

Upcoming Events/Highlights

www.venturechristian.org

DO YOU NEED A SILENT NIGHT?



Join us this Christmas Eve for a special candlelight service with Christmas carols and a message from Chip. Service times

for Thursday, December 24 will be 4:00, 6:00 & 8:00pm (childcare for up to 5 years will be available for the 4:00 & 6:00pm services only). Use the cards in your bulletin to invite your neighbors, co-workers, and friends... then join us and enjoy a great celebration together!

**HOST AN r12 SMALL GROUP...
... and experience true spirituality!**

Fill out the card included in your bulletin this weekend and drop it in the offering bag or turn it in at the Information Center. For more information on Venture Small Groups, visit our page under the Ministries tab



at VentureChristian.org or contact Sharon Stonehouse (ssstonehouse@venturechristian.org or 408.997.4644).

MOVING FORWARD AT VENTURE

We're always looking for ways to make life at Venture better for everyone... beginning from the parking lot to the entire experience on campus. So we have come up with a plan to help us move in that direction:

Three big needs to fulfill our mission:

- 1. Creating Space for Newcomers**
 - 400 People move to Saturday night
 - During Your Divine Design, we were 90% full at 11am with 650 cars in the parking lot
- 2. Creating a Safe Environment**
 - Parking Plan
 - Security Plan
 - People Flow Plan
- 3. Creating a Quality Experience**
 - Exterior and Interior Remodel
 - Increased time between services
 - Making it easy for people

Three action steps to fulfill our mission:

- 1. New Service Times**
 - December 20—8am service will discontinue
 - January 9-10—Sunday morning service times will move to 9 and 11am
- 2. Saturday night service upgrades (beginning January 16):**
 - Middle School group will meet on Saturday nights as well as Sundays at 11am (don't miss the kick-off event in Fellowship Hall)
 - Classes and Studies will be offered after the Saturday night service
- 3. Volunteers Needed**
 - Parking—needs 15 volunteers
 - Security—needs 35 volunteers
 - Hospitality—needs 35 volunteers
 - Sign up at the patio this weekend!

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 this week's highlights of classes we offer:

Life Community Focus of the Week—

Sundays at 9:15am: *Koinonia—age 50+ (Room 212-213)*. Leaders: Curt and Gracie Willson. 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 Jorji Stanford at 408.892.5560 for details on 50+ Singles events).

Life Community Focus of the Week—

Sundays at 11am: *Focus—singles 50+ (Room 217)*. Leader: LeRoy Eikanas. Teacher: Bert Dollahite. The current study is Romans. The group focus is single adults (never married, divorced, widowed) but all adults (including married couples) are welcome to attend the class.

Adult Elective Focus of the Week—

Sundays at 11am: *Men on the Move—men only (Room 219)*. Leader: Ron Canty. Want to dig a little deeper into the weekend sermons? This class will review the sermons from the previous week, discuss some of the issues and how they apply to you. It's a great way to take the next step and begin to apply what you have learned each week. All men are welcome.

Three new Saturday night classes will follow the service beginning January 16 and childcare will be available:

- **Love, Sex & Lasting Relationships—** Discover God's prescription for building relationships that last a lifetime. Taken from experts in the field such as Chip Ingram, Gary Smalley, Henry Cloud, John Townsend, R.C. Sproul, Dennis Rainey and more, the study will begin with Chip's DVD series "Love, Sex & Lasting Relationships."
- **Managing Our Finances God's Way (A Crown Financial Series presentation featuring Chip Ingram)—** Need help getting your finances in order? Start the new year off right by joining us for a 7-week commitment that will help you set new priorities and design a spending plan to get out of debt and stay debt free. Cost is \$15 per person for the workbook and CD. Register today!
- **Evangelism Through Apologetics—** more details coming soon.

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 are cancelled and 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 beginning January 13.** This 13-week session will run through April 7, and the cost (which includes a workbook) is \$15. Find help, discover hope,

Ministry News (cont.)

experience healing. For details, contact Frank and Bev Buxton (408.225.3624 or bjbuxton67@sbcglobal.net).

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

Are you ready for some football—and inspiration?? Join us in the Fellowship Hall Thursday, January 28 at 6:30pm for the Men’s Dinner, featuring Guy McIntyre! The five-time Pro Bowler was a fixture on the San Francisco 49ers’ offensive line from 1984 to 1993, and is now Director of Alumni Relations for the team. Guy also travels the bay area speaking on behalf of Fellowship of Christian Athletes One Way 2 Play Drug-Free program, which challenges today’s young men and women to live their lives in purity and free of addictions. Come hear Guy’s practical and inspirational testimony on how drugs, alcohol and his off-field behavior affected—and almost ruined—his playing career. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend. Tickets (which include dinner) are just \$10 and will go on sale January 3. For more information, please contact Ed Ortler (eortler@gmail.com).

SPORTS

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 Youth Basketball Ministry needs you... we need someone with a servant’s heart and a tow hitch to transfer equipment to and from the Branham High School gym for Saturday games. If you are able to help out (Jan. 16 - Mar. 20), please contact Sports Minister, Donny Dequine (dcdequine@venturechristian.org or 408.997.4632) by January 11.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Middle School: We meet Sundays at 11am and Tuesdays at 7pm in Room 305. We’re starting a Saturday night service on January 16, and we’re kicking it off with a free party in the Fellowship Hall with pizza, inflatables, games, and tons of guilt-free-fun. The times on that event are 5-7pm; and any middle schooler can come, whether they attend Saturday nights or Sundays. If you are available, we could really use your help on Saturday nights in January in the Middle School ministry. Please contact Rob Walter (RWalter@venturechristian.org or 408.997.4660) if you are available to invest in kids.

High School: We meet Sundays at 11am and Tuesdays at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. **Join us this winter for our annual Joyride trip. Joyride is our winter trip to Northstar at Tahoe January 21-24.** Come to snowboard and ski or just relax and hang out in the snow. The cost is \$150 (plus \$48 for each day’s lift ticket). Sign up on Sunday or Tuesday. \$50 deposit required to sign up. For more information, please contact Dave Molchan (DMolchan@venturechristian.org or 408.997-4661).

College: We meet Sundays at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. **Come join the Venture College Group on our**

annual snow retreat. Connect with other college students, relax, and snowboard/ski at Northstar Ski Resort, January 28 - 31. For more information, contact Josh Becknall, College Pastor, at JBecknall@venturechristian.org.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



New to Venture and looking for a women's Bible study?

Stop by the Information Center and ask for our latest Bible Study brochure or visit the Women's page at VentureChristian.org.

Women of Venture Church - you are invited to the C.A.F.E. - "Coffee and Friends Engaged." Meet and greet our newest pastor's wives: Theresa Ingram, Kathy Lineman, Carrie Collins, and Amy McCauley. Join us as we hear the voices behind the men and the heartbeat of each wife. Coffee house pastries and beverages will be served.

❖ Date: Saturday, January 16

❖ Time: 9:30-11:30am

❖ Location: Fellowship Hall

Sign-up at the Resource Center Saturday or Sunday to reserve your spot at the C.A.F.E.

Church News

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.

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER WILL RESUME JANUARY 9-10

Our pre-service prayer time will resume in January. For more information, please contact Judy Porter (408.480.4029 or judy@portermarais.com).

LOOKING FOR LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS PRESENTS...

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

VENTURE'S LIBRARY

On the shelf this week: Necessary Risk by John F. Bayer. Not knowing whom to trust or whom to believe, David Michael's search for the truth was the greatest risk of his life. After his brother dies in a suspicious

industrial accident, Navy commander David Michaels is thrust into a dangerous world of corrupt greed and political espionage. Soon he is haunted by a multitude of doubts: was the death really an accident or was it murder? Is this some kind of government cover-up? Why would God allow a tragedy like this?

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.

NOTE UPCOMING CHANGES IN WEEKEND SERVICE TIMES:

This weekend: Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 8, 9:15 and 11am.

Beginning Dec. 26-27: Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 9:15 and 11am.

Beginning Jan. 9-10: Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 9 and 11am.