

Today's Worship Schedule: 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.

“*Condescension*”

Text: Philippians 2:1-11

Pastor Michael Alcorn

December 13, 2009



### **A Note From Pastor Jody**

Our reading this past week took us through Acts 21, when the Apostle Paul was on his way to Jerusalem following his third missionary journey. Nobody had a good feeling about him going to Jerusalem. Everyone around him viewed it as a trip into the very center of the hornet's nest...which it was.

In verse ten of chapter twenty-one, the concern gets ratcheted up even further. A prophet named Agabus travels from Jerusalem down to where Paul is staying, and proceeds to take Paul's belt from him, ties his own hands and feet, and tells him that "the owner of this belt will be bound hand and foot and delivered over to the gentiles." This, of course, causes everyone around him to basically freak out. They begged and pleaded with him not to go. But Paul wouldn't hear it. He knew God was directing him this way, and silences their pleading by simply stating "I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."

Reading further, we see that Paul does, indeed, get arrested in Jerusalem. After a series of trials, he is put onto a boat (that gets shipwrecked) and is taken as a prisoner to Rome. And once in Rome, he is held as a prisoner for another couple of years.

One would think that these kinds of experiences (imprisonment, beatings, getting shipwrecked, etc...) would take its toll on a person's sense of joy and optimism. But not Paul. As he sat in prison in Rome, he wrote a little letter to the people living in a city named Philippi. You would think he was writing from a beach in Hawaii. Over and over again, Paul talks about rejoicing: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again, Rejoice!"

It's clear from the letter we now call Philippians that Paul had his focus completely on Jesus. If Jesus emptied and humbled Himself, then Paul saw this as the attitude we should have as well. And even in the midst of trials and tremendous challenge, there is great joy and peace. Read Philippians yourself...you'll see what I'm talking about.

## On the Calendar Today, December 13, 2009

- Sign up for the Happy Birthday Party (Dec. 14) at the Info Center.

### This Week's Schedule

Day	Time	Activity
Sunday Dec. 13	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service Nursery—2's & 3's Central Station, kids Pre-K—2nd; room 308
	9:30 a.m.	Worship Service Nursery—2's & 3's Sunday School, Kids (Pre-K—4th), Kid Central area "The Zone" (5th/6th), room 105 "The Rock" (7th/8th), room 102 "Dunamis" (Sr. High 9th-12th), room 300 ABF classes for adults (see info box) <b>Child Dedication Parent Meeting</b> , room 100
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service Nursery—2's & 3's Central Station, kids Pre-K—2nd, room 308 The Depot, kids 3rd-4th gd., room 311 Quiz Team Practice, room 102
	12:30 p.m.	"Soul Food" ABF (see info box)
Monday Dec. 14	3:15—4:30 p.m.	<b>Happy Birthday Jesus Party, gym (see info)</b>
Tuesday Dec. 15	11:30 a.m.	Senior Adult Luncheon (see info)
	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Lead Team Meeting "Mosaic" ABF, at Molitors' (see info) <b>LIFE Info Meeting for parents &amp; students</b> , rm 300
Wednesday Dec. 16	6:30 p.m.	<b>Congregational Meeting</b> , Sanctuary "The Rock" (7th/8th), room 102 "The Zone" (5th/6th), Caroling (meet at church) "Dunamis" (9th-12th), room 300
	8:00 p.m.	Worship Team, Sanctuary Lead Team Business Meeting <b>NO Simple Supper, Kids Club, Adult Classes</b>
Thursday Dec. 17	1:45 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.	<b>"The Edge" ABF, Service &amp; Christmas Party</b> (see info)
Friday Dec. 18	5:50 a.m.	Men with Direction (men's accountability group & Bible study)
	4 to 5:30 p.m.	Open Basketball (Sr. High—Adult)
	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>"Mosaic" ABF, Caroling at Sunbridge</b> <b>"The Rock" (7th/8th), Games/Pizza Night</b>
Saturday Dec. 19	12:30 p.m.	<b>"Dunamis" (9th-12th), Bowling at Lake Bowl</b>

## Kids Ministries



### Kids Activities:

- **NO kids Club. Nov. 25—Dec. 30th.**
- **Sign up for Happy Birthday Jesus Party (see info box)**
- **Child Dedications on Dec. 20th. The Parent Meeting is today at 9:30 a.m. in room 100. See Pam if interested.**

## Youth Ministries



### Upcoming Activities:

#### "Dunamis"

- Dec. 15, 7 p.m., LIFE Info meeting for parents and students, room 300
- Dec. 19, 12:30 p.m., Bowling at Lake Bowl (\$10)

**"Rooted" Discipleship Group, Dec. 20 at 6 p.m. in room 300**

#### "The Rock"

- Dec. 18, 6:30 p.m., Games/Pizza Night

**"D" Group for 5th—8th grade, Dec. 20 at 6 p.m. in room 102**

#### "The Zone"

- Dec. 16, 6:30 p.m., Caroling (meet at the church)

**"D" Group for 5th—8th grade, Dec. 20 at 6 p.m. in room 102**

**"Souled Out" forms and deposit due Wed., Dec. 16th.**

## Adult Ministries

### Baptism Class:

- **Next Class: January 10th, 9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**  
Please sign up at the Info Center.

### Live the Call Membership Classes:

- **Next Class: TBA**

### ABF Classes

(For more information, contact Erik & Jane Borg at 762-0194.)

#### Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

- **"The Edge"** (across street, Conf. rm) For those 18-25 years of age
- **"Foundations"** (rm 101) For couples maintaining a strong marriage while raising a young family
- **"The Journey"** (across street, rm 103) Equipping families for the road ahead.
- **"Parents of Teens"** (across street, rm 101) Got teens? Need help?
- **"Prime Time"** (across street, rm 104) For those in the prime of their spiritual journey
- **"The Bereans"** (the gym) For adults nearing or in retirement years
- **"Seeking Pilgrims"** (rm 308) For all adult ages

#### Sunday at 12:30 p.m.

- **"Soul Food"** (rm 101) For singles and couples in their 20's—40's.

#### Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

- **"Mosaic"** (at Molitors', 319 Northshore Dr.) For college & young professional adults

### Wednesday Adult Classes: 6:30—7:45 p.m.

Will resume January 6th.

## Information on Upcoming Events

### Parent Meeting for Child Dedications Today!

The Parent Meeting for child dedications is being held **TODAY** at 9:30 a.m. in room 100. See Pam if interested. Child dedications are **Sunday, Dec. 20th.**

### Happy Birthday Jesus Party



Mon., Dec. 14, .  
3:15—4:30 p.m.

For: Pre-K—4th grade kids  
A Birthday Party to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

Register at the Information Center.

### Congregational Meeting

Wednesday, December 16th  
at 6:30 p.m.

This meeting will review the next steps for the Phase 1 Project and summarize the results of the Feasibility Study.



### Senior Adult Lunch

(+60 years of age)

**Tuesday, Dec. 15**

**11:30—1:00 p.m.**

Pastor Jody & Pastor Scott lead these gatherings with a time of fellowship, food, singing, Bible study and prayer. (\$3 donation accepted)

**Special Menu: Ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, fresh fruit & special dessert.**

### "The Edge" Young Adult ABF

Christmas Party & Outreach  
Thursday, Dec. 17th

1:45 p.m. Service at the Food Bank  
6:00 p.m. Party at the Boormans' (4988 Shorecrest)

**"Mosaic" ABF  
Caroling at Sunbridge,  
Dec. 18th at 6:00 p.m.**

All tithes and offerings must be received by December 31, 2009 or postmarked by the 31st to be included on your 2009 statement of giving. Please prayerfully give as 2009 comes to a close.



### Attendance: December 6, 2009

8:00	9:30	11:00	Worship Total	Sunday School/ABFs
148	223	357	728	346

### Church Staff

Jody Bowser	Senior Pastor	Del McKenzie	Care Ministries
Kent Copley	Executive Pastor	Pam Swedburg	Kids Ministries
Scott Shaw	Worship Ministries	Janeil Koethke	Kids Min. Assistant
Michael Alcorn	Student Ministries	Darlene Smith	Executive Assistant
Andy Baker	Middle School Ministries	Denise Lloyd	Office Secretary