

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

VENTURE Weekly

November 29, 2009

Venture Christian Church
16845 Hicks Road
Los Gatos CA 95032
408.997.4600

Upcoming Events/Highlights

www.venturechristian.org

CONTENTMENT @ CHRISTMAS

Webster describes contentment as being fully satisfied with things as they are. Join us this Christmas season for this new series taken from Philippians, chapter 4, and learn how we can be content... even during the busiest shopping of the year. In a world that wrongly promises that more and bigger will fulfill our deepest desires, the truth from God's Word cuts through the lies and allows us to experience a great and lasting contentment, regardless of our circumstances.

NEXT MINISTRY HUDDLE— SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Just a reminder for our volunteer leaders—we're looking forward to seeing you at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be reconnecting with you and going over upcoming events at the church. See you there!

HAS GOD GIVEN YOU A BURDEN TO PRAY?



We're starting a new pre-service prayer group to cover the pastors, the worship leaders

and the body in prayer and to ask God to pour out His Holy Spirit. Join us anytime during each session on Saturday from 4:15-5pm and Sunday from 10:15-11am in the Prayer Room (follow the signs at the top of the ramp). For more information, please

contact Judy Porter (408.480.4029 or judy@portermarais.com). *"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."* Matthew 18:20

HIGH SCHOOL LOCAL MISSION TRIP



Venture High School students will be reaching out next weekend, (December 4-6) to the poor and homeless in San Francisco for a weekend service experience. Please keep them in prayer. For more details, visit VentureStudents.org or contact Dave Molchan (408.997.4661).

STANFORD BLOOD DRIVE



Give the Gift of Life this Christmas season! The next Blood Drive at Venture will be Monday, December 14 from 1:00-7:00pm in

Common Ground. Sign up online at <http://bloodcenter.stanford.edu>. Click on "FIND A BLOOD DRIVE," then on "Los Gatos," and then the date of December 14.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Join us Thursday, December 24 for a candlelight service with Christmas carols and a special message. Service times will be 4, 6 & 8pm (childcare for up to 5 years will be available for the 4 & 6pm services only).

ADULT MINISTRIES

Sundays at Venture—



For information on classes available Sunday mornings, pick up a *Sundays at Venture* brochure at the Information Center. Following are some highlights of classes we offer:

Life Community Focus of the Week—Sundays at 9:15am: *Truth Seekers—all ages (Room 217-218)*. Leaders: Stan and Donna Bales (408.266.9764). You'll experience a warm welcome! Join us as we enjoy a time of light refreshment, prayer, worship, and study. Stan will lead in expository as well as topical teaching; class participation is encouraged. You'll find times of fellowship, service, and activities—and an occasional trip. This class is open to all ages and both couples and singles. Visit our new class website at www.truthseekersclass.shutterfly.com and enter the password "venture."

Life Community Focus of the Week—Sundays at 11am: *Parent.Net (Ranch House)*. Leaders: Mark and Patty Oswald. Teacher: Geoff Phillips. This community is designed for parents of teens in high school or middle school. It features a variety of video seminars and topical studies pertinent to families with teens, and includes time for discussion and fellowship. Our current study is "Sexuality Among Teens."

Adult Elective Focus of the Week—Sundays at 9:15am: *Improv: Life Unscripted (Room 211)*. Facilitators: Aaron and Holly Carmichael. This is a friendly group desiring in-depth, interactive Bible study. Each week, the study is facilitated by a rotating

team of couples using the Serendipity Bible as well as commentaries and other discussion materials. True to its name, Improv emphasizes interactive discussion and fellowship. The current study is the Book of Acts.

GLOBAL MINISTRIES

The **December Global Ministries Prayer Calendar** is available at the Information Center. Bless our missionaries through individual prayer throughout the month.

Operation Christmas Child Update:



Thank you for all your faithful giving. We had a total count of 422 boxes sent out to Samaritan's Purse to be distributed to children in need.

HEALING MINISTRIES



GriefShare: This support group for those grieving the death of a loved one meets Mondays from 7-9pm in Room 219. **Note: GriefShare meetings originally scheduled for December 21 & 28 will now meet January 4 & 11 instead.** For more information, please contact Anne (408.997.0713 or anne47@sbcglobal.net) or Eva (408.972.1729 or evas@pacbell.net).



DivorceCare is a special weekly seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced. Join us Wednesdays at 7pm in Room 217-218. **December 16 will be the last meeting**

Ministry News (cont.)

of the current session, and a new session will begin in January. For details, contact Frank and Bev Buxton (408.225.3624 or bjbuxton67@sbcglobal.net).

Venture's Celebrate Recovery Friday nights now at FCC: Venture's CR Friday night ministry has combined with Family Community Church, so the Friday meetings are now being held at FCC. The Wednesday 12-Step groups will continue at Venture to complete their nine-month commitment. FCC's group meets on Fridays at 7pm in their "Café." Childcare is provided through 5th grade. For more information, contact Mindy Scratch (408.365.0313).

Joyful Rebounders: If you are a woman who has found herself "alone again" after a divorce or the death of a spouse, then this group is for you! For details, contact Sybil Ruggles (408.356.8860).

MEN'S MINISTRY

The Herd Men's Ministry Tuesday Night Bible Study: Join us Tuesdays at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall; we're currently studying the Book of Matthew. For more information, contact John White (408.224.8405). Come run with *The Herd!*

The Herd's Jonathan Group: Find strength to live up to the calling God has given you. God never intended for you to go through life alone. Even King David, a man after God's own heart, needed Jonathan in his life. The Jonathan Group meets in small groups of 2-3 every Tuesday from 6-7pm in Room 215. For more information,

contact Joe Rechenmacher at (408.265.4626).

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.*

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Middle School: We meet Sundays at 11am and Tuesdays at 7pm in Room 305. Beginning in January, we will also meet Saturday nights... stayed tuned for more details. For more information, contact Rob Walter (408.997.4660).

High School: We meet Sundays at 11am and Tuesdays at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like more information, visit www.VentureStudents.org or contact Dave Molchan (408.997.4661)

College: Join us Sundays at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Look for new Women's Bible studies coming in January.

VCC Prayers & Squares (quilting ministry) meet the second Tuesday of each month. For more information on this or other Women's activities, visit the Women's page at VentureChristian.org.

AMERICAN TROOPS PROJECT



Join us in supporting our troops serving overseas. If you know of someone serving whom you'd like to include or who have now returned, please stop by Room 213 during the Sunday services to update our list. You can also pick up a list of gift suggestions or drop items off. Our Christmas packages will be going out soon. For more details, please contact John and Millie Evans (408.267.2363).

CHECK OUT VENTURE'S LIBRARY

Stop by our library located next to the kitchen on the second level. It's a great free resource!

► **On the shelf this week:**

After the Leaves Fall

by Nicole Baart. A breathtaking peek into a young girl's soul as she suffers loss of loves.



VENTURE PRAYER TEAM

Most individual prayer requests are now being covered in small groups, however, not everyone has been connected with a small group. Venture's Prayer Team has been established to be sure that everyone's requests are covered in prayer. If you feel God has gifted you to be a prayer warrior, we invite you to join the Venture Prayer Team. Please contact Deb Omori (domori@venturechristian.org or 408.997.4614) if you are interested or would like more details.

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.

START YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING HERE...



Visit Venture's growing Resource Center in Common Ground (just across the patio from the Worship Center). We have a number of DVD series and books available for purchase. Enjoy a free beverage

if you stop by between the 9:15 and 11am services.

VENTURE'S SMALL GROUP COMMUNITY

Most of our small groups will be taking a break over the Christmas season, but in January we will be launching a whole new series. If you didn't get the opportunity to find a small group this fall, stay tuned... there are more great things to come in the new year! For more information on Venture's Small Group ministry, visit VentureChristian.org.

VENTURECHRISTIAN.ORG—IT'S A GREAT RESOURCE!



If you need any information about Venture, would like to listen to the weekend messages, like donating online, or want to sign up for our weekly news email—visit VentureChristian.org. It's an easy way to stay connected and get many of your questions answered.

WEEKEND SERVICE TIMES:
Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 8, 9:15 and 11am.

