



Parkside Church

Leadership Launch 2012



**New Grow Groups in
the New Year!**

PARKSIDE STAFF & STUFF...

The Communiqué is a monthly newsletter of Parkside Church. Chris Bennett, Senior Pastor; **Josh Heimiller**, Associate Pastor; **Carol Wilcox**, Children's Pastor, **John Payne**, Pastor of Worship Arts/Youth Advisor; **Natasha Porter**, Director of Child Life Learning Center; **Fratima Romero**, Office Administrator; **Carol Alumbaugh**, Administrative Assistant; **Julie Barron**, Facility Coordinator; **Robert Contreras**, Facility Superintendent.

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Parkside Church Mission: Our mission is to help people to *connect* with God, *grow* with others and to *reach* the world.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Leadership Launch
- Helping Children Grow
- Helping the Youth Grow
- Making good resolutions

Welcome, all 2012 Board Members! We will be meeting together on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Besides receiving a binder to keep monthly minutes, a directory of Board Members including cell phone #'s and email addresses, a copy of the 6 Months-at-a-Glance calendar; we will seek to grasp the vision for Parkside Church for this new year! The Fellowship Team will serve refreshments Call the church office at 871-0840, if you have questions.



Dear Church Family,

Thank you so very much for the generous Staff Love Gift! Your love was felt in your sacrificial gifts and we praise God for each and every one of you. We appreciate you making our Christmas so special. God bless you this New Year—full of challenges and opportunities.

Love,

~Your Parkside Staff



Fighting Mediocrity...

Pastor and author, John Ortberg once wrote about one of the greatest enemies of the human spirit. It's a message worth considering as we launch into 2012. Ortberg said, "For many years, Max Depree was the CEO of an innovative Fortune 500 company called Herman Miller. Depree has written classic books on leadership and anchored the board of trustees at Fuller Seminary for 40 years. Max is asked to speak a lot about leadership, and at one session somebody asked him what the most difficult thing was that he personally had to work on. This was Max's response: 'It's the interception of entropy.'"

Entropy is a term from physics that has something to do with the second law of thermodynamics and the availability of energy. It speaks to the fact that the universe is winding down. It's the idea that everything that is left to itself has a tendency to deteriorate.

Entropy. It's not only one of the great enemies of the universe; it's one of the great enemies of the human spirit as well. A person becomes apathetic or complacent or settles for the path of least resistance in some area of life. Dreams die and hopes fade. A terrible thing happens: a person stops growing and learns to live with mediocrity.

Interestingly, the Book of Proverbs weighs in on the subject of entropy. Proverbs 27:23-24 says the wise man is diligent to monitor the condition of his livestock. Though these words speak of livestock, they are true in any area of life: *"Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations."* Though things might have been fine yesterday, that doesn't mean they will stay that way forever. Change and growth happens when we become intentional about doing something.

2012 has been designated "**The Year of Grow**" at Parkside Church. To kick things off in the New Year, I'd like to invite you to be a part of our six-week **Growth Plan 2012** series that will take place on Wednesday evenings beginning January 4th. We'll have interactive studies on the following subjects: Understanding and using spiritual gifts, growing in our relationship with God and others, the stewardship of our physical and financial lives and understanding work as a vocation.

I pray 2012 will be a year of tremendous spiritual growth for all of us at Parkside Church!

Chris Bennett, *Pastor*

CANCER

Paige Morgan's Mother: (submitted by Donna Cervantes) Battling cancer and mother-in-law also in hospital.

Dolly Krafve: Stopping radiation treatments because of heart problems.

Gary Perry: (Carole Huth's brother) Diagnosed with kidney cancer.

Jeff: (submitted by Erin Carter) Has cancer & wife, Sara, is pregnant with 1st child.

Lloyd Poon: Home and having pain after his prostrate cancer surgery.

Patrick Smith: Getting discouraged over lingering issues caused by his surgery.

Andrea Oliver: (Submitted by Dona Cervantes) Waiting tests from a biopsy.

MILITARY

Pray for soldiers overseas and their families.

Larry Fife: (submitted by the Parker family) Army stationed in Afghanistan. Pray for protection & wisdom.

Dustin Peterson: (Elsie Sutherland's nephew) Recently sent to Afghanistan.

Ben McCabe: (Judy Loos' son) Deployed to Afghanistan for a year.

Micah Gann: (Patti Knost's son) Deployed to Korea for a year.

VARIOUS

Travelling mercies for all those travelling for the holidays.

Betty Malamma: Needing answer from doctor for the problem Betty is having with heart and breathing.

Shelly DeSapio: (Debby Lindgren's cousin) Facing open heart surgery.

Connie: (Robin Jaske's friend) May be facing jail time. She is running out of money, scared and alone on the other side of the country.

Helen Cress: Facing wrist surgery.

Soul Duffel: (Ben & Pat Duffel's grandson) Going down hill fast.

Mary Straw: Recovering from gallbladder

surgery.

Mike Mara: Dealing with a pulmonary embolism.

Terry Hopper: (Carol Owen's brother-in-law) Hospitalized with pneumonia.

Debbie: (Joan Ingram's neighbor) Hospitalized with a series of TIA's. Pray the doctors can stabilize her.

Kenneth Gassaway: Recovering from Bells Palsy.

Elmer Hall: Continued prayers fro recovery from retina surgery.

Wendi Mason: Continued prayers for a safe happy home and physical, mental healing for myself and peace in my heart only God can give.

Paul: (Robin Jaske's brother) Kidneys are failing.

Esther: (Erin Carter's sister) Lost her job suddenly.

Cindy Duff: (submitted by Erin Carter) Hospitalized with blood clot in lung.

Darryl Baker: Continue to pray for good prospects to sell windows, sidings remodeling to please.

Rick Arnold: Safe travel while driving truck in inclement weather.

Elaine Bierlein: Recovering from brain surgery to remove a tumor from behind her ear. Would appreciate encouraging cards.

Once a week, our church staff & church prayer group pray over each one of these requests and rejoices in answered prayers!

PRAISE

Congratulations to Julia McNutt who graduated from High School early!!!

Mac & Marie McKnight: Praise God and many “thank you’s” for Christmas Eve service and music.

Terry McKnelly: Praise he is doing great. Thanks be to God!

Marc & Tammy Knight: Praise for 4 grandbabies and a great job.

Toby: (Carole Huth’s son) His hand is healing well. Thanks for all your prayers.

April Heimiller: I love our church at Christmas time! Thanks for all your hard work.

Marlys Fay: Continued “New” relationships and “Kingdom Connections”—May God bless and keep you!

Nancy Long: My brother got a job and my dog is much improved.

Monique Bellanger: Praise she is home safely from her studies in New Zealand.

Frances Hurtado: Able to continue at Blanton F. Kelly Community School.

Linda Burruss: Praise Richard’s mom is doing better. Prayers for guidance and strength for daughter.

Mark Benthin: Praise! PG&E training going great. Praise God for this miracle.

Sandy: (Jean Allsman’s sister) Thank you for your prayers. She is cancer free.



Caring & Sharing...



The Parkside Care Team Meeting

The Care Team will meet on Sunday, January 8 @ 6:00 pm at Barbara Bilyeu’s home.

Sunday Greeter Reminder

January 1

First Service:

Cliff & JoAnn
Harmel
Evelyn Knight

Second Service:

John & Denise
England
Clint & Cindy
Blackhawk
Chuck & Nancy
Long

January 8

First Service:

Walt & Jean
Allsman
Greg & Andrea

Second Service:

Owens
Paul & Bea Myers
Hank & Sharon
Hoss

January 15

First Service:

Caly & Helen
Cress
Larry & Susan

Second Service:

Landis
Mike & Margaret
Mara
Hank & Sharon
Hoss
Ron & Sue
Edwards
Sydney Harter

January 22

First Service:

Michael
Kittredge
Ted & Janet

Second Service:

Oliver
Hank & Sharon
Hoss
Ron & Sue
Edwards
Sydney Harter

January 29

First Service:

Jay & Mary Sweat
Patti Knost

Second Service:

Chuck & Nancy
Long
Larry Payne
Erin Carter

CGR COURSE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 FROM 2 – 5 P.M.

Join us for the CGR Course on Sunday, January 22 from 2 – 5 p.m. We will host a free dinner afterward.

The CGR Course explores the 3 aspects of our mission as followers of Christ: connecting with God, growing with others, and reaching the world.

The course is a great way to grow in your faith, learn more about Parkside Church, and meet new people. The CGR Course also serves as our membership course here at Parkside. After completing the course you will have the option of becoming an “official” member!



GROWTH PLAN 2012 BEGINS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4 AT 6:15 P.M.

Tired of failing at those New Year’s resolutions you make each year? Join us for Growth Plan 2012 and set up a plan that will allow God to create lasting change and growth in your life!

Growth Plan 2012 truly could change your life. We will meet every Wednesday night at 6:15 p.m. beginning January 4. Over 6 weeks of study we will help you set goals in every major area of your life including: mission and values, relationship with God, relationship with people, financial life, physical life, and work life. In addition to our Wednesday night meetings you will receive a free devotional guide that will reinforce the themes and help you take daily steps toward God’s vision for your life.

GROWING WITH OTHERS IN GROUPS: NEW GROUPS BEGIN FEBRUARY 15

The “Year of Grow” is well underway at Parkside Church. A great way to make this your personal “Year of Grow” is to join a Grow Group.

A Grow Group is a group of people who meet weekly to study the Bible and apply it to life. Grow Groups are also a great place to meet new people and develop friendships. These groups will challenge you to Connect with God, Grow with Others, and Reach the World for Christ.

Our new Grow Groups List will be available January 16. Look for the catalogue so you can decide which group is right for you.

Contact Info for Carol Wilcox

By phone call the church office—661- 871-0840
 By email—carolwilcox@connectgrowreach.org



GROWING IN THE YEAR AHEAD
 A New Year's Blessing for Children and their Families ~ CW~

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
 "Give me a light that I may go safely into the unknown."

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God.
 That shall be to you safer than a known way."

By M. Louise Haskins

MORE WAYS FOR CHILDREN TO GROW IN 2012

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Weekly @ 9:30 – 10:30 AM in the Christian Ed Wing. Grow Groups for 2 yrs – 5th grade, and nursery care birth – 23 months at the same time so parents can join a grow group, too!

BIG WEDNESDAY: Jan 4, 2012 – 6:15 – 7:30 PM Happy New Year Welcome Back to Big Wave Wednesday for 1st – 5th and Faithweaver Friends for 3's - K. Make a New Year's Resolution to attend every week!

Listen to what your parents say
 Read your Bible every day
 Pray, pray, pray!!

GROWING OPPORTUNITIES COMING SOON!

SAVE THESE DATES

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: June 25 – 29, 9 AM – 12:30 PM K – 5th and child care for younger children of helpers. FREE

CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP: Aug 13 – 17; Boys & Girls entering 3rd – 5th Grade



Camp Fund Raiser Soup/Sandwich Dessert Auction, Sun March 18, Noon



Camp Fund Raiser Jog A Thon Sat May 5, 9:30 – 10:30 AM



*We extend our sympathy to Donovan Gabriel and Family in the passing of his father. And to Greg Owens and Family in the passing of his brother, Dennis Owens.
 May the Lord strengthen and comfort you during this time of sorrow and grief.*



January Birthdays

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 6 Peggy Clemens | 16 Grace Greer | 22 Brian Scott |
| 9 Ann Fields | 16 Wesley Madding | 23 Jazzmeen Lopez |
| Susan Eyres | Isabel Worley | Leslie Moore |
| 11 Leona Smith | 17 Jody Vaughn | 25 Karen Revis |
| Frank Johnson | Matthew Johnson | 26 Evelyn Knight |
| 12 Tim Ingram | 18 Debby Crow | 27 Preston Madding |
| 13 Shaun Moore | 20 Sarah Powell | 28 Mark Carter |
| Mark Balch | 21 Anna Shane | Katie Hollingsworth |
| 14 Matthew Barnett | James Pruitt | 29 Alicia Dill |
| 15 Caitlin Ingram | 22 Audrey Claire Pitzer | 31 Michael Juarez |

FOCUS ON MISSIONS...

Good "Old" Resolutions...

Don't you just hate it when someone asks you, along about this time of year, "Made any new resolutions this year?" I am sure they are waiting to hear, "I've resolved to lose 20 lbs and to be more consistent in my devotional life." Now how do I know that's what they think I will say? Because something along those lines is exactly what comes to mind for most of us who make the same old resolutions every year only to find 12 months later that we need to make them again.

Have you checked lately to see just how serious it is to make a "resolution?" My Roget's Thesaurus proclaims solemnly that a resolution is a: formal proposition, determination, and steadfastness, and resoluteness, design, unflagging, uncompromising. Wow! Doesn't sound like something we should think up on the spur or the moment, or use for dinner conversation at the New Year's Eve dinner table.

But wait! This column is supposed to be about mission. What do resolutions and mission share? A very serious resolution, good mission sending groups make, is to turn leadership over to the indigenous people they serve as soon as they can be trained to do their own evangelism, pastoral ministry, teaching, discipleship, administration, etc.

We experienced how difficult that can be and how determined International Ministries is to see that resolution come to fruition on their watch. We arrived in Congo in 1961 as new missionaries just months after the independence of that nation from Belgium. Before independence, the European governance of Congo had decreed

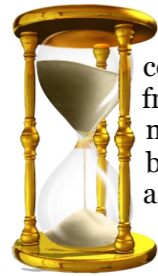
that most owner, leader, manager roles were "destined" to be done by persons with white skin and without African heritage. On the stroke of Independence, many Congolese, frustrated with the repression under which they had been living, began to take over the businesses and government offices by force where they had formerly only been clerks or maintenance personnel. Chaos began to reign.

Dr. Chester Jump, then the chief of our mission in Congo, moved his desk from the front office to the back office and moved the desk of his Congolese counterpart, Tata Colon Kapini to the front. The baton of leadership for the mission was passed to our Congolese brothers and sisters before they could ask for it. Some chaos and confusion as a result of the sudden change was inevitable, but the respect and Christian understanding of equality has carried the day in that era and place and subsequently, everywhere International Ministries serves.

I feel proud of the resolution Parkside Church has chosen for its banner and call to action with "Connect – Grow – Reach." It is not a spur of the moment slogan to be discarded when leadership is tired of trying to make it work. It is truly a design and plan that is being approached with firmness of purpose, so that the church might be all that she is called to be around the globe.

So, "Have you made your resolutions yet?" Make them with the firmness and seriousness of purpose that we are called to represent when we choose to be Christian.

Gloria Marshall, Mission Board



YOUTH UPDATE...

Vision 2112...

Parkside Youth is embarking on a mission to discover God's vision for the future of our/His ministry. It is so easy to lose focus of God's design for our lives and for our future. This retreat is about seeking and finding God's heart and vision for the youth, not just at Parkside Church, but for the youth of Kern County. God has great plans for us. It is our task to discover, develop and put it into action.

We will be leaving on Friday, January 6th and coming home on Sunday, January 8th. During this retreat besides seeking God's direction the team will be taking in the local sights, getting some exercise on long walks, and if there is snow, enjoying the activities that snow allows.

Please be praying for the team as they seek God and plan for the future!

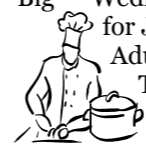
"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11



BIG WEDNESDAY...

Big Wednesday New Menus for January.

Adults—\$6.50; Children 10 yrs & under—\$2.50;
Toddlers 3 yrs & under—Free. Reservations due by Tuesday Noon.



<i>Jan. 4</i>	<i>Jan. 11</i>	<i>Jan. 18</i>	<i>Jan. 25</i>
Chicken Marco Polo	Beef Stroganoff w/ Fettuccini	Chile Verde	Beef Kabobs w/ Teriyaki Sauce
Rice Pilaf	Mixed Veggies	Spanish Rice	White Rice
Vegetables	Green Salad	Refried Beans	Vegetables
Rolls	Biscuits'	Green Salad	Bread
		Tortillas	

Sunday Schedule

8:30 am-Classic Worship
 9:35 am-Sunday School
 10:45 am-Contemporary Worship
 6:30 pm-Prayer at Johnson's, 2813 Rice St.

January 2012

Deacon of the Month
Betty Kittredge
399-2774

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 Sunday Schedule New Years Day Communion	2	3 9:30am—Friends Bible Study	4 No Teen Parents Big Wednesday Chicken Marco Polo 6:15 pm-1st Service WT rehearsal 7:00 pm-2nd Service WT rehearsal	5 9:30am—Prayer Quilters meet in Fellowship Hall	6 Office Closed Youth Leaders Leave For Retreat 6-8	7 3:00pm “Coffee on the Hill” 5:00 —Saturday Service	
8 Sunday Schedule 6pm—Care Team meets	9	10 9:30am—Friends Bible Study	11 Big Wednesday Beef Stroganoff 6:15 pm-1st Service WT rehearsal 7:00 pm-2nd Service WT rehearsal	12 6:00pm—Virtuous Women	13 Office Closed	14 3:00pm “Coffee on the Hill” 5:00 —Saturday Service	
15 Sunday Schedule	16 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr.</i> 1:00pm—Helen Circle at JoAnn Dickson's home	17 9:30am—Friends Bible Study 6:30pm-Leadership Launch	18 Big Wednesday Chile Verde (low spice) 6:15 pm-1st Service WT rehearsal 7:00 pm-2nd Service WT rehearsal	19 6:00pm—Virtuous Women	20 Office Closed	21 10:30am—Crest Arms Ass meet in Room #3 3:00pm “Coffee on the Hill” 5:00 — Saturday Service	
22 Sunday Schedule 2-5pm—CGR leaders lunch and meeting	23	24 9:30am—Friends Bible Study 6:00pm-Teen Parents 6:30pm- Executive Board	25 Big Wednesday Beef Kabobs 6:15 pm-1st Service WT rehearsal 7:00 pm-2nd Service WT rehearsal	26 6:00pm—Virtuous Women	27 Office Closed	28 3:00pm “Coffee on the Hill” 5:00 —Saturday Service	
29 Sunday Schedule	30	31 9:30am—Friends Bible Study	