

# community news

First Church  
of God

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2012

Sharing the **PEACE** of Christ - Proclaim ◦ Exalt ◦ Accept ◦ Commit ◦ Equip

## A note from Pastor Angela

How are you feeling today? That is a pretty normal question to ask someone. We are interested in how someone is feeling physically and emotionally. Feelings are powerful things in our lives. We all have feelings and experience a wide array of feeling throughout a week or even during a single day. We feel times of happiness, sadness, frustration, discouragement, excitement, anger, anticipation, elation, strength and the list could go on.

When I was studying social work in college, part of what we learned was counseling techniques and how to provide counseling to people with various needs. One way to get people to open up, was to help them identify how they felt about their situations, relationships or choices. A common question to ask was, "How did that make you feel?" Or, to help them identify what they might have been feeling by saying, "It sounds like you felt angry when your mom did not listen to you. Am I hearing that right?" A simple statement like that might help someone express their feelings further and be able to share more about a situation.

Feelings are important. Feelings are powerful. It is by our feelings that we often base our experience and base the reality of what is going on in our life. Because of that, feelings are also very dangerous. They are dangerous because they are so subjective. What we might be feeling might not be what someone else is feeling. Two people can attend the same movie. One is moved to tears and the others thinks the movie is laughable. Two people can attend the same concert. One thinks it is the best concert ever while the other hates it because they didn't like the music. We end up basing our lives on something that is subjective and not on the truth. We base our reality on what we think which fuels our feelings instead of basing our reality on truth.

I have heard that feelings are wrong about 90% of the time. If we base our walk with God and our Christian growth on feelings, we will not progress very far. If we base our church experience or our relationships with others in the family of God on feelings, we are sure to be very disappointed. However, if we base those things on the truth of God's Word, we are less apt to fall into the trap of basing our lives on a wrong feeling. God might feel far away, but he is not. The church might seem ineffective, but it is not. Our preferred way might seem like the right way, but it may not be. We have to make sure it is all lining up with the truth of Scripture and not with our feelings.

This year, may we base our lives and our reality on the truth of God's Word. May we express the feelings of God instead of the biased and most often wrong feelings that we possess.

I love you (and that is not a feeling)  
Pastor Angela

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### schedule of weekly events

#### Sunday:

9:30a Adult Sunday School  
11:00a Worship Service  
6:00p Sunday Nights @ PFCOG

#### Thursdays:

1/5 at 6:00 p Family Night  
1/19 at 6:00 p Family Night

W - F 12p Noon Day Prayer

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## THURSDAY FAMILY NIGHTS

### family nights are changing!

**Thursday Night is Family Night!!** Family Nights will occur twice each month. Below is a schedule. See what God is going to do in our church family during Family Night! Our first reformatted Thursday Night Family Night will take place on Thursday, January 5th at 6p.

**Family Night Schedule:**

6 - 6:30p	Fellowship Meal
6:30 - 7p	Group Activity (all ages)
7 - 8p	Small Group Time (ages separated)

As we learned during our LIVE Weekend, small groups give people the opportunity to talk with others about the lessons of the Bible and how they might look when lived out in today's reality of life. Small groups give us the opportunity to really know each other. Small groups help a growing church continue to be small by connecting people together in the bonds of true and biblical fellowship. They give people a place to belong and to be accepted for who they are.

Small groups may look different than what some may be used to, but check out our first small group that

### kindness outreach

**Our mission: Kindness!**

**Valentine's Day Candy Hand-outs**  
**Candy Bagging: Friday, Feb. 10th at 6p**  
**Candy Handing Out: Saturday Feb 11th from 11a-1p**

Our goal is to pass out around 300 bags filled with candy to people in our community in the name and love of Christ. We will meet at the church on Saturday for our location assignments and then spread across our community with our special gifts. If you cannot make it on Saturday, come to help bag candy on Friday.



### covenant convention

**Friday - Sunday, January 6 - 8th**

New Covenant Church International, our sister Church of God congregation in Providence is hosting an annual convention. There is also a youth worship service for youth and young adults on Saturday night. If you are interested and would like more information, please see Pastor Angela.

### January & February Family Night Menu

- 1/5: Soup and Sandwiches
- 1/19: Spaghetti and Meatballs
- 2/2: Baked Chicken and Macaroni and Cheese
- 2/19: Hot Dogs, Beans, and Chips.

Family Night Needs.

1. We would like to provide a nursery during our Family Nights. As we are only meeting 24 times during the year, we need to get 9 more people to volunteer for 2 times during the year to serve in the nursery from 7 - 8p. If you can, please see Holly Hazard.
2. We are in need of one person interested in helping with the teenage age group.

## SUNDAY NIGHTS @ PFCOG

meets on **Sunday nights at 6:00** and see how "different" can be meaningful and necessary.

We will be doing a study called "If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get out of the Boat!" Does it sound interesting? Come and check it out.

We would love this small group to become so large that we have to start others! In fact, we will be attempting another small group launch soon. So, stay tuned!

## OUTREACH

### local outreach

**Storehouse Meal Ministry**  
**Fridays at 5p**

Each Friday, our church opens its doors to feed people in the community. Come and see the ministry that is provided here each week. You can interact with some people to provide a face with our church and invite them to our services. Also, if you are interested in volunteering in this important ministry, you can talk to Joe, the coordinator about where you can serve.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### fifth sunday fellowship

**Sunday, January 29th at 5p**

New Covenant Church International, our sister Church of God congregation in Providence will be hosting this quarter's Fifth Sunday Fellowship. Since this is in our own state, let's show our support for our district and attend this special time of worship and gathering.

## nursery ministry



### January Nursery Schedule:

1/8: Sue Grandchamp and Kianna Fanning  
 1/15: Wanda and Evangeline Hopkins  
 1/22: Danielle Nelle and Avis Hazard-Spears  
 1/29: Yvonne Butler and Judy Venter

### February Nursery Schedule:

2/5: Wanda and Evangeline Hopkins  
 2/12: Sue Grandchamp and Kianna Fanning  
 2/19: Sarah Collum and Danielle Nelle  
 2/26: Yvonne Butler and Judy Venter

**Could you invest one Sunday a month to care for our youngest congregation members?** If you are interested, please see Sister Judy Venter.

## kids church

### **Sunday Mornings during Worship Service Ages 5-11**

Our children worship with the adults during the first part of the service and then go to their own age appropriate time of Bible study and worship. It is a great place to be a kid and to learn about Christ!

### **Ministry Opportunities**

Kids Church needs leaders and two helpers to complete the once a month rotation schedule as well as a couple people who could serve as substitutes. Van drivers and monitors and a snack preparer are also needed. See Holly Hazard if you are interested in investing your life in Kids Church.

## worship ministry

### **Worship Teams**

Could you give one Sunday a month to sing in a worship team? It would involve practicing one night during the week and then early on the Sunday that you are scheduled. A variety of music will be used and we need voices! See Avis Hazard-Spears if you are interested.

### **Special Music & Choir**

Sis Avis Hazard-Spears is looking for 5 to 6 persons who can commit to one Sunday a month to sing, that will allow special music every Sunday in January and February. Sis Avis will make up a schedule. She is willing to sing the first Sunday of the both months. If you are interested please see Sis Avis Hazard-Spears

### **Sound Ministry**

We are looking for people who would be interested in serving in the sound ministry. If you are interested, please contact Brother Dallas Hazard to set up training.

In July 2011, we issued an Each One Reach One challenge. It was a challenge that each of us would reach one person for Jesus Christ and introduce them to church within the next year. The challenge was given so that next year on July 4th Sunday would be a different kind of Independence Day Celebration because it would be a celebration of those who have found freedom in Christ.

Who are you praying for? Everyone was challenged to be praying for three people. We have to pray before we can be effective in reaching anyone.

How are you intentionally building relationships with those people? People want to know we care before they will care about how much we know or about the message of Jesus Christ.

## MINISTRY UPDATES

## greeter ministry



Do you like people? Can you offer up a warm hand shake and a smile? Can you hand people a bulletin, help families with children find their way to the children's area, find a seat in the sanctuary and show them to the restrooms? If so, we have a ministry that is PERFECT for YOU!

Each Sunday, we need people who can greet those who enter our church with the love of Christ and help them find their way around, especially those who are our guests. If you are interested in serving once or twice a month, please see Pastor Angela, Deacon Richard Hazard or Sue Grandchamp.

## EACH ONE, REACH ONE

How are you making sure you don't miss any opportunities? Studies show that 3 out of 4 people will actually come to church if they are asked. Are you asking your people to come to a church activity? Are you looking for those outreach opportunities to invite them to?

Seven months remain in the challenge. How are we each going to intentionally make these seven months count in loving someone into the Kingdom of God?

**EACH ONE  
REACH ONE**

## men's activities

### Men's Breakfast at PFCOG Saturday, January 28th at 9a

We are starting our monthly men's breakfasts back up. Come for some good food, good teaching and good conversation with other men as we encourage each other as men of God! Donations to cover the cost of food are greatly appreciated.

## women's conference

**Women's Conference** hosted by Community Church of God will take place here at our church on Saturday, January 14th from 11a - 4p. The conference will feature Pastor Barbara McFarland and will serve to be a blessing to all who attend. The cost for the conference which includes lunch is \$10. Please contact the church office if you would like to register to attend.

## birthdays in Jan & Feb

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1: Dale Hazard       | 7: Jessica Taylor-Conley |
| 6: Nancy Spears      | 8: Shana Brown           |
| 7: Jean Pampalone    | 23: Allen Hazard         |
| 19: Canyon Baker     | 25: Keyokah Garrick-Mars |
| 25: Rev. Wil Sagesse |                          |
| 27: Juanzah Montiro  |                          |
| 31: Glen Baker       |                          |

### Anniversaries:

Let us know if you are celebrating an anniversary during January or February!!!

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, it is because we don't know it. Please contact Sarah at the church office to let her know the date God created you or your marriage so we can add you to our list!

## MEN'S MINISTRIES

### men's breakfast in westerly

**Saturday, January 21st**  
**Saturday, February 17th**

We meet with fellow men of God in Westerly for a breakfast and fellowship. The breakfasts start at 8a. A donation to help cover the cost of food is appreciated.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

### women pfcog

Please keep this ministry in your prayers. I am looking to get some structure and organization to the Women's ministry this year. We will still be having our outings and fellowship, however there is God's business that we also need to attend to. So please look forward to updates, and I may calling you to do play a part in the ministry.

In His service, Sarah Collum

## INFORMATION

### monthly meetings

#### Board of Trustees Meetings:

Sunday 1/15 & 2/19 after church

#### Deacon Board Meetings:

Wednesday 1/4 & 2/1 at 6:30p

#### Board of Christian Education:

Sunday 1/8 & 2/12 after church

## MLK Jr celebration

### Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

The annual celebration is open to everyone to take time out to reflect on what one man with a vision could do to make a change. It will take place here at our church on Monday, January 16th from 3p - 5p.

## OUR FAITHFULNESS

	A.M. Attn.	Offering	Special Giving	Love Thy Neighbor
11/6	38	1663.90		
11/13	34	1368.90	295.00	
11/20	52	1424.29		
11/26	47	1030.92		
12/4	41	1097.35	500.00	
12/11	42	1491.46	350.00	
12/18	44	1032.32		
12/25	51	1021.20		

Average Weekly Offering: \$1409.41

Average Offering Needed: \$2325.80

# January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> New Year's Day 11a Worship Service	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30p Deacon Meeting	<b>5</b> 6:00p Family Nights	<b>6</b> Noon Prayer 5p Storehouse	<b>7</b> 10a De-decorating Day at church
<b>8</b> 9:30a Adult Sunday School 11a Worship Service 6p Sunday Nights @PFCOG	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Noon Prayer	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Noon Prayer 5p Storehouse	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:30a Adult Sunday School 11a Worship Service 6p Sunday Nights @PFCOG	<b>16</b> 3p Martin Luther King Jr. Program here	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Noon Prayer	<b>19</b> 6:30p Family Nights	<b>20</b> Noon Prayer 5p Storehouse	<b>21</b> 8a Men's Breakfast (Westerly)
<b>22</b> 9:30a Adult Sunday School 11a Worship Service 6p Sunday Nights @PFCOG	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Noon Prayer	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Noon Prayer No Store house	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30a Adult Sunday School 11a Worship Service <b>5th Sunday Fellowship at NCCI in Providence!</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				



# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Noon Prayer  6:30p Deacon Meeting	2 6:30p Family Nights	3 Noon Prayer	4
5 9:30a Adult Sunday School  11a Worship Service  6p Sunday Nights @ PFCOG	6	7	8 Noon Prayer	9	10 Noon Prayer  5p Storehouse	11 <b>11a - 1p Valentine's Kindness Outreach!!</b>
12 9:30a Adult Sunday School  11a Worship Service  6p Sunday Nights @ PFCOG	13	14 	15 Noon Prayer	16 6:30p Family Nights	17 Noon Prayer  5p Storehouse	18 Men's Breakfast (Westerly)
19 9:30a Adult Sunday School  11a Worship Service  6p Sunday Nights @ PFCOG	20  President's Day	21	22 Noon Prayer	23	24 Noon Prayer  No Storehouse	25 9a All Church Work Day
26 9:30a Adult Sunday School  11a Worship Service  6p Sunday Nights @ PFCOG	27	28	29 Noon Prayer			