

## A NEW KIND OF MISSION in 2008

### This is a NEW YEAR !

As a praying church we want to ask are your participation in one of our prayer ministries?

The choices are many and this year we have a NEW one:

A PRAYER MISSION to General Conference in Fort Worth, Texas, April 23 to May 2, 2008.

WILL YOU GO TO PRAY? Costs will be airfare, hotel and meals. Like any other mission trip, we will be getting group rates and with 4 to a room the hotel expense will be held down. Go for a few days or for the whole 9 days. There will also be a "home base team" praying with updates coming back from the team in Fort Worth. Pastor Paul has set a goal of 40 people to Texas and 40 people (or more) praying here.

### HOW WILL YOU PARTICIPATE IN PRAYER ?

#### \* 24 HOUR PRAYER VIGIL EVERY WEEK

(at the church)

#### \* PRAYER CHAIN

#### \* EARLY SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER

#### \* PRAYER DURING SERVICES FOR THAT SERVICE

#### \* SERVING COMMUNION AT THE END OF SERVICES

#### \* PRAYER DURING MEETINGS

#### PRAYER WALKING

#### \* PRAYER MISSION FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE

For information on any of these areas of prayer contact Carol Faircloth at 295-6498 or 767-0462



## Prescribed by the Great Physician

The next time you feel like GOD can't use you, just remember ...

**Noah** was a drunk - **Abraham** was too old - **Isaac** was a daydreamer - **Jacob** was a liar - **Leah** was ugly - **Joseph** was abused - **Moses** had a stuttering problem - **Gideon** was afraid - **Samson** had long hair and was a womanizer - **Rahab** was a prostitute - **Jeremiah & Timothy** were too young - **David** had an affair and was a murderer - **Elijah** was suicidal - **Isaiah** preached naked - **Jonah** ran from God - **Naomi** was a widow - **Job** went bankrupt - **Peter** denied Christ - The **Disciples** fell asleep while praying - **Martha** worried about everything The **Samaritan** woman was divorced, more than once - **Zaccheus** was too small - **Paul** was too religious - **Timothy** had an ulcer and **Lazarus** was dead!

And Don't forget, **Jesus** Helped them all!!!! Now! No more excuses! **God** can use you to your full potential. Besides, you aren't the message, you are just the messenger.

*In the Circle of God's love, God's waiting to use your full potential.*

1. God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.
2. Live simply, Love generously, Care deeply
3. There is no key to happiness. The door is always open.
4. Silence is often misinterpreted, but never misquoted.
5. Do the math ... count your blessings.
6. Faith is the ability to not panic.
7. If you worry, you didn't pray. If you pray, don't worry.
8. As a child of God, prayer is kind of like calling home every day.
9. Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.
10. Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.
11. When we get tangled up in problems, God wants us to be still so He can untangle the knot.
12. A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.

Speak kindly ... Leave the rest to God. Love and Prayers Always. Have a great day!!! The SON is shining, and He can certainly use you!



"tabula rasa"

or... blank slate

Though many of us believe, sometimes, that a new year is simply one more day in the ongoing march of time, it also is an opportunity for assessment and goal-setting, a chance to look at life as a new year and a "blank slate," or "tabula rasa."

John Locke was a philosopher who lived in the 1600s and developed the "tabula rasa" theory. He believed that the mind of a person, at birth, was a "blank slate," – a life just waiting to be filled in.

The apostle Paul, on the other hand, taught us in the book of Romans that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God," (Romans 3:23), that we all need a Savior. His name is Jesus.

Having just come out of the Christmas season and worshipping and drawing closer to Jesus, we now have the opportunity, with this fresh, new year, to begin with a "clean slate." You see, dear church family and friends, during Christmas sometimes a remarkable thing happens. People who were at odds with each other decide to experience "peace on earth," and actually forgive one another.

Our senior pastor Paul preached a great sermon on December 23 about the JOY that comes from really looking deep into ourselves, recognizing and confessing our sin, (anything separating us from God or others), and being forgiven! What joy there is in being forgiven!

(And nothing any of us has done is so bad that God can't forgive it!) What a great feeling to feel cleansed, spiritually, and restored back to God.

It's also sweet to experience forgiveness and healing and reconciliation with others. It is, in fact, one of the sweetest and most joyful feelings on earth to forgive, and be forgiven, and be set free from separation from someone else.

This new year, beloved, how about becoming free from any and all unforgiveness?! Not only will you experience deep joy as a result, but you'll also set someone else free.

How about becoming free from "being offended easily?" If we could all just "not be offended easily," (help us, Jesus), again we could experience more of His peace and His joy. We'll also be more of a "sweet fragrance," to those around us, and to God.

How about it? Let's start this year with a fresh slate, a clean slate, and offer all-around forgiveness to anyone and everyone who has offended us. Then, we'll really have a head start, and 2008 will be great.

Joyful New Year!

"Pastor Bec."

## VOLUNTEER SERVANTS

As 2007 ends and a new year begins, we thank all the volunteer servants here at Covenant for all that you do

So many things went on with Missions, Faith in Action groups, Ushers and Greeters, Office Helpers, Vacation Bible School, CAFA, Port Orange Days...then there were those who made cookies for Father's Day, served meals to the homeless, held Volunteer training, gave flu shots, worked on pictures for the new directory, the golf tournament for CAFA, Advent wreath making, Hanging of the Greens, Port Orange Christmas Parade and other services.

There is more—the few who provide Covenant Café and the ladies who provide lovely receptions following memorial services etc. They do a fantastic job, even when called upon three weeks in a row. We are also thankful for this newsletter each month.

And for all who contributed to the big send-off party for Barbara Willis...and for all who aren't mentioned, please know you are appreciated for serving others and being an example of God's love.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

# FEBRUARY 2008

COVENANT U M C

## SUNDAY FAITH BUILDING CLASSES

**ROOM # CLASS NAME**

201 New Member Class

205 Serving Jesus at Covenant

117 Celebration of Discipline

204 Bereans

Pastor's Office Financial Freedom

202 Sitting at His Feet

105 Decision Making & The Will of God

104 Understanding the Bible

106 Growing Kids God's Way

119 Middle School

Youth Wing High School

11:00 Youth Confirmation Class

5:30p.m. Youth Group

6:00 p.m. Experiencing the Heart of Jesus

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:00 am Prayer Vigil begins 7:00 pm Overcomers Support Group	2 6:00 am Prayer Vigil Ends
3 8:30 am Worship Service 9:45 am Faith Building Classes 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Youth Confirmation 5:30 pm Youth Group 6:00 pm Experiencing The Heart of Jesus	4 9:00 am Mothers' Day Out 9:30 am Quilters 6:00 pm Men of Promise 6:30 pm "Weight" for God 6:30 pm Marriage Enrichment 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Al-Anon 7:00 pm Staff-Parish Mtg.	5 6:15 am Men's Team Jesus 2:30 pm CAFA 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Trustees 6:45 pm Breaking Free	8:00 am COA Respite 9:00 am Homemakers 9:30 am Do Drop In Adult Fellowship 5:30 pm Banner Ministry Practice 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Midweek Worship	7 10:30 am Pastors Bible Study 6:15 pm Praise Team 6:30 pm On Mission With God 6:30 pm Grief Care 6:30 pm Divorce Care 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:00 pm Experiencing God 7:00 pm BSA Troop 477 7:30 pm Choir Practice	8 6:00 am Prayer Vigil begins 7:00 pm Overcomers Support Group	9 6:00 am Prayer Vigil Ends 6:00 pm Volunteer Dinner
10 8:30 am Worship Service 9:45 am Faith Building Classes 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Youth Confirmation 5:30 pm Youth Group 6:00 pm Experiencing The Heart of Jesus	11 9:00 am Mothers' Day Out 9:30 am Quilters 6:00 pm Men of Promise 6:30 pm "Weight" for God 6:30 pm Marriage Enrichment 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Al-Anon 7:00 pm Leadership Council	12 6:15 am Men's Team Jesus 2:30 pm CAFA 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Trustees 6:45 pm Breaking Free	13 8:00 am COA Respite 9:00 am Homemakers 9:30 am Do Drop In Adult Fellowship 5:30 pm Banner Ministry Practice 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Midweek Worship	14 10:30 am Pastors Bible Study 6:15 pm Praise Team 6:30 pm On Mission With God 6:30 pm Grief Care 6:30 pm Divorce Care 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:00 pm Experiencing God 7:00 pm BSA Troop 477 7:30 pm Choir Practice	15 6:00 am Prayer Vigil begins 7:00 pm Overcomers Support Group	16 6:00 am Prayer Vigil Ends 12:30 pm Pinewood Derby
17 8:30 am Worship Service 9:45 am Faith Building Classes 10:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Youth Confirmation 5:30 pm Youth Group 6:00 pm Experiencing The Heart of Jesus	18 9:00 am Mothers' Day Out 9:30 am Quilters 6:00 pm Men of Promise 6:30 pm "Weight" for God 6:30 pm Marriage Enrichment 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Al-Anon	19 6:15 am Men's Team Jesus 2:30 pm CAFA 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Trustees 6:45 pm Breaking Free	20 8:00 am COA Respite 9:00 am Homemakers 9:30 am Do Drop In Adult Fellowship 5:30 pm Banner Ministry Practice 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Midweek Worship	21 10:30 am Pastors Bible Study 6:15 pm Praise Team 6:30 pm On Mission With God 6:30 pm Grief Care 6:30 pm Divorce Care 6:30 pm Praise Team 7:00 pm Experiencing God 7:00 pm BSA Troop 477 7:30 pm Choir Practice	22 6:00 am Prayer Vigil begins 7:00 pm Overcomers Support Group 7:00 pm Do Drop In	23 6:00 am Prayer Vigil Ends
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