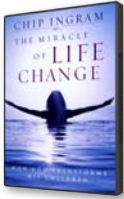


Upcoming Events

www.venturechristian.org

LAST WEEKEND FOR SMALL GROUP SIGN-UPS!



At Venture, we know that life change happens in community. That's why we're making it easier than ever to help you find one that's just right for you. Simply fill out the Small

Group sign-up card enclosed and drop it in the offering bag or go to VentureChristian.org to sign up online. Most groups start this week with "The Miracle of Life Change" DVD series. Sign up today!

VENTURE NEEDS YOU!



As God continues to grow Venture Church, we are in need of more volunteers to join the team by loving our kids,

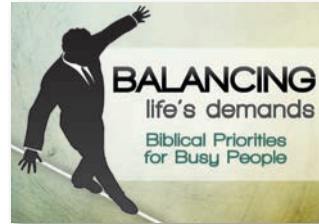
servicing our guests and serving in the church office. Our most immediate needs are Shuttle Drivers with a "Class B" license, Children's Ministry Volunteers and office phone reception assistance. Stop by the patio on your way out to sign up and see the other areas of service opportunities as well. We're all in this together - if you are able to serve, we thank you ahead of time for being a part of the team!!

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS NEEDED!

If you are a graphic designer looking for a place to serve and use your gifts

to advance God's Kingdom, you are wanted! Please contact Annie Ingram at annie@lote.org for more details.

NEW TEACHING SERIES BEGINS THIS WEEKEND



Does life seem a little out of control? Are you running long on "to dos"

and short on time? This weekend, Chip Ingram kicks off a brand new 5-part series, "Balancing Life's Demands." Learn how to put "first things first" and find peace in the midst of pressure and adversity. No cliches or quick fixes, just practical biblical insights to help you order your personal world.

BARNES & NOBLE VOUCHERS TO BENEFIT LGCS

Use the Bookfair voucher provided in your bulletins this weekend when making purchases on Sept. 12 or 13 at the Pruneyard Barnes & Noble (only at this location); a percentage of all your purchases will go to Los Gatos Christian School! You can also download a pdf of the voucher from www.VentureChristian.org to email to all your friends! While you're there, check out Chip's newly released book, *Overcoming Emotions That Destroy*.

ADULT MINISTRIES

Life Community Focus of the Week—Sundays at 9:15am: *Koinonia—age 50+ (Room 212/213).* Leaders: Curt and Gracie Willson (408.294.9257). A lively community of believers maximizing their second half of life through Bible study, fellowship, and loving service to others through prayer. In addition there are special events and in-home Bible studies during the week for the singles in the group (contact Jorgi Stanford at 408.892.5560).

Life Community Focus of the Week—Sundays at 11am: *Seekers (Room 214).* Leaders: Frank and Bev Buxton, Penny Hess. Teacher: Gary Hess. Our group is composed of warm, friendly, and faithful members of all ages. We have times of fellowship and prayer each week and social events throughout the year. Our current study is in I and II Timothy and Titus. We are studying the New Testament Church.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Awana Begins This Wednesday, Sept. 16 from 6:15-8pm. Awana is a Bible-centered, youth-oriented, weekday Bible club for children from age 4 to 6th grade. The cost is \$40 which includes registration, dues and awards. Volunteers are also needed. For more details, contact Allyson McCombs (amccombs@venturechristian.org) or Emily Mapes (408.997.4646).

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

Do you have a passion for Global Ministries? Then join us from 8-9am each Sunday in Room 216 to pray for our missionaries and outreaches. Feel free to bring your missionary booklet

(available in the lower foyer) and monthly missionary prayer list.

HEALING MINISTRIES

The fall session of GriefShare will begin Monday, October 5. Meetings will be held every Monday (October 5 - through December 28) from 7-9pm in Room 219. GriefShare is a special seminar/support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. It's a place where you can be with people who understand the pain of your loss. At GriefShare you'll have the opportunity to learn valuable information that will help during this difficult time in your life. To register or for more information, contact Anne Jones (408.997.0713 or annej47@sbcglobal.net) or Eva Smith (408.972.1729 or evas@pacbell.net). There is a \$15 fee for the session (workbooks included). Child care is not provided during the support meeting.

Celebrate Recovery: Join us and discover how God uses this program to heal us from our "hurts, habits, and hang-ups." We meet every Friday night beginning with a barbecue at 6pm in the parking lot. At 7pm, we begin our large group time of teaching and/or testimony; at 8pm, we have our issue and gender-specific small groups. **CR Women's 12 Step Study begins September 23.** Experience a healthier and more whole life as you encounter Biblical truth and grace-filled support. This study requires a nine-month commitment. Join us for this life-changing adventure! For more information, contact CR (408.997.4641 or CR@venturechristian.org).

Recovery Fest 2009—Saturday, September 19 from 10am to 6pm at Vasona Park in Los Gatos: Bringing the "Recovery Community" together

Ministry News (cont.)

and celebrating transformed lives, young and old. It's vitally important that everyone in recovery and their family members know there are people willing to help them and that they are not alone in their struggles with addiction. This is a fun-filled day at the park enjoying a barbecue meal, listening to live music, and networking with others in the recovery community.

DivorceCare is a small group devoted to those divorced. It's a safe place to find help, discover hope, and experience healing with the help of others who understand. The group meets Wednesdays at 7pm in Room 217/218. Contact Frank and Bev Buxton (408.225.3624 or bjbuxton67@sbcglobal.net).

Blended Families Class Begins Sunday, September 27. This new class is designed to help married couples who have "blended" two families or for those who have plans to do so soon. The class will meet Sundays at 9:15am in the Ranch House. For more information, please contact Frank and Bev Buxton (408.225.3624 or bjbuxton67@sbcglobal.net).

Joyful Rebounders: This group is for women who are "alone again" after a divorce or the death of a spouse. For details, contact Sybil Ruggles (408.356.8860).

LOCAL OUTREACH

Volunteer Opportunities at Community Pregnancy Centers: For anyone interested in volunteer opportunities for the Community Pregnancy Centers, orientations will be offered October 5, 6, and 8 from 6:30-9:30pm at the South San Jose Center (3315 Almaden Expressway,

Suite 25). For more information and to register, contact Sally (408.978.9310; sally@mycpc.org).

MEN'S MINISTRY



New to the church? Want to get involved in Men's Ministry? Check out The Herd's website at VentureChristian.org.

The Herd Men's Ministry Tuesday Night Bible Study: Men, are you "all in" for Christ? Come join *The Herd* Tuesdays at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. This fall we are studying the Book of Matthew. This comprehensive Tuesday night Bible study is for men who desire a stronger knowledge of the Bible and its application to their lives. For more information, contact John White (408.224.8405). Come run with *The Herd!*

SPORTS (Adult)

Open Tennis for all Adults: Join us **Wednesdays from 6-8pm** and **Sundays at 4pm at Leland High School** (6677 Camden Ave). Please contact Stephanie Dunkle (408.226.8714 or shepaintsalot@yahoo.com). *(Please call before heading out to make sure someone will be at the court.)*

THE CREATIVE PRAYER TOUR At Venture, Monday, Sept. 28 at 7pm
Do you desire a more consistent and energized prayer life? Would you like to have some creative, biblical tools to improve your walk with God? Would you like to see dynamic prayer move to a new level in your family or church? Join Daniel Henderson and the ministry of Strategic Renewal for an evening of teaching, worship and biblical motivation in prayer. For more information on the Creative Prayer Tour, visit www.strategicrenewal.com.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women's Fall Bible Studies: Looking for a way to connect with other women during the week? Now is the perfect time to find a Women's study that fits you. Pick up a *Women's Bible Studies Fall 2009* brochure at the Information Center on the patio after the service or visit the Women's page at VentureChristian.org.

JEWEL is a ministry of prayer, encouragement, and mentoring that connects women for friendship and spiritual growth. JEWEL invites all women – young, not-so-young, married or single - to come to an information meeting about the ministry on either Thursday, October 1 from 6:30-8:30pm or Saturday, October 3 from 2-4pm; both will meet in Fellowship Hall. There will be sign-ups for Pearl or Ruby at these meetings. The kickoff training meeting will be Saturday, October 17 from 9am-noon. To participate in JEWEL we need your attendance

at these meetings; we will go over all the information and answer your questions. For more information, call Bonnie Bjarin (408.655.7935) or pick up a JEWEL brochure at the Women's Table.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)



Are you a mom with little ones who is looking to meet other moms with little ones? MOPS

is a great way to get connected with moms with kids from infancy through kindergarten. At Venture, we currently offer two different groups:

- ▶ MOPS I will meet the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month and the first meeting will be September 25. If you are interested, please contact Kristi Guardanapo (408.266.0404 or kreneee48@yahoo.com).
- ▶ MOPS II will meet the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month and the first meeting will be Sept. 18. For more information, call Darcy (408.362.9712).

Church News

AMERICAN TROOPS PROJECT



We provide care packages for troops serving overseas. If you would

like to donate items or get more details, contact John and Millie Evans (408.267.2363).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG

Have a penchant for antiquity? The Tall el-Hammam Excavation Project is in need of volunteers to dig with them on this site. Among other possibilities,

the site could be the location of the ancient Biblical city of Sodom. The cost for the trip is tax deductible and college credit is available. For more information, contact Thomas Winder, PhD (505.220.3263) or visit www.TallelHammam.com.

PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Join the Thursday Prayer Team from noon to 1pm in Common Ground as we pray about topical issues for our country and leaders.