

KOINONIA

WINTER 2010

'Tis the Season

Upcoming Christmas
Events

Go Surfing

@dnbc.org

Remodeling

Change is coming

Take a Look

into the Big Apple
Adventure

Its a Mystery

what is this year's
melodrama about



Koinonia is a Greek word whose primary meaning is “fellowship or sharing in common.” It means that we are in agreement with one another, united in a common purpose, and serving alongside each other. It is the ideal state of fellowship, community and family that should exist within a body of believers. It is this ideal state, this *koinonia*, that we hope to encourage through this publication. Our hope is that it would be far more than just a fancy listing of events, but that people would get a greater sense of who we are as a church, that they would see our heart, not just our hands and feet.

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This magazine is a collaboration of a large group of people of all ages and ranges of talents and abilities. If you are interested in becoming a part of this Media Arts Team, please contact Michael Hickman, Joy Pinkston, or Andy Byers, or email koinonia@dnbc.org. We would love to have you join us!

A Word From The Pastor

An old year is completing its course and a new year is smiling at us, full to the brim of the unknown. An entire year of possibilities, including sun-drenched days and a few storms, stretch out before us. 2011 holds challenges brought on by changes that await you and me. We will be shoved out of our comfort zones and required to respond. We can do so positively or negatively, with hope and optimism or with resentment and pessimism. If you are not careful you'll miss your golden moment to grow a little, to make new discoveries, to switch from passivity to becoming an active participant in the adventures that await our church. Yes, there are changes on the horizon.

Admittedly some of us go a little nuts when the words "adventure" and "change" are brought before us. Our "It will do," and "We've never done it that way before," attitudes are challenged.

“January not only inaugurates a new year, but also presents the opportunity for a fresh start, a renewal of commitment, and a time for setting new goals.”

Aren't you thankful that wasn't Jesus' attitude before he left the glories of heaven to begin his adventure among us! The greatest story ever told is the good news of Jesus Christ—Christmas and Easter. And we have the privilege of sharing his story with our community and world.

As our community changes (there's that word again) we must keep up. The New Year will bring us the opportunity for a face lift of our facilities—remodeling the present worship center and building a new entrance/gathering space on the east side. It has been proven that churches that stay abreast of their culture and keep up with their communities, are the churches that are impacting their community.

January not only inaugurates a new year, but also presents the opportunity for a fresh start, a renewal of commitment, and a time for setting new goals. As such, now is a great time for reflection on one's spiritual life and the desired goals that God leads us toward in 2011. We serve our Great God in a great church, a church we must continually strengthen and build upon in Christ's name.

Let's all get excited about the possibilities. I know I am, and I'm looking forward to the New Year with great anticipation. I don't know about you, but I choose to make a difference with my church family in 2011. Will you join me?

In His Service, and Yours,
Pastor Bob



December Schedule

- 12/3 Christmas Camp - 6:00pm
- 12/3 YAM Christmas Party
- 12/5 Hanging of the Green and Fellowship - 6:30 pm
- 12/10 Adult 6 Christmas Party
- 12/10 Adult 5 Christmas Party
- 12/10 SAM Christmas Party
- 12/17 Singles Christmas Party
- 12/17 Youth "12 Hours of Christmas" Party
- 12/18 Adult 4 Christmas Party
- 12/19 Adult Christmas Program - 6:30 pm
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Service - 7:00 pm





A Baby Changes Everything

Arise, Shine, for your Light has come! This Christmas season there will be an incredible musical experience celebrating the night that Christ was born, highlighting many groups, such as the Celebration Choir, Orchestra, Drama team, and Sound and Lighting technicians, and sets will be built by the helping hands ministry. The musical is entitled "A Baby Changes Everything," and will take place on December 19 at 6:30 pm in the auditorium.

Dr. Ira B. Pinkston heads up the music and Luaine Myers is in charge of the drama for this extravagant event. This musical is about the night Christ was born; people are gathered at the inn before his birth and their lives are changed forever by witness-

ing the event and holding the Christ child. The anticipation is that not only will church members attend, but that non-church members would be invited and be blessed by this production. "We want to share the good news that Jesus was God, was born of a virgin, lived a perfect life, and then died on the cross for the sins of the world," says Ira.

Preparations for this began in August, and Ira states that it has been the main focus of his energy in the following months. "I am excited to pull together so many different talents from our church membership so that we can accomplish such a difficult task," he says, "It will be a great accomplishment and a highlight of my ministry at this church."

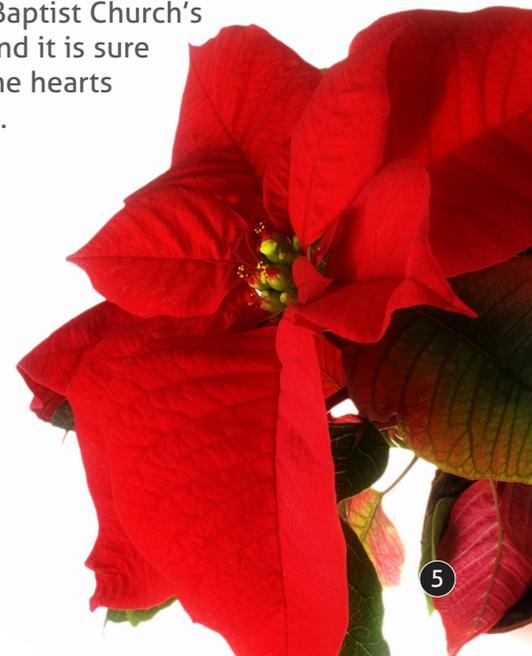
Hanging of the Green

The first Sunday of December every year, the auditorium goes through a transformation from its usual state to a beautiful room filled with wreaths, garland, trees, bows, poinsettias, candles and lights. This isn't just done after the congregation leaves by a few volunteers, but the transformation is done by the children and youth of the church in a celebration of the season called Hanging of the Green, where children not only decorate the church, but present songs and musical selections to accompany them. This year, Hanging of the Green is on December 5 at 6:30 pm.

Choir director Sharon Williams says that rehearsals for the Hanging of the Green began in October, because the children's choirs are also working

on music and material for the VBS Premier in February. Four different choirs will be participating in the evening's events. Williams says that Hanging of the Green "is a good opportunity for the children and youth choirs to shine at Christmas time."

At the end of every Hanging of the Green, all of the groups join together for one last song that has become the annual finale of the evening - Hear the Chimes. This song is a favorite of most children and parents. Hanging of the Green is a key event of Del Norte Baptist Church's Christmas season, and it is sure to bring a glow to the hearts of those who attend.



MURDER MYSTERY MELODRAMA

Every year around Valentine's Day on weekend nights, Del Norte's Conference Center is filled with people of all ages. Laughter can be heard from the parking lot, and the smell of delicious food wafts out the doors. The Melodrama is something which one cannot truly explain to those who have not experienced it, because it is an experience beyond words, beyond this simple statement: fun for the whole family.

Performers begin their work months in advance, cooks fix tasty meals, and all of the work is coordinated by the ever so talented Kevin Warner. Kevin is DNBC's Growth Pastor, and has written the script for the Melodrama every year.

The Melodrama this year is entitled "The Pinky-Finger Murders" and is a spoof on Sherlock Holmes. It is a murder mystery, involving a cast of 16 people. Rehearsals began in September, and every actor or actress' character was written solely for them; there are no tryouts for the melodrama.

The characters in the melodrama not only interact with each other, but after the second act, the audience gets to try and guess who the murderer is. The answer is revealed in the third act.

Dinner is served in between the acts, and with them come a healthy serving of Olivos. These are "vaudeville type acts; jokes, songs, skits," says Kevin, "that have become a very popular thing over the years."

This is the eighth year for the Melodrama to be in production, and it has grown with every passing year. Each night seats 130 people, and there is no place in the room that you sit that you are less than thirty feet from the stage.

The evening isn't just fun and games, though. Every year, the proceeds of the production go toward local and nation-wide charities. It is always divided between two different things, like a mission trip, a local charity or something like that. For 2009's production, monies were donated to the medical mission trip to Nicaragua and to Haitian relief funds. The very first year, donations were made to Operation Homefront, which is a charity organization which helps out families of National Guard troops who were sent to serve in Iraq.

Over \$25,000 has been given over the first six years, and the expectation is to raise more money to help out the local organizations of Albuquerque, such as Joy Junction, the Albuquerque Rescue Mission, and the Salvation Army, and to reach out globally as well.

Kevin explains his passion for the melodrama, saying that it is one of his favorite things, saying "Melodrama came late in my life. I have always enjoyed melodrama and theater."

This is one of Kevin's enjoyments in life, "I can't tell you what it does to be the director and encourage people."

"This is not the American novel. This is not Hemingway. This is corn. Corn with a y on the end," Warner states.

"If you are not coming out to have a good time, if you are not in a good mood, don't come. It's all about having a good time and helping a good cause."

The Melodrama is always an event that you will not want to miss, and this year will definitely be one for the books.



Bilingual Service

On October 31, 2010, DNBC had a bilingual service involving several different ministries. There usually are two 11 o'clock services, one in English and one in Spanish, but on this day, both services combined to worship the Lord through music, prayer and fellowship. Songs were sung alternating in Spanish and English, as well as the sermon and prayers, which were translated by Dr. Ben Bedford. The Youth Ensemble and the Spanish Department's Worship Team sang specials. Four people were also baptized. The whole day was a wonderful collaboration of the two services, and it certainly united the church as a body of believers.

El 31 de octubre de 2010, DNBC tuvo un servicio bilingüe que implica varios ministerios diferentes. Hay generalmente dos 11 servicios de o'clock, uno en inglés y uno en español, pero en este día, ambos servicios combinaron para venerar el Señor por música, la oración y la confraternidad. Las canciones fueron cantadas alternando en español e inglés, así como el sermón y las oraciones, que fueron traducidos por Dr. Ben Bedford. El Conjunto de la Juventud y el Equipo del Culto del Departamento españoles cantaron especiales. Cuatro personas también fueron bautizadas. El día entero fue una colaboración maravillosa de los dos servicios, y de ello ciertamente unió la iglesia como un cuerpo de creyentes.



Praline Snackers

24 graham crackers
½ Cup butter, cubed
½ tsp. vanilla extract
½ cup chopped pecans

1 cup mini marshmallows
½ cup chocolate syrup
½ cup packed brown sugar

Arrange graham crackers in a single layer on a cookie sheet. In a sauce pan bring butter and brown sugar to a boil. Cook and stir until sugar is just dissolved. Remove from heat and add vanilla. Pour evenly over crackers. Sprinkle with nuts.

Bake at 350 degrees for 5 minutes. Sprinkle with marshmallows and bake 3 - 5 minutes longer or until top is bubbly and marshmallows are light browned.

Drizzle with chocolate syrup. Cool for 10 minutes. Break into squares.

Hannah Bergstrasser

Pineapple Cheese Ball

2 8 oz. pkgs. softened cream cheese
¼ cup finely chopped bell pepper
1 8.5 oz. can drained crushed pineapple
2 tbs. finely chopped onion
1 tbsp. Lawry's seasoned salt
2 cups chopped pecans

Combine first 5 ingredients.

Add 1 cup chopped pecans.

Mix well and refrigerate until firm.

Roll ball in the remaining cup of pecans.

The flavors meld better when I make it the night before, then roll in pecans the next day.

Jan Hendrix

Hear it. Believe it. Connect it.



Hear it. Believe it. Connect it. That's the theme of next year's Big Apple Adventure VBS. And we have a couple of groups that are already getting very familiar with it. Every year a group of children's ministers and VBS leaders gather together and have what Lifeway calls a "hands-on, two day event that's packed with information about VBS." It's an event designed to give the state leaders what they need to be able to go home and train leaders in their own state for the upcoming year's VBS. This year, in the western region, that event is being held right here at Del Norte, on January 20-21.

Not only are we the host church, but our children's choirs have been asked to give a preview of the VBS musical for the event. That means all of our children and their leaders are already very familiar with the VBS musical as they prepare to share it in January. It also means that our talented group of artists has been busy preparing some of the decorations that we see every year. So watch out for that taxi cab they've been painting, and maybe even a special sneak preview of the musical for our church family.

Messages from SNL



"Faith must not be hidden for only you to experience. As we live, we should be examples of what it is to have faith in every aspect of life. Stepping down from a situation where you can present Christ to someone shows a lack of faith, because if we truly believe God is with us, we will jump at the opportunity to share His name without fear of what may happen; we will live with a passion to share His love." -Joy Pinkston



Ecclesiastes 2 verse 26: To the person who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. "You can amass all the treasures of this world, but they cannot bring you joy. Joy only comes from God."
- Melody Pinkston



"Halloween is a scary, scary time. We can read scary stories in the Bible; you know, there are dead people in there! Well, on Halloween we wear costumes to have fun, seeming to be something we are not. Now, in our daily lives we cannot put Christ-likeness on like a costume. It must be a lifestyle, an attitude, of who we are. Those of us with the "Christian Costume" problem must make our relationship with Jesus our own, growing closer to Him and His image. It starts here." -Mark Acton



"Meshach, Shadrach and Abednego all trusted God with their lives. They knew the consequence of disobeying King Nebuchadnezzar - being roasted alive in a fiery furnace - but they stood up for what they believed. They were committed to Christ and put their lives in His hands and He saved them. So now I dare you to put your trust completely in Christ and stand up for what you believe no matter what the consequences are; no matter what other people may think." - Stephanie Acton



"Do you believe because you *see* the resurrection? The early Christians fed the hungry, loved the lonely, and took care of the sick. People couldn't help but notice that God was among them. Do people see that in us? Now, don't get me wrong, I believe that we are called to tell others about Christ, but we also need to go beyond words. We're not the only ones telling people what to believe. And its true that the words we are telling set us apart, but at the heart of those words are actions. People will see that Jesus is alive when they see Him alive in us." -Michael Hickman

We're On the Web

This past year, Del Norte's website was completely redesigned. None of the actual information changed, but instead was reorganized and presented in a much cleaner way. The web has changed the way people search for information. It's really amazing what can be done through the web, and we hope that our website capitalizes on the medium. On our website you can keep up to date on what's going on, read sermons, contact the staff and more.

Reading the Sermons

To access the sermons, hover the mouse over the Sermon Section in the navigation bar. Here you have two options: sermon archive and featured sermons. The sermon archive contains every sermon from the past year. Once you click on the sermon you want, a PDF will open. You can read it online, download to your computer, as well as print it. The Featured Sermon page contains select sermons in PDF format as well as the audio recording of the sermon.

Submit a Prayer Request

If you have a prayer request that you would like the church to know about: Under "Ministries" in the navigation bar, click on Prayer Request. Here you can send a prayer request to the church staff.

Check the Church Calendar

To check the church calendar look under Resources in the navigation bar. Click on the calendar option. Here you can view everything that is going on.

One of the greatest things about the new site is how flexible it is. We can always add new content, so if anyone has any ideas of how we can improve or expand the website, feel free to let us know.

We hope that you check out the site and take advantage of all it has to offer. We also hope that you use it to tell people about Del Norte. Our web address is:

www.dnbc.org

Change is Coming

Mike Coppedge from Weller Architects has presented the project that will remodel the auditorium and add a welcome/gathering area to Del Norte.

The church approved hiring Weller Architects to design a remodel and addition project during a business meeting last summer. The church design committee and Weller have been having ongoing meetings about the project. These two parties are working to complete this project so that it is in line with the master plan which had been approved by the church, several years ago.

The project at this time is still in the first stages, known as the "schematic stage", which is the part of the process called the "concept phase". The design committee informs Weller of the concepts it would like to see and Weller looks at the feasibility and cost consideration of the concepts. The final decision on what actually gets done based on cost and preferences are made by the design committee.

The scope of work will include a complete remodel of the auditorium. Remodeling will target the stage area, baptistery, ceiling, floors and walls. There will be improvements for the acoustics, lighting and sound system, and this remodel will include a complete replacement of the heating and cooling system for the church.

A new Welcome area will be added on the east side of the church. This gathering space will become the main entrance to the church, which will provide a place for the congregation to fellowship, as well as create a new main entrance into the auditorium. There will also be new bathrooms added to the end of the corridor at the southeast corner of the church.

Depending on how long the design phase takes, construction is projected to start in the Spring of 2011, with everything being finished by the end of the year.



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Worship Service Times

Youth Service - 6:00 pm, Saturday

Traditional Service - 8:30 am, Sunday

Contemporary Service - 11:00am, Sunday

Spanish Service - 11:00am, Sunday

If you would like to contact us about this publication,
send an email to koinonia@dnbc.org

**We are a united body of believers committed
to grow in Christ and reach others for Christ**