

# january highlights...

**re·fresh**  
**Women's 2012 Spring Bible Study**

**Beginning dates for the 3 studies:**  
**Sundays @ 9:00 am Jan. 29th**  
**Tuesdays @ 9:30 am Jan. 10th**  
**Thursdays @ 6:30 pm Jan. 12th**

**Sr. Hi Winter Camp**

Jan. 13-16  
 at Quaker Hill Camp in McCall  
 Cost: \$145

**Saved by Grace 12-Step Group** is not meeting January 1, but will resume the next week in the Living Room C - If you are struggling with an addiction or an unhealthy habit, come recover with us!

**Shelter of the Most High** resumes Jan. 29 in the Prayer Room at 9 am Sundays -facilitated by Ann Ralstin Join us.

**Additional Men's Bible Study & Discussion Opportunities**

**Beginning Thursday, Jan 5, from 6:30-7:30 a.m.** in the Living Room, men are invited for a time of fellowship and topical studies (to be determined). Please contact Montie Ralstin with questions at 345-6776.

**Men's Bible Discussion on the Book of Revelation in the Fellowship Hall at 9 a.m. Sundays, starting January 29th** -facilitated by Dan Hemmer 322-0374

**Congregational Meeting - Monday, Jan. 30**

**Dessert Social at 6 P.M. Meeting 7 P.M.**

- \* Selection of new Deacons
- \* Ministry Updates and Annual Financial Report (child care with advanced registration 345-6776)

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**excerpt from the ticket**

A book chronicling the life-changing journeys of BVCC members.

**denae**

I braced myself for the inevitable anger. This was by far the worst trouble I had ever been in. I couldn't believe their reaction. "We're here for you, Denae. We love you." Their acceptance broke down the wall of my self-protection. Immediately the dam broke and I couldn't stop the tears. Although I expected disapproval, they offered me forgiveness and love as I poured out my story.

Alone in my bedroom that night, I tried to pray. I could not even imagine praying again. I contemplated in silence: Where should I start? What would I say, Why would God even listen to someone like me? I felt further from God than ever before. My lips trembled with my inadequacy. I wanted to form words that might be appropriate for God's ears, but all I could say was, "God help me."

Copies of The Ticket are available in the foyer.

# the ripple

january 2012



**BOISE VALLEY CHRISTIAN COMMUNION**

**Corporate Call to 21 Days of Fasting & Prayer - Montie Ralstin**

Over many years we have often addressed the subject of hearing the voice of God. Some have questioned whether they could ever really know what God was saying to them or if He really would speak to them. If that applies to you, the answer is "yes" He wants to speak to you and He will speak to you as you turn a listening ear to Him. God wants to speak to us, but so often we are preoccupied with our asking and looking for a specific answer that we neglect to heed His voice. Why is that? For me it is because He is often giving me the answer in a way unlike what I was expecting. Some of my most vivid recollections of hearing the heart of God on matters have come during times that I have been fasting and praying.

When we combine fasting with our prayers, we are in a process of denying ourselves as we are asking for more of Him. Fasting alone is not enough, but it is necessary. Remember, fasting is a choice we make that helps us draw into the presence of the Lord in a way that we can be totally focused on Him. When fasting we must pray and seek His face, His heart and His direction. He will answer us and give us insight, even if it varies from what we might have been expecting. I am personally looking forward with anticipation to this time of the corporate call to 21 days of fasting and prayer. Notice I used the word "anticipation" and not apprehension. Honestly speaking, there have been times when I felt apprehension when approaching times of fasting and prayer. Yes the first two or three days of fasting whatever it is that the Lord leads each of us to do individually is often difficult because we are breaking patterns or habits we have developed in our daily living. In our "discomfort" of the fast we must lean into the Comforter. The Holy Spirit will enable us to get over those times when we want to go back and give up. Press in through calling out to the Lord in these times and He will sustain you.

So why am I anticipating this time of fasting and prayer? Because I sense a greater need to hear His voice, get His direction, and to know His heart. This need is born out of my own "change of seasons" in life, as well as those of my family, the church, the city and the nation. (article continued on page 2)

# bvcc in action

## Fasting & Prayer (Continued from article on page 1)

I have a sense of the Lord wanting to impart specific direction for my own life and the life of the church. What will He say? How will I respond? Those are things I am asking myself as I prepare for this time together.

We cannot all fast the same way, but please accept the challenge to deny some type of food or drink that you regularly take in. In addition, consider some fasting from our "plugged in" culture and fast something like certain TV shows, the internet, texting, Facebook, Twitter, video games, etc. We all can do something! Ask and the Lord will direct you through His prompting.

I especially want to encourage and challenge the men to rise up and join in this time of fasting and prayer. We need to take the lead and step up for our church and in our families. God is calling us to a greater degree of commitment to our families and to, or into the ministries where He has gifted each one of us. It is time to seek the Lord for yourself, your spouse if you are married, your family and your church. Where do you fit in? Have you been called to step up in an area and resisted God? This time of fasting and prayer can and will be life-changing if you will enter it with a sincere heart in wanting to see some positive changes in your life.

To the whole Body, it is time to PRESS ON!! Now is not the time to faint and make excuses. This is a time for decision, commitment, and action. Get in the race! Run with endurance! Listen for His voice! Seek Him constantly! The prize is worth the cost of the race. Don't get left behind! May He be glorified in and through His Church!

**SINGLES Mingle ministry** invites the church to join them in registering for the following workshops:

**Friday, Jan. 27, 7-9 pm** Panel Discussion - Dennis Anderson, moderator  
Wills, Posts, Durable Power of Attorney, Living Wills, Trusts, Insurance  
(long-term care, term life, whole life)

**Friday, Feb. 24, 7-9 pm** Preparing for Retirement, Social Security,  
Medicare, Medicare Supplements, Funeral Planning

**Friday March 30, 7-9 pm** Investments, Coping with Recession  
Annuities, IRA's/401Ks

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| <b>1</b> Happy New Year!<br>9 am Youth Church, Childcare<br>10:30 am Service       | <b>2</b> New Years Observed (Office Closed)     | <b>3</b> 6:30 pm YES-Young Edults<br>7 pm Men's Bible Study  | <b>4</b> 6:30 pm DRCM Team Meeting<br>7 pm Youth Group | <b>5</b> 6:30 am Men's Fellowship & Study<br>10 am Intercessory Prayer  | <b>6</b> 6:30 pm Life Group                         | <b>7</b> 7 am Man to Man Breakfast                                     |
| <b>A Call to Prayer and Fasting - January 2 - January 22</b>                       |   |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>8</b> 9 am Youth Church, Childcare<br>10:30 am Service                          | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b> 9:30 am re • fresh Women's Bible Study<br>6:30 pm YES-Young Edults<br>7 pm Men's Bible Study | <b>11</b> 7 pm Youth Group                             | <b>12</b> 6:30 am Men's Fellowship & Study<br>10 am Intercessory Prayer<br>6:30 pm re • fresh Women's Bible Study | <b>13</b> 6:30 pm Life Group                        | <b>14</b> 7 am Man to Man Breakfast<br>8 am New Commandment Ministries |
| <b>Senior High Winter Camp 13-15</b>   |   |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>15</b> Family Sunday<br>9 am Youth Church, Childcare<br>10:30 am Service        | <b>16</b>                                       | <b>17</b> 9:30 am re • fresh Women's Bible Study<br>6:30 pm YES-Young Edults<br>7 pm Men's Bible Study | <b>18</b> 7 pm Youth Group                             | <b>19</b> 6:30 am Men's Fellowship & Study<br>10 am Intercessory Prayer<br>6:30 pm re • fresh Women's Bible Study | <b>20</b> 6:30 pm Life Group                        | <b>21</b> 7 am Man to Man Breakfast                                    |
| <b>Pray for Sr. High Youth as they return 1-16</b>                                 |   |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>22</b> 9 am Youth Church, Childcare<br>10:30 am Service                         | <b>23</b>                                       | <b>24</b> 9:30 am re • fresh Women's Bible Study<br>6:30 pm YES-Young Edults<br>7 pm Men's Bible Study | <b>25</b> 7 pm Youth Group                             | <b>26</b> 6:30 am Men's Fellowship & Study<br>10 am Intercessory Prayer<br>6:30 pm re • fresh Women's Bible Study | <b>27</b> 6:30 pm Life Group<br>7 pm Singles Mingle | <b>28</b> 7 am Man to Man Breakfast                                    |
| <b>Prayer &amp; Fasting Ends</b>   |   |  |  |   |   |  |
| <b>29</b> 9 am Youth Church,<br>Classes for Adults & Childcare<br>10:30 am Service | <b>30</b> 6 pm Congregational Dessert & Meeting | <b>31</b> 9:30 am re • fresh Women's Bible Study<br>6:30 pm YES-Young Edults<br>7 pm Men's Bible Study |  |   |   |  |

# january 2012

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

|                       |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 - Jan Brakensiek    | 16 - Wayne Thowless   | 24 - Glenn Barnes   |
| 3 - LaVonna Ringering | - Caleb Pon           | - Shad Tuck         |
| 4 - Chrisi Engle      | 18 - Alexia Lancaster | 25 - Judy Evans     |
| 5 - Neil Wilton       | 19 - Carmen Halstead  | - Jordon Smithger   |
| 6 - Alayna Kelsey     | 20 - Diana Pon        | 26 - Judy DeGiorgio |
| 8 - Grace Ruddy       | 21 - Deanna Brent     | 27 - Larry Knapp    |
| 9 - Ellen Nut         | - Jana Mansfield      | - Cliff Seusy       |
| - Ted Sigmont         | - Danny Ross          | 29 - Kiley Nelson   |
| 13 - James Beckman    | 22 - Mary Ann Smith   | 30 - Evelyn Hicks   |

## February 2012

10-12 - Jr. High Winter Camp  
20 - Presidents Day (Office Closed)  
14 - Valentines Day  
19 - Family Sunday  
24 - re • fresh Girls Night Out

## March 2012

11 - Day Light Saving Begins  
18 - Family Sunday