January 2013
Volume 64, Issue 1

DON'T BOWPOOTE AOUL ZONT

Chinese bamboo produces little outward growth for the first four years of its life. Though it's puny and pitiful, there's something powerful happening underground. In the fifth year, the tree grows eighty feet! We must cultivate our soul and understand that the root comes before the fruit.



The way to cultivate your soul is with spiritual fertilizer. Sprinkle the Word of God on your soul, bathe (water) it with prayer and make sure it receives plenty of SON light and you will be refreshed in your walk with the Lord.

I would like to encourage you to read through your bible this year. "I've tried that before and failed!" Then, this year get on a New Testament only reading plan. In other words, don't bite off more than you can chew and set yourself up for success. Less to read a day, but still a great accomplishment. You will cover all of Jesus' life, the history of the first Church, letters from the disciples and the Revelation of Jesus Christ in the end times.

Exciting spiritual transformation will happen when you feed your soul. But remember this: God must take you deep before He can grow you tall!

Tips on Reading the Bible:

- 1. Start today--there is no better time, and there's no reason to wait.
- 2. Pray before you begin reading each day, asking

- for Him to give you wisdom and understanding, then be refreshed by the words you read!
- 3. Set aside a specific time each day. Set your schedule, and then stick to it. Mornings are great, but feel free to use any time that works consistently for you.
- 4. Read for the sake of learning, not simply to accomplish your next reading.

Happy Growing!

Nicaragua Update



Well our team is about formed; we have 22 committed and 2 almost there. You will be able to meet the team on January 27th! Our team will be hosting our first fundraiser lunch for FBCC's Annual Meeting Sunday the 27th at 12:30 P.M.

We have heard one of our projects will be building a wall, something along the lines of a cinder brick wall. Sounds fun, moving and lifting large stone bricks in the heat of Central America but that is what service is all about! This won't be a vacation!

One of our missionaries wrote us and said, "This week I was in Rama and there were cows inside of the property. Definitely, the wall will keep all animals out and the children in the property." (continued on page 2)

Honor God by Developing Completely Committed Christ Followers

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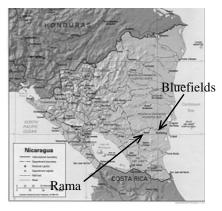
The Challenger, the newsletter of Chehalis First Baptist Church is published monthly.

Articles to be published in the February, 2013 issue are to be submitted by <u>January 20</u>
Articles submitted for publication may be subject to editing.

e-mail articles to: secretary@fbcchehalis.org

Church Office Hours
8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Monday through Friday
Closed for lunch 12:00 to 1:00 P.M.

(continued from page 1)



Rama is a semi-rural community although it is the largest port in the Atlantic Coast. As you see on the map of Nicaragua, Rama is the last place that you can reach by road. After that, the only connection to Bluefields is by boat, traveling the Escondido River. Bluefields is not an island, but there is no connection by road to the Pacific Coast.

We keep learning more and more about what God is doing in Nicaragua. If you didn't know our team is memorizing 20 Bible verses for this trip. Our first one was Philippians 4:7-8 this month we are working on. Philippians 2:3-4 NIV Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. We would like to invite you to memorize it with us.

Thanks for your prayers and your financial support. I am praying this is a life changing trip for all of us at FBCC. Sundoulos (Greek meaning a fellow bondslave)

Pastor Mark

Get Your Picture in the New Church Directory!



We need YOU to make our directory complete! To celebrate our church family and strengthen the bond within our congregation, we have made the commitment to produce a new fellowship pictorial

directory. Many people like to think of it as our church family album.

Thank you to all of you who had your pictures taken in November!

Our last photo session dates will be Friday, January 11 and Saturday, January 12. Please visit our church website at www.fbcchehalis.org to schedule your photo session. You also can plan to schedule your appointment at church on Sunday morning January 6.

If you have any questions, please contact Mindy Schwarz at 748-8734.

2013! Wow a new year again. An opportunity to look back at where we have come in the last year and to see what God is doing in our lives. It is also a chance to look ahead and begin now to seek God's leading for our lives this New Year. Don't spend a lot of time doing a lot of looking back and wishing things had been different, don't spend time in "if only" or guilting yourself for all the times you could have done better. This is the New Year and it is time to begin again, knowing that God loves you and cares about you so focus on the future you have before you. Remember you can't change one minute of the past but you can, with God's help, make your future better and spend your time looking to Jesus. Let the Holy Spirit guide you and really be attentive to what He wants you to do this year to draw you closer to Him.

One of the things I want to offer you as an idea is to read the Bible through this year. (Grace and I are doing this again this year). If you've never done that it will be a brand new experience and you will be surprised at all the places God will speak to you; if you have read it through before pick a different translation perhaps and be blessed all over again. There are many different reading plans that will make sure you get through it all in a year. I will be placing some of them on our website www.fbcchehalis.org. If you don't want to look on line here are some thoughts for you. The devotional booklet we have in the church lobby, "Our Daily Bread, you can take a copy, lists a passage each day to read that will ensure you complete the entire Bible in one year. Here are some other ways to go about it:

- Beginning to End read the Bible from start to finish, from Genesis to Revelation.
- · Chronological read the Bible as the events occurred in real time. For example, Job lived sometime after the beginning of creation (Genesis 1) but before Abraham was born (Genesis 12). As a result

IN HIS GRIP

- the book of Job is integrated into the book of Genesis.
- Historical Read the books of the Bible as they were written historically, according to the estimated date of their writing.
- New then Old Read through the New Testament first then read through the Old Testament.
- Old and New Each day includes a passage from both the Old and New Testament.

Here is a website that will help you do any one of these plans: http://www.ewordtoday.com/year/. If you don't have access to a computer please contact me and I will get you the plan that works for you.

Another thing which you can do this new year is be more intentional and deliberate in your prayer life. This one I really need to work on this year!! Here are some Helps to improve your prayer Life this year:

- **1. You are Worthy** Do not feel guilty about the quality of your prayer life. Remember Christ paid your debt on the cross.
- 2. The more you pray the richer your prayers become -- To deepen your prayer life, don't be a slacker. Like anything in life, to become good at prayer you must be disciplined. Pray each day.
- 3. Prayer is active -- Prayer involves action; namely being attentive to God's voice in your life. Listening for God means stopping and sitting still.
- 4. Prayer should not be an afterthought -- Prayer was so very instrumental in Jesus' ministry. Just as Jesus broke away from His disciples to spend time in prayer, you can break away from your daily routine for quiet time and prayer.
- 5. Surround yourself with people who are seasoned at praying People who have a regular prayer

- routine have much to teach us; seek them out and let them guide and encourage your prayer life.
- 6. God doesn't require eloquence –
 Don't worry if you fumble for words when you pray. God is not grading you on your words but on your heart for the sincerity (not that you can't have both at once) don't worry if the words won't come, God still knows what is in your heart.
- 7. Prayer is a time for a conversation with a friend who loves you:

 God -- whether you see that friend routinely or just every once in a while, know that when you turn to God you are turning to someone who loves you.
- 8. Ask God for help if you get stuckMaybe you've hit a dry spell.There's no shame in asking God to guide you to pray in a new way.
- **9. Listen, Listen, Listen** Listening for God is central to prayer. The more you listen with your spirit's ears the more you will begin to hear from God.

These are just a couple of things you can do in this New Year to make it a richer fuller time.

I would be remiss if I did not say a word about Small Groups – basically if you are in a group, GREAT!! If your not; what keeps that from happening right now? If you need some help to get in a group or just want to talk about it please contact me.

May this be a great and wonderful New Year for you and yours. Know that every day is brand new and we get the chance for "do overs." God is the God of Second and more chances.

Well my paper is full now so I will stop here. Looking forward to seeing you in this New Year.

Pastor Skip

DOWN ON THE FARM

REVEALED - RESTORED - REPURPOSED

"Grandma's Table – must sell." The photo accompanying this ad was a bit dark but the table appeared sturdy and broad. I hoped it would be big enough to spread out quilting material. A brief exchange of emails negotiated a slightly better price and hubby and I took off to look at the table. Although nicks, scratches and pre-school artwork were evident, we felt it could be refinished. We paid the lady, hauled it home and put it in our barn.

I borrowed a sander, bought some facemasks and set to work on the top. Beautiful wood grain rose to the surface as layers of dirt and stain were ground off. The deeper scars smoothed out, leaving shallower "character" lines. As finer and finer sandpaper skimmed across the table, the texture beneath my fingers changed from slightly gummy to rough to smooth.

The underside and legs were more difficult on work on. Evidence of water damage, grit and rust on the metal hardware and awkward angles created a challenge for this novice table renovator. I saw areas that would never be perfect but I cleaned and smoothed everything I could. The more effort I expended, the more satisfied I was with the table's appearance.

"Grandma's table" now waits for a final sanding and a new coat of color and sealer. The years of hard use and neglect have disappeared and a new place and purpose promise a new life. No longer just a piece of furniture, it is now part of our home. I'd like to think, whoever Grandma was, she'd be giving a wink of approval.

It doesn't require a great stretch of imagination to compare the table's re-birth to my own. When I accepted Christ as Savior, there were years of world-grime layering my heart and mind. I like to think that, just as we chose that table, Jesus chose me. I cling to that sense of relationship, of belonging.

The Spirit of God has worked on me and in me, first on the surface, then layer by layer, revealing me, a unique creation, formed by His hands. The nicks and dings in my soul have been smoothed as He's applied grace and forgiveness. The remaining scars reveal the character He has been building within me. His work grinds off attitude, selfishness and worldliness, reshaping me into a usable vessel.

I gave God my battered heart and spirit. He knew the value of His creation and set to work to restore me. Just like that table, my life had new purpose and direction. I wonder if the Lord has the same sense of satisfaction in remolding me that I experienced in refinishing Grandma's table. I certainly hope those changes result in a Godly wink of approval.



Worship Is...

.... Building character. Did you know you are a work in progress? It's a long slow growth process to become more like Christ. Spiritual maturity is neither instant nor automatic; it is a gradual, progressive development that will take the rest of your life. Paul referred to this process as "This will continue until we are....mature, just as Christ is, and we will be completely like him" (Ephesians 4:13 CEV). Not possible, you say? Well, there is much confusion in the Christian life when we ignore the simple truth that God is far more interested in building our character than he is anything else. We are human beings, human doings. God is much concerned about our character than our careers, because we will take our character into eternity, but not our careers. Did we think Jesus died on the cross just so we could live comfortable, well-adjusted lives? His purpose is far deeper because He wants to make us like himself before he takes us to Heaven This is our greatest privilege, our immediate responsibility and our ultimate destiny.

As You make your New Year's resolutions this year, why not decide that God wants you to make a difference in his world. What matters is not the duration of your life but the donation of it, not how long you lived, but how you lived. If you're not involved in any service or ministry, what have you been using as an excuse? That you're a misfit? That you don't have anything to offer him? That's nonsense. Look at a few

of the misfits in the Bible. There are many;

Abraham was old; Moses stuttered; Rahab was immoral; David had an affair and all kinds of family problems; Jeremiah was depressed; Thomas had doubts; Paul had poor health; Timothy was timid; Martha worried a lot; And the list goes onFunny how God used each of them in his service. He'll use you, too. You just need to stop making excuses.

It's a new year coming, how are you going to work on your character building? Think about it.

Blessings

Grace Grover

Youth Happenings

Winter Camp 2013 Update

As many of you have heard there was a tragic fire at Camp Bethel on December 16, 2012. With the total loss of their main building we have had to change plans for our upcoming Winter Camp. Pastor Jeff and his staff are exploring other options for locations and we may have to move dates as well. We are doing our best to keep the cost the same as planned. Be in prayer for our staff as we make adjustments as God directs us to make this year's retreat honoring to the Lord and beneficial to the spiritual growth of our students.

Details as we know at this time:

Date: January 18-21, 2013 ?

Theme: Be Still & Know: Involving God in your life Cost: \$150 When paid by one week before camp. Location: This year's retreat will be at Camp Bethel

Registration forms available at the information tables in the foyer and in the youth center.

Wednesday Nights

1/2 - Roots: Essentials for a deeper life1/9 - Roots: Essentials for a deeper life1/16 - Prayer: Searching for God's plan

1/23 - Brainwashed 1/30 - Brainwashed

Join us in January as we

Every Wednesday, Downstairs in the Youth Center. Open to all 6-12 grade students. Doors open at 6:30 with food & friends. At 7:00 we start our times of worship, message, & small groups and the night's events are finished by 8:30.

Wednesday Attendance	Students	Staff	Total
November 28	46	11	57
December 5	54	11	65
December 12	42	13	55
December 19	43	10	53

Nicaragua 2013

Planning, fundraising and team building continues for our Summer 2013 Mission Trip to Nicaragua. Keep up to date with the latest information during announcement time.

- Next Meeting January 6, 6:30, Fellowship Hall
- Support letters should be sent already
- Fundraiser Lunch at Annual Meeting, January 27
- Plane tickets have been purchased

Our 2013 Nicaragua Mission Team is:
Pastor Mark, Pastor Jeff, Krista Wilks, Bob Walters,
Brett Ellingson, Chris Yarter, Paul & Val Rasku, Mike
Mullen, Rebecca Moon, Nathan Wilks, J.T. Yarter,
Sierra Becker, Nolan Hawkins, Kennedy Johnson,
Kyle Roberts, Ashley Short-Moon, Keiley ShortMoon, Josh Walters, Matthew Hawkins, Jamie
Hawley, Jasper Ellingson, Joshua Wilks, and Megan
Wilks



Youth Small Groups

We were created to be in community with each other, studying the Bible together, sharing our experiences, and holding each other accountable. Experience True Biblical community in our grade appropriate small groups on Sunday evenings. Contact Pastor Jeff to see when and where your group meets.

They're waiting for you to show up and join them!



For more information about our Youth Ministry:

Contact Pastor Jeff at 360/748-8628 x 103, E-mail him at uthpastor@fbcchehalis.org, Or like our Facebook page "First Baptist Church Chehalis Youth Ministry" to keep up on upcoming events. Baptism



Christmas Program















Christmas

Story



Silent Night





Christmas

Dinner





January, 2013

- 6 Bring your Duct Tape creation to Awana Club
- 13 Uniform Inspection
- 20 Dress Like a Baby & Bring Baby Items for Possibilities Pregnancy Center/A Place of Hope
- 27 Dress for Your Favorite Sport Awana Store

Awana Bible Quizzing Event

T & T Girls Director, Stephanie VanderMeer, is preparing our T & T Bible Quizzing Team for competition on Sat., Jan. 26, 2013. Please keep these young clubbers in prayer as they study hard to learn and memorize God's Holy Word.

Here's our beautiful Awana clubbers and leaders who braved the cold to decorate and ride on our "Christmas in the Caribbean" float on Dec. 1, 2012. A BIG THANK YOU to Debbie Shockey, Tracy Hansen and Nichole Vandal for their contribution!



Children's Ministry News

Here is our 3 & 4 year old Sunday School class singing in church Dec. 16. A BIG THANK YOU to their teachers: Nancy Blomdahl and Mardi Boes.



Here's our Kindergarten – 5th Grade Sunday School class singing an energetic "Feliz Navidad." BIG THANK YOU to their teachers: Debbie Young, Rosie Cruzan, Christine Pierce, Laquita Smith and Brandie Chappell.

HELP WANTED

An opportunity has been made available for a paid worker in our nursery on Wednesday evenings, 6:30 – 8:45 p.m. Call our church office or Kim Marcus at 748-2124 A.S.A.P.



Our Children's Hand Chime Choir presented their beautiful music at both church services and our Christmas Program on Dec. 23, 2012. A BIG THANK YOU to Wenda Coronel, Shelly Ford, and Sarah Hawkins for their training.

Mission of the Month Possibilities Pregnancy Center

Possibilities Pregnancy Center exists to be a resource for women and men with pregnancy related needs. Our services include, free pregnancy tests, prenatal, parenting, and abstinence education, pregnancy loss support and free baby & maternity items. All of our services are confidential, free of charge and made possible by the generous donations of the community.

Possibilities Pregnancy Center has undergone many changes this year in fact, we joke that "change" is our middle name, but without change there isn't growth. Physically we have seen changes, the first one being the change of our name from the Care Center to Possibilities Pregnancy Center with our tagline being "a place of hope" which reflects what we offer which is, possibilities of hope to everyone who walks through our doors. Our readerboard was also given a bright facelift to coincide with our new name and logo with the goal being that people who need us will see us and stop in to use our services.

We recently renovated our stairs, added a bookcase for our curriculum, and added a half wall to make space for a new set of volunteers; two amazing nurses! Under the leadership and license of Dr. Scalici, we are now able to provide pregnancy test verification, which is simply proof of pregnancy and prenatal nurse consultations, once



a trimester. These are exciting changes that are bringing tremendous growth and a new standard of professionalism to our Center.

As you also know our economy isn't the best and we have had more people than ever need material support such as diapers, wipes, baby clothes, etc. We have been blessed with the faithful support of donations from our community and use wisdom with what is entrusted to us to serve the clients to the best of our ability. We are always in need of baby toiletry items such as shampoo, baby wash, baby powder, as well as socks, shoes, coats up to size 4T and baby furniture items such as high chairs, pack n plays, and strollers. With your prayers and support we are able to be God's hands and feet this community that so desperately needs

If you have any questions or would like further information, please don't hesitate to call our Center at 330-2229.

Mary Funk,

Missions Team Leader



Our first activity for 2013 is a Crab Feed at the home of Bill and Edith Wiley (1283 SW 22nd Street, Chehalis,) on Friday, January 11 at 11:45 A.M. They will furnish the crab and beverages. The cost is \$5.00, plus bring a salad or dessert. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board across from the office.

We will have a luncheon at the church on Thursday, February 14 at

PRIME TIMER'S 55+

12:00 P.M. The cost is \$5.00. We don't have a program yet. Any ideas?

On Thursday, March 14, we will have a luncheon at the church at 12:00 P.M. cost is \$5. John and Judy will share a power-point presentation on their recent trip to Peru and Machu Picchu.

We have received a few ideas for programs and activities and for the coming year. If you have some ideas, please share them with John Lyttle, 748-4765.

John Lyttle

What's Happening at FBCC this Month

Nicaragua Mission Team Meeting January 6 @ 6:30 pm Fellowship Hall	Men's Breakfast January 19 @ 7 am Fellowship Hall Mike Foster, 360-219-3617	Nicaragua Mission Team Fundraiser Lunch January 27 @ 12:30 pm Fellowship Hall Annual Meeting January 27 Worship Center Immediately following the fundraiser lunch.	
Lifetouch Directory Pictures January 11 @ 12 - 8 pm January 12 @ 10 am - 6 pm Sign up in the church foyer January 6 got to our website www.fbcchehalis.org to make your appointment.	Women's Crafting Bee January 19 @ 10 am Bring a Sack Lunch Fellowship Hall Cheri Foster, 360-219-3571		
PrimeTimers' Crab Feed January 11 @ 11:45 am	Women's Circle Meeting January 24 @ 1 pm	Worship Attendance	
Cost \$5 for Crab & Beverages	Library	12/2 272	
Bill & Edith Wiley's home	Mary Funk, 748-8718	12/9 267	
1283 SW 22nd Street		12/16 276	
Bring a salad or dessert		12/23 295	
		12/24 262	

Thank you

First Baptist Church
Thank you for your support of
Young Life. It is appreciated.
Blessings,
Dave Klovdahl
Young life Area Director





Women's News

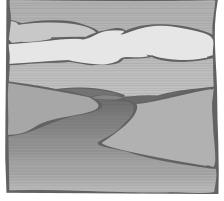
CRAFTING BEE

Our next crafting session will be Saturday, January 19 at 10:00 A.M. Bring a craft to work on or just come and visit. Don't forget to bring a sack lunch as we usually work until about 2:00 P.M. Contact Cheri, 360-219-3571, for more information.

CIRCLE GROUP

All the ladies of the church are invited to attend the Louise Campbell/ C.O.S. Circle meeting at 1 PM on Thursday, January 24 in the church library. Please contact Mary Funk, 748-8718.

WOMEN'S RETREAT



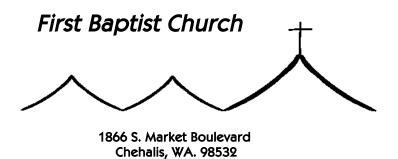
Women's retreat is coming soon! We will be heading to Cannon Beach, Oregon for an amazing time of fellowship, worship, growth and fun as we explore the "Path to Purpose." The dates are February 1-3 and the cost is \$140. A deposit of \$40 will reserve your spot, you can put it in one of our "retreat" envelopes (at the information table) and drop it in the offering or at the office. This is always an incredible time - make plans to be there and bring a friend! If you have questions or need more information, contact Krista Wilks (360) 280-5291 or kcwilks@msn.com.

January 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Happy New year!!	2 6:30 am Prayer Group	3	4	5
		office Closed!!	6:30 pm Youth Groups 7 pm Women's Group	5 pm Women's Group 6:30 pm Scheuber Road Connection Group	6:30 pm Boistfort Connection group	
Communion Sunday 8:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Worship Svc 11 am Sunday School 11 am Worship Svc	7	6:30 am Men's Morning Connection Group 8:30 am Mom's in Prayer	9 6:30 am Prayer Group	10	11 12 pm Prime Timer's Crab Feed 12 - 8 pm Lifetouch pictures	12 10 am - 6 pm Life- touch pictures
4:30 pm Awana Club 6:30 pm Nic Mission Team Meeting 6:30 pm Ramsaur Road Connection Group	6 pm Handbell Practice	6 pm Connection Group	6:30 pm Youth Groups 7 pm Women's Group	5 pm Women's Group 6:30 pm Scheuber Road Connection Group	6:30 pm Boistfort Connection group	
8:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Worship Svc 11 am Sunday School 11 am Worship Svc	14	15 6:30 am Men's Morning Connection Group 8:30 am Mom's in Prayer	16 6:30 am Prayer Group	17	18 12 pm Soup & Scripture	19 7 am Men's Break- fast
4:30 pm Awana Club 6:30 pm Ramsaur Road Connection Group	6 pm Handbell Practice	6 pm Connection Group	6:30 pm Youth Groups 7 pm Women's Group	5 pm Women's Group 6:30 pm Scheuber Road Connection Group	6:30 pm Boistfort Connection group	10 am Women's Crafting Bee
8:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Worship Svc 11 am Sunday School 11 am Worship Svc	21	6:30 am Men's Morning Connection Group 8:30 am Mom's in Prayer	23 6:30 am Prayer Group	24 1 pm Circle Group Meeting	25 12 pm Soup & Scripture	26
4:30 pm Awana Club 6:30 pm Ramsaur Road Connection Group	6 pm Handbell Practice	6 pm Connection Group	6:30 pm Youth Groups 7 pm Women's Group	5 pm Women's Group 6:30 pm Scheuber Road Connection Group	6:30 pm Boistfort Connection group	
8:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Worship Svc 11 am Sunday School 11 am Worship Svc 12:30 pm Nic Fund-	28	6:30 am Men's Morning Connection Group 8:30 am Mom's in Prayer	30 6:30 am Prayer Group	31		
raiser Lunch Annual Meeting 4:30 pm Awana Club 6:30 pm Ramsaur Road Connection Group	6 pm Handbell Practice	6 pm Connection Group	6:30 pm Youth Groups 7 pm Women's Group	5 pm Women's Group 6:30 pm Scheuber Road Connection Group		



Sunday January 27, 2013
Lunch, 12:30 P.M., Fellowship Hall
Meeting immediate following in the Worship Center
(Lunch will be provided by the Nicaragua Mission Team)



NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION

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Permit Number 24

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED