

# CALVARY *Communicator*



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, READING, PA

Volume 1, Number 4

December 3, 2010

**"...the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:17 & 18**



**Terri Snook,  
Administrator,  
The Link Center**

**"...I found them in my washing machine, in my dryer, in my closets and even in my hair dryer..."**

## **How Stink Bugs Reminded Me of God's Grace**

**By Terri Snook**

So, how were the stink bugs at your house this fall? At my home in Bern Township, they were absolutely awful! I mean "apocalyptic, end times" awful.

The one day I came home and found every window, 14 to be exact, **covered** on the outside with stink bugs trying to get in. It made the windows appear to be moving and that made my skin crawl. They apparently were looking for shelter because we were soon hit with a terrific thunderstorm.

Other than being downright gross, the problem is that for the past 2-3 years we have needed several screens for our windows. Our home is 16 years old and the screens on the lower level, for one reason or another, have taken a beating.

As the perfect weather arrived for opening windows, the stink bugs joined the fresh air, and together they made their way into my home. These creatures were everywhere! Besides climbing up my walls and ceilings, I found them in my washing machine, in my dryer, in my closets and even in my hair dryer. I wondered why it had smelled so bad as I was blow drying my hair that day. Even the dogs and cats were baffled as to what to do with them. They would try eating them but would spit them out; they must taste as bad as they smell.

So now you're probably wondering what any of this has to do with God's grace. Well, as you can guess we were real tired of the holey screens letting in the stink bugs so my husband started calling around to find out the cost of replacing several of them.

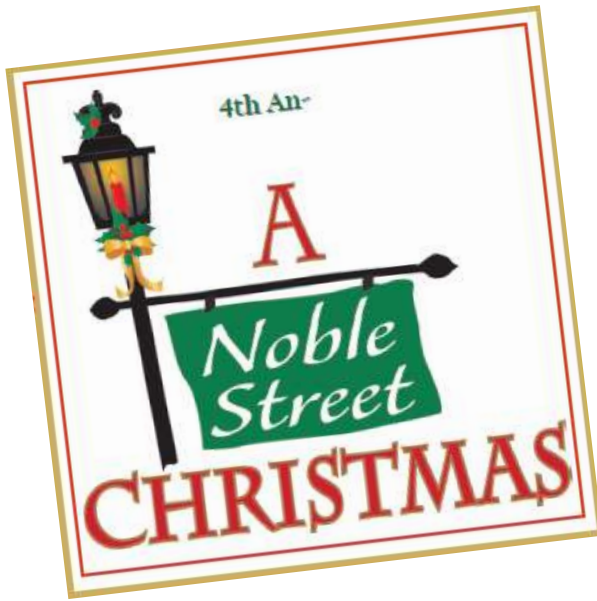
As he "googled" the brand name of the windows, Quality Roofing located on Rt. 10 came up as a dealer to call. When he got them on the phone, they asked him to give them the numbers that were located on a bar code that was inside the window frame. After looking up the number, we were informed that we had a lifetime warranty on those screens and that they would be ordering us brand new screens for the entire house, 14 to be exact. We did not owe them a dime, not shipping and handling, nothing. Fourteen brand new screens absolutely free and located a few blocks from the church, quite convenient for me to pick up.

Well, we were overjoyed and I know my husband couldn't believe this good "fortune." He was ready to purchase them at Home Depot or Lowe's when he stumbled across Quality Roofing on the internet.

This is when I was reminded of the blessings and the grace that God

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Get to know the neighbors at the Noble Street Christmas, held this Saturday, December 4, from 7 am to 2 pm at The Link Center.

- 7:00 am Breakfast and baked goods
- 9:00 am Train Rides, Craft Fair, Santa's Secret Workshop, Family Photos, DJ Monty Walls
- 9:40 am Betty Walls
- 10:00 am Eddie Tapia - Songtime
- 10:30 am Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive
- 11:40 am Three Kings; bilingual presentation of the Reason for the Season
- 12:40 pm Mt. View Spanish group, Pastor Marcos Angeles, Mime
- 1:00 pm King's Kids Presentation
- 1:20 pm Melissa Weidel - Songtime
- 1:40 pm Open mike, Christmas Karaoke



Holiday Craft Show... (9am - 2pm) you can expect to find all sorts of handmade items ... jewelry, quilted items, purses, holiday decorations, candles, dolls, stained glass and special wood crafted games.

The Three Kings stop by the center with gifts for children at 11:45 and share the Reason for the Season.



Tasty hot foods all day starting with breakfast at 7am with lunch to follow. Don't forget to pick up some Baked Goods (9am-2pm) to take home.



Enjoy beautifully decorated Trim-A-Tree presentations by local business, organizations and individuals.



Various singing groups and individuals from local churches present a wide variety of Christmas music for your listening pleasure.



Trackless Train Rides \$1 per ride.

- ◆ Betty Wall 9:40
- ◆ Eddie Tapia 10:00
- ◆ Mt. View Spanish Mime Group 12:40
- ◆ Kings Kids Presentation 1:00
- ◆ Melissa Fisher 1:20



**Santa & Mrs Claus** visit the center (10:30 - 12:30) with gifts for children. You can make some memories with **Family Photos** at the photo shoppe and be sure to visit the all new **Santa's Secret Workshop**.



Bring your family ... Invite your friends and have a great time connecting with community.

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## Kings Kids to sing "Christmas in Reverse"

By Beth Bashore

"Christmas in Reverse" is a Christmas musical that goes back to the very beginning.

Adam & Eve & Noah are used to highlight the sinful condition of man that separates us from God. It then goes on to show how Jesus' birth was foretold by the Old Testament prophets.

It shows how God selected those at the bottom of the social status to fulfill the prophecy & to announce the birth of Christ. Finally, it demonstrates how Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecy, as the Savior by which we have access to God and eternal life.

Christmas in Reverse was a 2006 Dove Award nominee for Best Children's/Youth Musical.

**King's Kids**  
**Sunday, December 5**  
**11:15 am**

## How Stink Bugs reminded me of God's grace

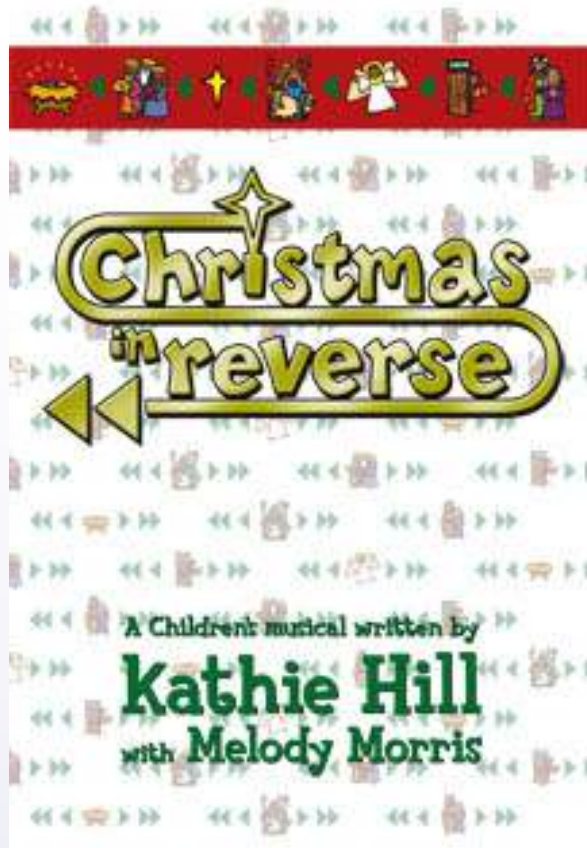
(Continued from page one)

bestows upon His kids. Did you ever hear that you can't out-give God? This is an example of that. I took a challenge several years ago to tithe no matter how tough finances get, and I have seen many blessings just like this through the years.

When I told my sister this story she said "that kind of thing never happens". But it does when you are obedient to God in your finances.

Please don't misunderstand me; I am a work in progress. There are many areas where I struggle with obedience, and God's working with me on those. But with tithing, I write that check before I pay bills. In doing this I have demonstrated to God that I am totally dependent on Him as my provider and He has not let me down.

So how are the stink bugs, or just the things that stink in your life? With 2011 right around the corner, let me challenge you to try to out-give God this coming year. You'll find that you can't do it; His blessings will outweigh anything that you have done. Ask anyone you know who does this and they will tell you the same thing. God's grace is truly amazing! It even goes as far as keeping some of the really stinky things in life from getting into your home.



"You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus."

Luke 1:31

<sup>16</sup> Out of His fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given.

John 1:16

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## Camera angles



**Above left: Mike Bashore, and Craig Moore, drums.**

**Above: Charis O'Connell, piano; Lois Yorgey discusses music with Zack Bashore and Isaac Kulp; Teresa Zettlemyer, guitar, and Mike Bashore, vocals.**

**Left: Connection Time on Sundays. Lots of food, coffee and chances for great conversation.**



**Right: Friends and neighbors gather for the Wednesday night community dinner.**



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## The Minivan Diaries - *From Vanessa Wanshop*

The Kutztown Produce Auction. The first time I heard those words I was intrigued, but I had no idea just how they would change my life!

I called up my friend, Kirsten, who is just crazy enough to join me on my minivan adventures, and we decided to check it out. This is a place that runs Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays spring through late fall. It offers not only produce on a large scale, but plants and flowers! Although we do not own a professional plant related store (as most of the patrons), we DO like to garden on a BIG scale!

We tested the water a few times, bidding on raspberries (16 containers for only \$8!) - trying to understand the auctioneer. Were they selling per PLANT, per FLAT, or per CART? You must purchase the WHOLE cart, so it is vital that you are certain of what you are bidding on!

This is where your math teacher would be proud: if it's per plant - and there are 432 plants - and each sells for fifteen cents - you need to be able to figure out if you can afford that, and do so in a very short amount of time. They are FAST!

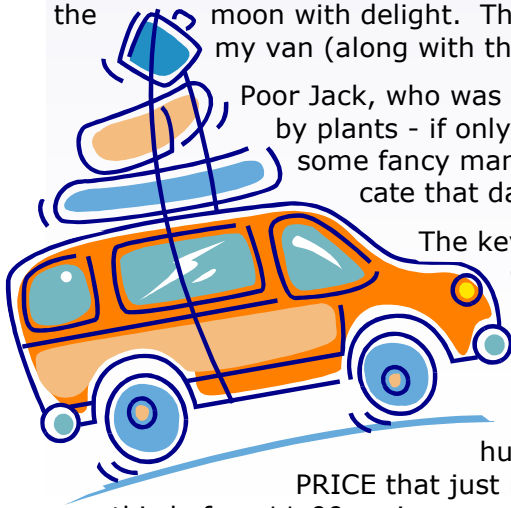
I am now getting quite good at preparing for the items I want. I check out the carts, and pick out what I am interested in, and then figure out in my head what my highest price will be. That way, there are no surprises (like the time I thought I was bidding per flat and it was really per plant!).

So, picture if you will, I am on a mission for one of my favorite aunts-in-law. She has given me \$100 to see what I can do to outfit her gardens with as many annuals as my little heart can find. (Keep in mind, most avid gardeners have budgets MUCH higher than this... sometimes 4 - 5 times higher!)

I hit the mother-lode of plants that day. It is not often that a grower will put a variety of flats on a cart, typically you will find 8 flats of begonias, or 4 of begonias and 4 of impatiens if you are really lucky!

On this particular day, I found two carts with eight flats on them, each one with a different annual! Each flat has 54 well-established plants in them...  $8 \times 54 = 432$  plants  $\times$  2 carts = 864 plants! I spent \$8/flat = \$128! I was over the moon with delight. The bigger challenge was getting them all in my van (along with the six hanging baskets I bought for myself).

Poor Jack, who was two years old at the time, was surrounded by plants - if only he could have held a flat! It all fit - with some fancy maneuvering! I have not been able to duplicate that day since.



The key is to get a friend or two and split the cost. Of course, what Kirsten wants isn't always what I want, and vice versa. But we have been able to do our gardens, planters and then some all for less than \$150!

It is the whole package: the thrill of the hunt, the bidding, the winning... and the PRICE that just makes this a frugal woman's dream! All this before 11:00 am!



**Vanessa Wanshop**

Vanessa is married to Eric Wanshop, son of David and Marge Wanshop. They have two children, Victoria and Jack.

Remember this: Whoever **sows** sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever **sows** generously will also reap generously.

I Corinthians 9:6

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## CLASSIFIEDS

### HELP WANTED

#### Maintenance help

Calvary is looking for talented people to help with church maintenance. If you are interested, please contact Dave Hemmig, Mike Angstadt, Gene Stratton or Mike Degler.

#### Help needed for Wednesday Night Dinners:

People to help with prep work at 4:30 pm & people to help with clean up from 7 - 7:45 pm. This can be on a rotating basis rather than every week. Please sign up on the contact sheet in the bulletin or call Ginny Adametz at 610-775-4907.

#### Volunteers needed for programs at The Link:

After-school homework and book club, kids art class, teens open gym.

Volunteers needed on Tuesdays from 5 - 8 pm

Contact Dani Motze or Terri Snook for additional information. [dmotze@thelinkcenter.org](mailto:dmotze@thelinkcenter.org), [tsnook@thelinkcenter.org](mailto:tsnook@thelinkcenter.org), or call 610-372-7310.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING?

**Christmas on Noble Street**  
**Saturday, December 4,** at The Link Center,

**7:00 am - 2:00 pm**

#### King's Kids Performance

Combined Church Service. **Sunday, December 5, 11:15 am**

#### Angel Tree

WRAPPED GIFTS ARE DUE THIS **SUNDAY**. Please place gifts under the Angel Tree. Delivery of gifts will take place on Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### Women's Ministry Christmas Breakfast

will be held next **Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 am** at Weaver's Banquet Facilities in Adamstown. Tickets are \$10. Sunday is the last day tickets will be available to purchase in the multi-purpose room. A bus will be available to take you to the breakfast. Please call or sign up on the contact sheet if you'd like a ride - first come, first to get a ride. The bus will leave promptly at 8:00am from the church parking lot.

If you would like to contribute, we will be collecting gifts at the breakfast for Mercy Community Crisis Pregnancy Center. Here is a list of present needs: baby bottles (not Playtex, not glass), pacifiers, baby bath (liquid soap), small diaper bags, hooded baby bath

towels, neutral color sleepers (sizes 0-3 mo, & 3 -6 mo.), neutral color bibs, diapers (sizes 4 & 5). No baby powder, please. Baby Lotion is a nice item; however, baby bath is a more urgent need for their clients.

#### Married Couples Christmas Party

(at the home of Robin Goodman's parents) on **Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, from 6 pm - 10 pm**. Cost is \$15 per couple and \$5 gift per person for gift exchange. Dessert donations welcome! *If you plan to attend, please complete the contact sheet in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate.*

**Wednesday Family Night Dinners** - Join us every Wednesday night at 6:15 pm. Dinner is \$1 to \$3 per person. Sign up on the contact sheet in the bulletin to make reservations.

You are invited to stay after dinner and join in one of the following activities at 7:00 pm:

- Pioneer Club -
- Kindergarten through 6th grade
- Legacy Student Ministry -Grades 7th - 12th
- College and Twenty Something (CATS) Bible Study at the Alpha House
- Prayer Meeting



**Join us for snacks during Connection Time, 10:45 Sunday morning, between Sunday School and church.**

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## CLASSIFIEDS (Continued)

- Weekly Grace Group

**Bread Pickup and Wrapping** on Wednesday nights at 9:15 pm here at the church. If you have any questions, please contact Llona Stish at [llona.stish@1800gotjunk.com](mailto:llona.stish@1800gotjunk.com) or 610-286-6888.

**Christmas Card Mailboxes** are available in the multipurpose room through December 21<sup>st</sup>. Divide cards A-L and M-Z. Cards will be placed in alphabetical order on tables in the multipurpose room for pick up before and after the Christmas Eve Service on December 24<sup>th</sup> as well as Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Mercy Crisis Pregnancy Center Baby Bottles**

We are collecting all baby bottles that were given out at our mission conference in October (whether or not they are filled) so we can return them to Mercy. Any unreturned bottles must be replaced by Mercy at a cost, so they would appreciate receiving even the empty bottles returned. Please place them in the church office mail slot and we will see they are returned to Mercy. Thank you!

### **Holiday Gift Baskets**

Thank you to the church body and Youth Sunday School Classes for your generous monetary

donations for the holiday gift baskets. For Thanksgiving we were able to bless four families with all the fixings for a meal, including the turkey. We will still be accepting monetary donations through December 19<sup>th</sup>, as we would like to share gift baskets with others for Christmas. Any money left over will be used to restock the pantry. Thank you for your generosity.

### **Sign the Christmas Cards for Our Missionaries**

Cards for each of the missionaries we support are on a table in the multipurpose room for everyone to sign. If you haven't done so yet, be sure to sign them today so they can be mailed out this week.

### **The Link Center**

#### **Open Gym**

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 pm to 8 pm.  
Ages 13 - 18; 5-6 pm  
Ages 17 & 18+; 6-8 pm  
**Volunteers are still needed for Tuesday evenings**

#### **Wholly Grounds**

Coming this January, from 7 - 11 pm

Yoga, coffee, snacks, art, music, open gym, and more

2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays: College Age and Twenty Something  
4<sup>th</sup> Fridays: High school age

### **Items being collected:**

Board games, large floor pillows, fabric, old furniture: room dividers, end tables, area rugs, no-flame candles.

Check out our website [www.thelinkcenter.org](http://www.thelinkcenter.org), and Facebook page for more programs and details! Contact Dani Motze for more info at [dmotze@thelinkcenter.org](mailto:dmotze@thelinkcenter.org) or call 610-372-7310.

### **GRACE GROUPS**

To Embrace Grace, Pray, Build Relationships, and Care for One Another

If you are not already in a grace group, we encourage you to check them out. The following is a list of our current Grace Groups. We will post updates as additional groups are formed.

#### **Weekly Groups**

Place: Church  
Time: 7:00 pm, Wednesdays  
Status: Already Meeting  
Leader: Pastor Russ Weidel  
For more information: 610-372-7640

Place: Church  
Time: 6:00 pm, Sundays  
Status: Already Meeting  
Leader: Dorothy Steck  
For more information: 610-678-4069

#### **Bi-weekly Groups**

Place: Mark and Lois Yorgey's Home, 143 Spook Lane, Fleetwood PA 19522

Time: 6:00 pm, every other Sunday

Status:

Already meeting

Material: 3:16

by Max Lucado

For more information: 610-944-9652

Place: Joe and Ginny Adametz's Home, 106 Woodland Manor Dr, Mohnton, PA 19540

Time: 6:00 pm, every other Sunday

Status:

Already meeting

Material: 1 Peter

For more information: 610-775-4907

#### **\*\*Women's Only**

Place: Pastor Russ and Cindy Weidel's Home, 1514 Ridge Ave, Reading, PA 19607

Time:

8:00 am, Saturdays

Status: Meets January 8th through March 26

Material: *Encouraging One Another* - Women of Faith Study Guide Series

Leader: Cindy Weidel

\* Limited to 8 women

\* Must Sign Up by December 15

For More Information: 610-777-1518

#### **\*\*Men's Only**

Place: The Heritage at Green Hills, 200 Tranquility Lane, Reading, PA 19607

Time: **7 am**, Saturdays

Status:

Already meeting

Leader: Norm Barker

For More Information: 484-855-3050



**Calvary Baptist Church**  
**510 Park Avenue,**  
**Reading, PA 19611**  
**610-372-7640**  
**calvarybaptist.reading@verizon.net**  
**www.calvarybaptistreading.com**

## Welcome to Calvary

Our entire church family welcomes you. Our desire is to minister to you and your family so that you can discover a living, loving God who wants to touch your life.

Our vision is that we would be connecting people with Christ, building disciples who follow Christ, and cultivating leaders who walk as Christ.

Whether it is through the preaching of the Word, the study of the Word, or the interaction with fellow believers, our purpose is to glorify God while being obedient to His commands.

We see our mission as making disciples who make disciples. We invite you to join with us as we follow God and seek to make an impact in our community for Him!

Through missions at Calvary Baptist, we seek to lift up God's glory among the nations, bringing more and more people to saving faith in Jesus locally and around the world.

We support ministries through short term projects, and career missionaries among least-reached peoples, primarily doing church planting.

We pray for our missionaries, provide mission education throughout the congregation, trust God to meet our financial needs, and challenge our own members to be involved in world missions.

## The Link Center

The Link Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3). We desire to be a force to provide a Christian influence and strengthen and maintain wholesome family values. You are welcome to become part of The Link Center membership, making a difference in our community.

**Our Mission** - The Center exists to provide a central, safe, inviting and open gathering point for the Reading community to engage in activities that encourage relationship building while responding to recognized community needs.

### Core Values

- **Dependency** - Fully dependent upon God for direction and resources. Fully committed to prayer as the motor for ascertaining direction and acquiring resources.
- **Unity in Diversity** - Differences serve to enrich dialogue, discussion and perspective. These differences will be met with acceptance and understanding.
- **Integrity** - In both word and deed in the Reading/Berks Community
- **Urgency** - Immediacy and urgency of our call to reach our community
- **Servanthood** - "Just as Jesus Christ did not come to be served, but to serve..."
- **Belonging** - Promote a sense of community and belonging.
- **Facilities** - The Link offers an assortment of air conditioned facilities to assist individuals, families, schools and businesses in servicing their meeting, party, and conference interests. Tables and chairs to seat 300 are available. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on The Link Center grounds.



**The Link Center**  
**201 Noble Street, Reading, PA 19610**  
**610-372-7310**  
**info@thelinkcenter.org**  
**www.thelinkcenter.org**