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# THE Clairmont

CLAIRMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## MISSION EMPHASIS *with* SPECIAL SPEAKERS

**Wednesday, January 13** - 6:30 - 7:30pm - Milligan Hall  
(Dinner at 5:30pm\*)

**Glenn Goldsmith**, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Campus Ministry Director at Emory University. Emory's campus is only a mile from the church, and as Glenn will share, it is a mission field in need of faithful churches. Glenn will not only discuss the current culture at Emory, he'll also share about his ministry at Emory and ways in which we as a church and individuals can further God's Kingdom in that realm.



**Wednesday, January 20** - 6:30 - 7:30pm - Milligan Hall  
(Dinner at 5:30pm\*)

**Phil Cobb**, Director of Urban Ministries at North Avenue Presbyterian Church and Spokesperson for Street GRACE – a non-denominational alliance of churches dedicated to supporting, enlarging, and allying with those individuals and organizations working toward eliminating the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC). Their ultimate goal is the elimination of this problem in the city of Atlanta and duplication of these efforts in other cities across the United States. Phil is a dynamic speaker and leader who will come to share about the issue of sex-trafficking in Greater Atlanta, what is being done, and how we as a church and individuals can be involved in God's redemptive work in this dark reality.

**Wednesday, January 27** - 6:30 - 7:30pm - Milligan Hall (Dinner at 5:30pm\*)

**Sarah and Joshua Ralston**, Program Developer and Coordinator, respectively, of Shalom International Ministry in Clarkston. Sarah works for CARE, an international development non-profit agency while Joshua is currently pursuing ordination in the PC(USA). Sarah and Joshua have merged their creativity and passion into Shalom International Ministry - a cross-cultural ministry that seeks to witness to the promise of God's holistic peace (shalom) embodied in Jesus Christ. They will share about their Clarkston-based ministry amid a large population often overlooked and marginalized in the Greater Atlanta area. *They will also be offering a bus tour of the Clarkston area – including a lunch with refugees – on Saturday, January 30 from 10am-1pm.*

**Sunday, January 31** - 8:30 and 11:00 Worship Services

**Dr. Ben Mathes**, Executive Director. Rivers of the World (ROW) is a not-for-profit Christian ministry that targets remote river basins throughout the world. Their goal is to serve with people who live in these river basins. They ask the people what makes up their greatest challenges and covenant with them to meet and overcome those challenges together. ROW emphasizes that it is their country, their village, their culture, but our problem. Our goal is to serve in an atmosphere of mutual concern and respect. ROW projects run the gamut of human, physical and spiritual needs. Academics, research, education and medical/dental concerns go hand in hand with church planting, construction, evangelism and Bible distribution.

**Wednesday, February 3** - 6:30 - 7:30pm - Milligan Hall (Dinner at 5:30pm\*)

**Debbie Palmore**, Activities Coordinator at Clairmont Presbyterian Church. Debbie runs numerous camps, clinics, and leagues through the Family Life Center on Clairmont's campus. Hundreds of kids, families, and adults are engaged in these activities – many of whom are not involved with a church. Come hear as Debbie shares about her heart for this ministry and how she envisions the members of Clairmont being actively involved in the many lives who frequent our campus each week!

- Dr. Thomas Pipkin - Senior Pastor
- Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert - Associate Pastor
- Rev. Megan Johnson - Associate Pastor
- Rev. Ron Hieber - Parish Associate
- Mike Strain - Director of Music and the Arts
- Tim Lloyd - First Light Worship Leader
- Nate Perry - Director of Youth Ministries
- Andria Alexander - Director of Children's Ministries
- Debbie Palmore - Activities Coordinator
- Bill Spinks - Church Administrator
- Danielle Wilson - Administrative Assistant
- Linda Massey - Director of Publications
- Diane Neuman - Financial Secretary
- Agatha Walker - Membership Secretary/Receptionist
- Barbara Powers - Director of Preschool

*Please call the church office (404 634 3355) to make dinner reservations.  
Adults, \$6, Children 12 & under are \$3. \$16 max per family.*

**8:30am First Light Worship Service**  
in Milligan Hall.

**11:00am Worship Service**  
in the Sanctuary.

**SERIES: THE MISSIONAL PATHWAY**

**January 10, 2010 -**

Part 2: "Witnesses in Judea & Samaria"

*Acts 1:8; 8:4-8*

Dr. Tom Pipkin

**January 17, 2010**

Part 3: "Witnesses to the Ends of the Earth"

*Acts 1:8 & other selection*

Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert

**LAST CALL - 6:00pm in the Sanctuary**

**January 10 - "Vision 2010"**

*Matthew 22:34-40*

Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert

**January 17 - "To the Ends of the Earth"**

*Acts 1:8*

Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert

## FYI



**The Sunday Bread Visiting Team** for Sunday, January 10 is Mae & Joe Aycock. The bread baker is Robert & Caddie Rankin. **The Sunday Bread Visiting Team** for Sunday, January 17 is Mary Burgin and Bobby Holmes. The bread baker is Charis Johnson.

Please be good stewards of the church's postage and retrieve your 2010 Offering Envelopes in the hallway by the church offices. Please use the new envelopes.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**CHURCHWIDE RETREAT**  
**April 23-25, 2010**  
**Toccoa, GA**

The Clairmonitor is published bi-weekly by Linda Massey, Director of Publications. Information for the Clairmonitor must be submitted by Monday morning prior to the week's publication to [linda.massey@clairmontpres.org](mailto:linda.massey@clairmontpres.org) or

## CLAIRMONT WOMEN



Contact Rev. Megan Johnson for more details at (404)634-3355 or [megan@clairmont-pres.org](mailto:megan@clairmont-pres.org)

*Dates for January 2010:*

**Friday, January 9th** - Mom's Group meets in the Parlor at 10am. *Childcare provided for all Mom's Group meetings.*

**Monday, January 11th** - Women's Ministry Team Meeting at 6:30pm. *Location to be announced.*

**Tuesday, January 12th** - Clairmont Place Bible Study meets in the 4th floor lounge at 10:30am.

**Thursday, January 14th** - Thursday Morning Bible Study meets in the Parlor at 10am.

**Friday, January 15th** - Mom's Group (Parlor at 10am.)

**Tuesday, January 19th** - Clairmont Place Bible Study meets in the 4th floor lounge at 10:30am.

**Friday, January 22nd** - Mom's Group (Parlor at 10am.)

**Thursday, January 28th** - Thursday Morning Bible Study meets in the Parlor at 10am.

**Friday, January 29th** - Mom's Group (Parlor at 10am.)

## CLAIRMONT MEN

### *Attention Clairmont Men!*

Mark your calendars — We'll be having a once-a-month breakfast January - May. This will be a time focused on strengthening our fellowship with one another and our faithfulness to Christ. Specific topics for each breakfast will be announced in January. Breakfast will generally be on Thursdays from 6:45-8am in the church parlor. Bagels and coffee provided. Each month, a different pair of men will lead the time.

**Thursday, January 21 -**

Leaders: Frank Arnold and Eric Johnson

**Thursday, February 11 -**

Leaders: Bob Siegmann and Eric Voogd

**Thursday, March - (date TBA)**

Leaders: Tom Lockwood and Robert Rankin

**Thursday, April - (date TBA)**

Leaders: Ron Hieber and Jay Thomas

**Saturday, May - (date TBA)**

Leaders: Evan Secor and Robert Morris  
*(This one will be a Saturday hike!)*

# MISSION MONTH - JANUARY 2010

At Clairmont our goal is for mission outreach to permeate every aspect of our congregational life. January, 2010, has been designated as a month of mission and you will hear more about just what we are doing in our own Jerusalem and on to the “ends of the earth.” While our regular budget funds many mission efforts, during January we have the opportunity to give “over and above” to three especially strategic needs:

**Microfinancing** has proven itself over the last thirty years in the developing world to be the path that has led many out of poverty through small loans which have helped ambitious but very poor people to get started in an activity that provides a regular income and enables them to repay the loan. Our support will go to World Vision and Opportunity International who are supervising loans to needy and qualified people in Asia.

A local church like Clairmont cannot process the many people who search out churches in need of emergency assistance so we cooperate with other churches in our area to support the **Toco Hills Community Alliance**, which provides emergency assistance (food, rent, utility, and transportation) to the needy in our own “Jerusalem.”

We thank God for the local Christian mission called **Stirred-Up Ministries** which gives lost, destitute and semi-abandoned youth in our city love and support in the name of Christ. Clairmont, among other churches in our area, has been a friend and supporter of this ministry which has had a positive influence in the lives of almost a thousand youth and their families, for over fifteen years.

This is one of the very few times during the year that a special appeal is made and we invite your generous participation so that the values of the Kingdom of God be made known “beginning in Jerusalem” and to the ends of the earth.

## Taking seriously God’s mission in our world, in our community, and on our campus.

We’ve talked a lot about being missional over these past few months. During that time, many have asked, “How do we actually do this? What does it look like?” Good questions. Genuine faith always translates into action. During January and February, Clairmont is offering numerous opportunities to hear what God is doing in our midst and how we can be involved. In other words, now is your chance to take the next step in truly being missional.

We invite you to prioritize the dates below so that you can hear these gifted leaders and discern for yourself if God is calling you to engage with them in God’s ministry.

Each speaker will offer a brief presentation and then leave plenty of time for discussion and Q&A.

*See front cover.*



### BRAZIL - AN EARLY ALERT!

Clairmont is teaming up with First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta for a mission trip to Fortaleza in northeast Brazil this year. A date has been tentatively set for July 25. First Pres. and Clairmont have participated in ministries there through teaching English, construction at Camp Sara and ministry with the local churches of Pirambu and Messejana. It is not possible at this moment to describe exactly what we will be doing as that will be finalized in the invitation from our partners in Fortaleza. Hope and Frank Arnold, long time missionaries in Brazil, will be in the group from Clairmont. Please consider joining this mission trip. Contact Darrell Jones, the Arnolds, or the JSPE Council for more information.



One evening is \$10 per couple which covers the snacks, childcare, and speaker.

### Friday, January 29th from 6:15-9pm.

Our speakers will be Todd and Beverly Sandel. Todd is the Executive Director of the Lifegate Counseling Center. See below for details about this program.

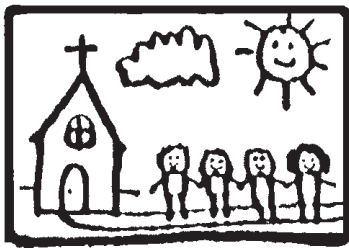
Founded by Dr. Gary Brainard, a Pasadena-based psychologist and marriage enrichment speaker, The Couple’s Garden is a relationship enrichment series of special “Date Nights” offering participants the opportunity to explore and nurture their relationship. It begins at Clairmont this fall! If you have kids, they will enjoy “Movie Night” with the children’s ministry during the Couple’s Garden.

**Mark your calendars now.**  
January 29, 2010

## PRE-SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

### NEWS FROM CLAIRMONT'S WEEKDAY PRE-SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

Clairmont Members - If you have a child you would like to enroll in our pre-school/kindergarten, now is the time to think about making those plans. During the month of January, the pre-school will have advanced registration for the 2010-2011 school year. At this time we will accept registrations from families currently enrolled in the school and from our Clairmont members. This makes getting into our great program very, very easy. You can get information and registration forms from Barbara Powers or you can pick up a registration form in the church office. Please take advantage of this early registration, because on February 9th registration is open to the public. *Don't wait!* Once we open to the public, you may not be able to enroll and we don't want that to happen!! Our pre-school classes begin with our Toddler Class (children that are one-year old on or before September 1, 2010) and includes 2-year old classes, 3-year old classes, a 4-year old Pre-K class and a 5-year old half-day kindergarten. For each class, the child needs to be that age by September 1, 2010 to enter the class.



You may want to come to **Open House on Monday, January 25** from 6:30 - 8:00pm.

Please consider registering *NOW* for our loving Christ-centered pre-school & kindergarten. Call Barbara at the pre-school office (404)634-4212 or at home (770)934-4229.

## VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The Transportation Team needs a volunteer to help drive members to the 11:00 Worship Service. The volunteer will be part of a rotation and participate one Sunday a month, possibly two on occasion. If you can help, contact Jay Scott at 404.558.5971 or jaysweb04@yahoo.com.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

We at CYM are here to Catch youth, grow in our Relationships, Offer worship, Study the word, and Serve in ministry. The **CROSS** is why we exist!



**Sunday School:** Sunday from 9:45-10:40am

Contact Nate Perry at [nate.perry@clairmontpres.org](mailto:nate.perry@clairmontpres.org).

## ADVENT - NEXT YEAR!

Dear CPC members,

We're getting a head-start on next year's Advent! Perhaps you think we're crazy, but stay with the idea for just a moment...

We are inviting you to take a moment and consider one of the two following questions:

1. This past Advent season, where did you see God at work most meaningfully in your life (or the life of your family)?
2. As you consider this past Advent season, how do you hope next year might be different? Is there a way you hope to do some things differently, a routine you'd want to begin or change? Is there a way you might go about being more intentional in remembering and celebrating the true reason for the season?

Once you've considered one of those, we invite you to take a 1/2 hour in the next couple of weeks (while memories are still fresh!) and write down your response in a paragraph or two. Once finished, go ahead and email it to Megan ([megan@clairmontpres.org](mailto:megan@clairmontpres.org)) or Bobby ([bobby@clairmontpres.org](mailto:bobby@clairmontpres.org)).

We'll keep your responses and send them back to you next October so that you can read over them, edit them as you see fit, and then we'll use your responses as the material for our Advent calendar in 2010. I know it seems like we're WAY ahead on this one - but we want to capture your thoughts and memories while they are still with you! Thank you in advance for your willingness to encourage others through the way God is working and speaking in your life.

## AROUND TOWN

The Public Policy Advocacy Committee of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta will host their annual **Presbyterian Rally Day** at the Capitol on **Thursday, February 11, 2010**. Advocacy issues to be highlighted that day are the Juvenile Justice Code Reform; the Statewide Trauma Network; Child Sex Trafficking; and Water Resources in Georgia. The program portion of Rally Day will be held at Central Presbyterian Church, across the street from the Georgia Capitol, beginning at 9:00am (registration beginning at 8:30am). For more information or to receive a registration form by e-mail, contact [ktorney55@hotmail.com](mailto:ktorney55@hotmail.com). Registration fee for Rally Day is \$10.00 and includes lunch.

Visit the **Montreat Website** and check out all the opportunities this beautiful mountain retreat has to offer.

Celebrating Relationships • Nurturing Congregations  
• Deepening Discipleship •  
[www.montreat.org](http://www.montreat.org)



# OPENING DAY

at the  
Family Life Center

## Basketball Kick-off

**THIS Saturday,  
January 9**

from 9am to 10pm



**Come host and help  
welcome the hundreds  
of kids and families  
that will pass through  
our FLC doors!**

The Children's Ministry will be flippin' pancakes in the morning.  
The Youth Ministry will be grillin' hamburgers in the afternoon.

**Come see Clairmont on the  
"Pathway to Mission!!"**

## LIFESTYLE STEWARDSHIP Congregational Exercise Challenge

### God's Word:

*Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit,  
Who is in you, whom you have received from God?  
You are not your own; you have been bought at a price.  
Therefore honor God with your body. 1 Cor. 6: 19-20*



**Do You Not Know?** : You are made in God's image!

**Do You Not Know?** : The Holy Spirit lives within you, His Temple!

**Do You Not Know?** : Your body doesn't belong to you!

**Do You Not Know?** : You honor God by taking care of your body!

### Your Response:

Exercise is an essential ingredient in our quest to keep our bodies in "temple-shape." To assist our Clairmont members to continue to be good stewards of their bodies, your Stewardship Team is once again sponsoring a friendly "gender" exercise contest. The Second Annual "Do You Not Know?" or DYNK? Exercise Challenge is open to all members. Like the 2009 contest, the 2010 contest is pitting the Clairmont Females against the Clairmont Males. The goal will be to see which team will honor God the most by logging the higher total number of exercise hours during the month of January. The Clairmont Females prevailed last year so the Clairmont Males have an extra incentive to log hours this year.

The underlying objective is to help all members get into a pattern of physical exercise, so that they will continue to strive to keep their bodies in "temple-shape." Why not be a good steward and keep a perfectly good God-given body in good shape? And when you do, you honor God by your accomplishment.

### The Ground Rules:

1. Any bona fide aerobic exercise is permitted: walking, jogging, dancing, cycling, etc. -- at any speed! Hint: The Azalea Village Park circular sidewalk is a good spot to walk. Precaution: Check with your doctor if you are not sure about your ability to do this type of exercise.
2. Each participating member must log-in each week their total hours of exercise by using their respective team collection box outside the church office.
3. Two team boxes will be there - one for the Males and one for the Females.
4. The total hours for each team will be tallied during the week and displayed the following Sunday in the lobby area.
5. At the end of January, the winning team will be announced.

### In Closing:

Let's remember that the more we take good care of our bodies,  
the more God is honored by our good stewardship!



## SENIOR ADULT FELLOWSHIP

**Join us for a Movie and Lunch  
Monday, January 11, 2010**

**Milligan Hall**

**Movie at 10:30am**

**Lunch at 12:30pm**

**"Meet Me in St. Louis"**

Lunch provided by Oakgrove Market  
Soup and Sandwich.

**NOTE  
DIFFERENT  
TIME**

Call Ila Shroyer with your  
lunch reservation by **Saturday,  
January 9** at (404)325-0495 or  
(404)993-5839.

You may come just for  
the movie, if you like.



## IN MEMORY/HONOR

**In memory of Dean Pratt:**

- Carol Landrum gave to the Memorial Fund.

**In memory Bill Mounts:**

- Kirby & Elizabeth Rutherford gave to the Memorial Fund.

**In memory of Garland P. Bennett, Jr.:**

- Mark & Ann Valentino gave to the Memorial Fund.

**In honor of Katherine Senkbeil:**

- Bruce & Lauren Swenson gave to the General Fund.

**In honor of Avis King:**

- Elise Nida gave to the Music Ministry.

**In honor of Carolyn Mounts:**

- Rebecca Rutherford gave to the General Fund.
- Peter Mounts gave to the General Fund.

**In honor of Mike Strain:**

- Nancy & David Cullison gave to the Music Ministry.



### **CLAIRMONT MEMBERS**

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Nell Ball         | Graham Mothershead |
| Phyllis Davis     | and her family     |
| Lillian Eddings   | Sara Owens         |
| Bill Fleming      | Charlie Patterson  |
| Allee Florence    | Lois Pruitt        |
| Maggie Hartsfield | Joyce Rogers       |
| Louise Hood       | Judith Sale        |
| Deb Hosford       | Anne Sheesley      |
| Janice Hughes     | Clyde Shepherd     |
| Melba Hull        | Kay Turner         |
| Louise Kite       | Jimmie Waggoner    |
| Sidney Lines      | Doris Whitener     |
| Caroline MacNeill |                    |

## SYMPATHY

Our loving Christian sympathy is extended to Bob Miller on the death of his mother, Norma Nicholson on Saturday, December 12, 2009, in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Our loving Christian sympathy is extended to Nena Thompson on the death of her father, Arthur Allen Paty, III on Friday, December 18, 2009, in Atlanta, GA.

### **FRIENDS & FAMILY OF MEMBERS**

- Dara Barron (*Julie Comer's friend*)  
 Marshall and Ginger Boykin (*Judy Burden's friends*)  
 Peggy Dalton and Shannon Harper  
     (*Ann Wooten's friends*)  
 Major Mitchell Gibbs and the Gibbs family (*Carol Crochet's brother stationed in Iraq*)  
 Cindy Haskell (*Jon Haskell's (ROW Trustee) wife*)  
 Jim McCoun (*Mary Jo McCoun's son*)  
 Tom Merrett (*Dot Burnett's son-in-law*)  
 Margaret Mielenz (*Penny Bisbort's sister-in-law and Patty Steven's aunt*)  
 John Oltman (*Jack Oltman's dad*)  
 Mark Shearon (*Pam Scott's friend*)  
 Faye Wallace (*John and Judyth Williams' friend*)  
 Judyth Williams (*John Williams' wife*)

**Please pray for the people on these lists:** Many are facing, or have recently faced, health problems or other challenges. To place a name on the list, please call the church office at (404)634-3355. Names will remain on the list for six weeks unless otherwise instructed.

*Thank you.*



**Inadvertently omitted:**

**December 25**

Dr. Paul Cronce

**January 6**

Rev. Megan Johnson

**January 13**

Carol Crochet  
Daniel Comer

**January 20**

Jeanette Burnett  
Eric Johnson

**January 14**

Dave Mathieson  
Nancy Miranda  
Larry Sale

**January 21**

David Roberts  
Kristi Oltman

**January 17**

Dot Edelson  
Savannah Sullivan

**January 23**

Penny Bisbort  
Eleanor Burden

**January 18**

Amelia Thomas

**January 25**

Joe Aycock  
Reid Hartsfield  
Leanne Finley

**January 19**

Jason Beckham

*If your name has been omitted from the birthday list please contact Agatha at (404)634-3355.*

### **DIRECTED PRAYER**

- Pray for the Elders & Deacons of Clairmont as they prayerfully and boldly strive to lead Clairmont to be obedient to God's call to become a missional church.
  - Pray for those in our midst who are out of work and struggling financially during this difficult economic time.
  - Pray for our brothers & sisters in Christ who live in countries where they are persecuted and even imprisoned for their faith. Ask the Lord to strengthen them and give them His peace.

✂ cut and post

## COMING EVENTS



**Churchwide  
Talent Show  
Saturday,  
February 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Mark your calendars  
now and be thinking  
of a talent!

Watch for details.



**GEORGIA  
FESTIVAL  
CHORUS  
in Concert  
BACK BY  
POPULAR  
DEMAND  
Eighth Annual  
Appearance!  
Directed by  
Frank Boggs  
Sunday, March  
14, 2010  
at 3:00pm in the  
Sanctuary**

This concert, sponsored by the Clairmont Music and the Arts Ministry, features the wonderful Georgia Festival Chorus at 3:00pm in the sanctuary. This acclaimed community chorus, under the direction of its founder, Frank Boggs, has sung much of the world's greatest sacred choral literature for over twenty years. They have toured in England, Scotland, Ireland, Austria, and Italy. This is their 8th annual concert given at Clairmont Presbyterian Church. Each year they inspire and captivate those who hear them sing. Admission is free. Child care is offered for infants and children up to two years old. *Don't miss this special event at Clairmont!*

## Wednesday Night Alive

**Dinner at 5:30pm  
Programming 6:30pm**

Please make dinner reservations by marking the appropriate box on the Welcome/Communication Card in the bulletin, or by calling the church office by noon on Tuesday at (404)634-3355.



Dinner 5:30pm  
Programming 6:30pm

Nursery provided.

**Children's Activities:** Ages 3 years - 5th grade  
6:30 - 7:00pm - **Music** with Mary Lou Swann, Tricia Reinschmidt, Andria Alexander & Mike Strain.  
7:00 - 7:30pm - **Kids Quest Catechism Club**  
Tricia Reinschmidt: 3 - 5-year olds  
Andria Alexander & Sarah Guzman: 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
**6:30-7:30pm - See page 1**  
**6:30-7:30pm - Clairmont Ringers Rehearsal**  
**7:00pm - Soul Sisters** - Small group for all women focused on spiritual growth through study and discussion. Parlor. Contact Renee Miller at [rjmiller@yahoo.com](mailto:rjmiller@yahoo.com).  
**7:45-9:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal**

Please direct questions to Rev. Bobby Hulme-Lippert at (404)634-3355 or [bobby.lippert@clairmontpres.org](mailto:bobby.lippert@clairmontpres.org).

**Menu:** Jan. 13th - Herb Roasted Chicken, Rice & Gravy, Broccoli, Dinner Rolls, Dessert, & Beverages.  
Jan. 20th - Swedish Meatballs, Yellow Rice, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, Dessert, & Beverages.

**Dinner Buffet:**  
Adults \$6.00;  
Children 12  
& under \$3.00;  
Family Max. \$16.

## CAREER NETWORKING

### Career Networking at Clairmont

You are welcome to attend a Job Networking meeting held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Education Building, Room 102 from 7:00pm - 8:30pm. It's very informal and lead by Shelby Davis and Russ Hanley. If you are interested or would like more information, please email Shelby at [shelbydavis@comcast.net](mailto:shelbydavis@comcast.net) or Russ at [rgh\\_hanley@yahoo.com](mailto:rgh_hanley@yahoo.com).

## ACTIVITIES

### Christian Yoga Classes:

Tuesdays - 7:15 - 8:15pm  
(Ed101)

Thursdays - 9:15 - 10:15am  
(FLC All Purpose Room)



Fees:  
5 classes=\$25  
10 classes=\$45  
**No nursery  
provided.**

Contact Laura Hackemeyer at [Laura@Hackemeyer.com](mailto:Laura@Hackemeyer.com)



Dr. Tom Pipkin  
SENIOR PASTOR

Dear Clairmont family,

Knowing that the beginning of a new year is a time for re-dedication and re-commitment, I thought that for my first column it might be good to start off with sharing something about God's grace in our lives. So often we begin a new year with great intentions and aspirations at perfection and when we stumble (usually by the second week of January) we find ourselves, not only disappointed, but sometimes even angry. And the anger can come out in all

kinds of ways. As I was thinking about this, I got an email from my friend Cecil Murphy, who has become quite active at Clairmont in the past year and is now teaching a Sunday School class here.\* Cec is an ordained Presbyterian minister and an insightful author. Here is a reflection from Cec from his January newsletter that speaks truth that is sometimes difficult for us to hear:

All That Anger

*"Dick" had raged long enough (although he wouldn't have used that term) until I said, "You're really upset, aren't you?" "And I have good reason to be angry." Dick had yelled about unemployment, the corrupt politicians, and a lengthy rant that the pastor and members of his church had failed him. He went on a second verbal blast that included good chunks of profanity as well.*

*When his monologue finally ran down, I said to him, "I've learned something important about my anger. I'm willing to share it with you if you'd like."*

*Dick shrugged.*

*He knows I regularly write aphorisms—short statements that make a point with few words. "I can give it to you in one sentence."*

*"Try me."*

*"I'm seldom angry about what I think I'm angry about."*

*He stared blankly and I repeated my aphorism. "I don't get it. I know what I'm angry about."*

*"Do you?" I asked. I've known Dick for enough years that I can challenge him and he won't swing that powerful fist toward my face.*

*He started complaining again—although I'd heard it the first time.*

*I held up my hand. "I wonder. . . I wonder if that's what really upsets you." I let those words hang for a minute before I said, "You've mentioned three things that make you angry. Maybe that's correct or maybe. . ."*

*"Maybe what?"*

*"Maybe they're easy targets. Maybe they're safe to get angry about." I didn't wait for Dick to refute my statements or to yell again. I told him about myself. "I used to get angry a lot, until I admitted that the object of my anger wasn't always the true object."*

*I figured out that most of the time I was angry at myself for making a blunder; sometimes I was angry at someone I loved; occasionally, I got mad at God for not making things go my way. Mostly, I was angry at myself for not being perfect.*

*I'm not sure Dick ever agreed with me; but then, I assume that if I tell the truth (as I see it) he can receive or reject it.*

God knows this about us and wants to meet us where we are as imperfect as we are. That's good news for a new year.

Under His Mercy,

Tom Pipkin

*\* For those who are not currently connected to a Sunday School Class, you might want to check out Cec's class this Sunday – it's called **Bible Discovery** and it meets in Milligan Hall, room 213.*



January 10, 2010

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

*Join us for worship at 8:30am and 11:00am each Sunday!*