and I can join you!”

I looked around at our group. There were about 10 residents, mostly women this week. There were 8 from church, 4 adults and 4 teens. One thing we all had in common was our love for the Lord. We sang hymns and those wonderful words brought comfort to all who thought about them. My new friend’s eyes closed. She didn’t sing, perhaps she was asleep. I held her hand. I watched the Vizino girls. They looked so comfortable in this setting. Heather accompanied us on her guitar. The others smiled at the residents, found pages when fingers couldn’t turn them well, sang with soft, sweet teen voices. What a blessing they are to these elderly people, to me as well.

Jim asked for favorites. Mrs. Fisher said, “How Great Thou Art”. It’s in my will you know. They will sing it at my funeral. I’m 101.” We sang some more.

After his short message Jim asked for prayer requests. “My sister who is 91 broke her shoulder. Could we pray for her? Her name is Daisy,” said the well-dressed woman in the back. “My daughter-in-law needs a lung. Could we pray for her?” said the lady next to Holly. “I’m having all my teeth pulled on Friday and I’m afraid,” said our 101 year old friend. We prayed together.

Thank you Lord. Coming here was a wonderful thing. Thank you for allowing us to give these lovely people a bit of community and a sense of being in church with other saints. Thank you for giving us one opportunity after another to serve you. You are good every moment of every day.

As we gave our friends the marigolds from the church lunch, each one thanked us with a smile.

The visit to Seneca lasts about 1 hour, 1 Sunday a month. Won’t you consider joining us? You will not be sorry.

*Ginny Irwin*

**Mission News**—GERARDO & RUTH GUTIERREZ

The Gutierrezes, known as Gerry and Ruthie, have been Faith Promise missionaries for a lot longer than FRPC has even had that program. Ruthie was born in the US but raised on the mission field of Peru by her parents Florence and Harry Marshall who were also supported by FRPC. Gerry was born in Huanta, Peru and became a Christian primarily from the witness of MTW missionaries. He had been raised by his grandfather who expected him continue in his footsteps as a communist leader. At the time of his conversion he was president of the student body and general secretary of the Student Revolutionary Front (Communist) at the National University of Peru in Ayacucho. Huanta is in the Andes Mountains and the population is mainly Quechua Indian. Gerry is a Quechua. Both Ruthie and Gerry graduated from Columbia Bible College in preparation to return to minister to friends and former comrades at the university. They worked with university students in Peru for 5 years before coming to Covenant Theological Seminary to get his M.Div. During this time the Communist Shining Path terrorists became very powerful in Peru, especially in the Ayacucho area. Gerry was considered a traitor and actually had a price on his head for assassination for having become a Christian. It was considered no longer safe for them to return to Peru. They went instead to Santiago, Chile starting MTW's first city work with upper class people rather than the Indians. The work affected Gerry's health and they returned to the US. In 1987 he began to work among the diplomatic community as MTW Washington representative and director of international relations and in organizing National Prayer Breakfasts in Latin American cities patterned on the one in our US capital. He was very successful but still wanted to go back to Peru. In the meantime a Sunday school class in McLean, VA became interested in a work to aid children orphaned by the terrorist movement. Gerry became the executive director leading an orphanage in Huanta (in Ruthie's childhood home) and feeding stations for refugees and homeless children in the slums of the capital Lima. In 1996 with the fall of the Shining Path movement it became possible for the Gutierrezes to return to Peru where they continued ministry until Ruthie's latest health crisis. This is Ruthie's third battle with cancer starting with breast cancer in 1992. Her latest report was that the treatment had stopped the growth but has not shrunk the tumors. They are in Chattanooga, TN with their son Nathaniel and family who have raised 85% of their support to go to the MTW Hinterlands work in Peru.

**September Birthdays**



2	Edward Carter	18	Bob Conrad
4	Melissa George		
6	Andrew Lintelman	19	Jeffrey Dietz
7	Ashton Crawford		
		20	Caleb Mattson
8	Amber Agate		
	Rachel Clayton	22	Rob Dalbey Blanca Schofield
10	Tim Brickner, Jr.		
	Sonny Chianese	23	Karen Crawford
11	Brian Conrad	26	Laurel Korns
	Walt Werner		Steve Hadzima Karl Lawyer
12	Charles Holliday		
		27	Chad Vizino
13	Martha Rau		
	Amelia Tweeddale	29	Amy Sabella Ruth Turner
14	Elsie Davis		John Tweeddale
16	Julia Airgood	30	Nathan Irwin
	Nancy Wilson		Elizabeth Strang

**2011 Women in the Church International Conference**

October 7-9, 2011 • Atlanta, Georgia

The theme for this conference is a grand and glorious look at the full orb'd grace of God in our lives – Amazing Grace 360! **Nancy Guthrie**, a gifted teacher, writer, and conference speaker will serve as the Conference teacher. Worship and music will be led by Kevin Twit of Indelible Grace and Laura Story. The preacher for this year's event will be **Brian Habig**, pastor of the Downtown Presbyterian Church in Greenville, South Carolina, and former Reformed University Minister. If you are interested in attending please see website [www.amazinggrace360.com](http://www.amazinggrace360.com).

**Financial Summary Jan. 2011-June30,2011**

<b>Operating Account:</b>	
Receipts	\$185,000
Disbursements	\$180,480
<i>Account Balances -</i>	
Operating Checking \$	\$ 10,030
Operating Saving \$	\$224,734
<b>Benevolence Account:</b>	
Income	\$56,846
Disbursements	\$63,874



# September



2011

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	<p><b>Each Sunday:</b>                      9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages                      10:45 a.m. Morning Worship                      5:00 p.m. Promises Choir                      6:00 p.m. Evening Worship</p>			1	2	3
4 AM Rev. John Tweeddale Lord's Supper  PM Mr. Rob Gray	5	6	7 5:00 PM Youth Group Kick-off at Agates  6:00 PM CE Meeting	8	9	10 Guy's Barbecue 4-8 PM Linhart Park  
11 AM Rev. John Tweeddale Lord's Supper <i>Seneca Sunday</i> 1:30 PM  PM Mr. Rob Gray	12	13 7:00 PM Plum Covenant Group	14 7:00 PM Youth Group	15	16 Missions Seminar-Lois Ooms Friday 7-9 PM Saturday 9 AM-2 PM Lunch Included	
18 AM Rev. John Tweeddale <i>Baptism- Jonah Frost</i> <i>Promises Begin</i>  PM Rev. John Tweeddale	19	20 1:00 PM Lunch Bunch <i>Wooden Nickel</i>  7:00 PM Session	21 Truth Troop Begins 3:45 PM  7:00 PM Youth Group  7:00 PM Choir Practice	22 	23 WIC Training Event Friday night 7 PM Saturday 9-11:30 AM	24
25 AM Rev. John Tweeddale  1-4 PM Choir Picnic at Jim Spitzel's  PM Rev. John Tweeddale	26	27 7:30 PM WIC Prayer	28 3:45 PM Truth Troop  7:00 PM Youth Group	29 7:00 PM Theology Talk	30 Youth Group Lock-in 8 PM Fri.-8 AM Saturday  	

**Great Expectations!**  
**Fall 2011**

- **Truth Troop** begins September 21. This is a ministry to 2nd and 3rd graders in the Penn Hills schools. We still need tutors to help these children with homework and the development of basic reading and math skills. I expect this to be the biggest year.
- **Christianity Explored** is the adult Sunday School class beginning September 4. Christianity Explored is a way of bringing the good news of Jesus Christ to your friends, family or neighborhood. It explores the message of Jesus in the gospel of Mark.



- **Choir** begins Wednesday, Aug. 31. This would be a great year for you to add your voice to our choir. We have some great anthems this year to sing to the Lord.



*Jim Spitzel*



COFFEE, anyone?

The WIC Council invites all ladies of the church to join us this year as we discover what COFFEE has to do with developing unity in our congregation and discovering our unique roles in the body of Christ.

Would you like to go the WIC national conference in Atlanta but can't afford the cost or the time away? Well, this year, we are bringing the conference to you!

We are excited to present a COFFEE HOUSE STYLE CONFERENCE on SEPTEMBER 23-24 (Friday evening & Saturday morning).

Our theme is GOSPEL -CENTERED COMMUNITY.

Our speaker is KAREN HODGE, a pastor's wife from Chicago and National Trainer for the Women's Ministries of the PCA.

To make this affordable for everyone, the cost will only be \$8 for the entire conference or \$5 per session. An offering will also be taken during the conference.

Please put this on your calendar and be on the lookout for future details! Hope to see you all there!

**FRPC Family News**

**Births**

**Lily Mikayla Shepler** - new daughter of Matt and Liz Shepler. Born June 17. She weighed 7 pounds 13 ounces .

**Blake Marie George** - new daughter of Jason and Melissa George. Blake was born Tuesday, June 21 and weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces.

**Tobin Tyler Boyer** - new son of Ken and Leigh Boyer. He was born Tuesday, July 26 and weighed 8 pounds 3 ounces.

**Hailey Maria Renda** - new daughter of Sophia Renda. She was born Saturday, Aug. 20 and weighed 5 pounds 9 ounces.

**Sympathy**

Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of FRPC member **Shirley Micheals** who passed away June 12, 2011

Christian sympathy is extended also to the family and friends of FRPC member **Kenneth (Buz) Sellers** who passed away July 28, 2011

**Guy's Barbecue**  
**Saturday, Sept. 10**  
**4-8 PM**

**Linhart Park**  
**(Wilkins Twp.)**

**Cost: TBA**

**Food, Fellowship and Games**

**Invite a friend!**  
**More info at Welcome**  
**Center**  
**Sign up by Sept. 4**



Coming in October:  
Women's Bible Study  
for all women  
Details coming soon!

**Men Only!**



There will be two new opportunities for men's study and fellowship this fall. These two groups will be led by Rob Gray, Director of Discipleship and Student Ministry.

- Saturday Morning Prayer Meeting - Beginning Sept. 3rd, this group will meet the first and third Saturday of each month from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. and will be using a book entitled *Mining for Wisdom* by Derek Thomas. The cost will be \$10.00 per book.
- Theology Talk - A ministry designed to encourage the men of FRPC to get together to discuss theology. The book that will be used is entitled *The Big Picture* by Vaughan Roberts. Meetings will be Thursdays on Sept. 29th, Oct. 20th and Nov. 17th, from 7-9 p.m.

*There is a sign-up sheet for each at the Welcome Center or contact Rob at 412-793-7117.*