

Good Tidings

...behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy. – Luke 2:10

Christmas in Reverse

'Tis the season for the **Christmas musical**, a free annual event put on by the children & youth of PBC. This year's presentation is titled, "Christmas in Reverse."

Join us on Sundays!

8:15 first service
8:45 Kids in Action
10:00 Sunday school hour
11:00 second service

Three performances are scheduled:
- Saturday, December 15th, at 5:00 pm
- Sunday, December 16th, at 9:00 am
- Sunday, December 16th, at 11:00 am

Hark! The Christmas choir sings during the regular Sunday service times on Sunday, December 23rd. Be prepared to be inspired!

Angel Tree Ministry

For many years, PBC has participated in the Angel Tree program, and has ensured hundreds of children receive gifts in spite of having an incarcerated parent.

"Angel Tree, a program of Prison Fellowship, seeks to reconcile prisoners and their families to God, to each other, and to their communities through the transforming love and grace of Jesus Christ. Through your support of Angel Tree, prisoners have the opportunity to send their children a Christmas gift and the Good News of Jesus Christ!" That statement can be found on the website www.angeltree.org, along with more information about the organization.

Below: Nancy Mack with the beautiful Angel Tree in the church lobby



Veteran's Appreciation Breakfast

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Sunday, November 11th Pioneer Bible Church hosted a free breakfast, open to the community, to honor men and women who have served our country in the military. The sanctuary was transformed into a restaurant. Veterans, their families, and members of PBC enjoyed the eggs, bacon, fruit, and pancakes, while listening to a presentation which opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the national anthem, followed by more music sung by the worship team. Danny Salanoa spoke about his recent experiences overseas, and encouraged other veterans to share their own stories. Several men spoke, including those who had served in Vietnam, Iraq, and even World War II!

Pastor Jim reminds us, "Freedom is never free. We are all so deeply blessed to know Christ and to live in this land of the Free. May we never forget that the freedom we enjoy has come at a high price. Thousands of courageous men and women have served this nation and paid a great cost to preserve and maintain the blessed freedom we know and liberties we enjoy. We must never forget this fact and we must continue with a heart and attitude of giving thanks to our active military, faithful Veterans, and to those who paid the ultimate price."

"Yes, God has blessed America and its people. Pray for America and the people of America who so freely have access to God and the Word of God yet sadly, many ignore Him. Pray for people to be humbled and to choose to believe the God who gives life and liberty for eternity."

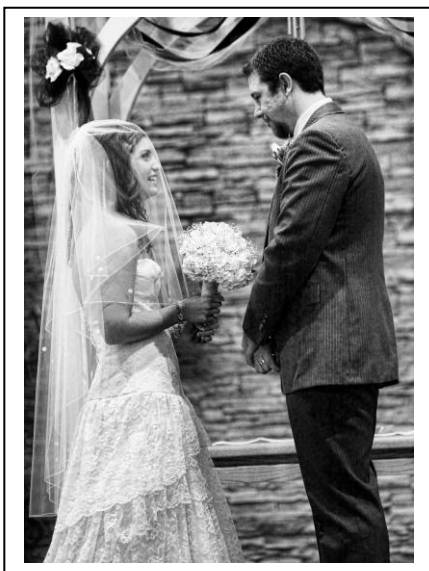
We also want to say thank you to the incredible team of volunteers who came early, worked hard and prepared a wonderful breakfast to honor our Veterans. Thank you for being a grateful serving team and for providing a safe and caring environment for our Veterans to be appreciated.

Let's continue being grateful people, reminding each other that freedom is never free."

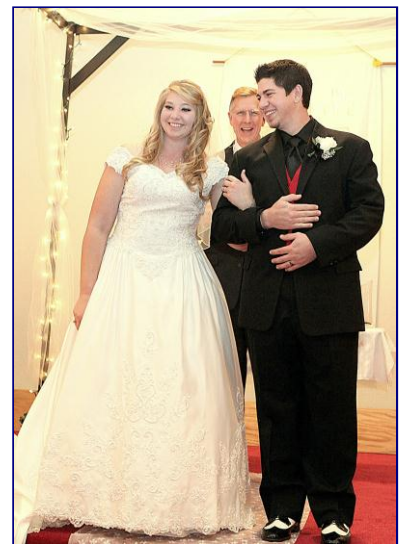
Pastor Jim



Newlyweds!



Long-time members of our church family, brothers Christopher and Cameron Holmes, were married within twelve months of each other. **At left**, Cameron and his bride Sarah Santana, who were married at Calvary Chapel on November 10th. **At right**, Arielle Proper and Christopher, who are approaching their first anniversary. They were wed December 17, 2011 here at PBC. Yes, that is Pastor Jim in the background!



LESSONS LEARNED AT CAMP

The youth of PBC went on a retreat together this fall (see November newsletter for details). They have been gracious enough to share what they learned with the rest of the church body. Here are their testimonies:

"When you go to camp you're always excited about people, food, and games; I know I am, but my experiences at Camp Forward are never just that simple, and especially not our Fall Retreat. To me camp was like an ice cream treat. First the cone, its protection keeps every bit of the sticky oozing goodness in where it's supposed to be, and that's camp; where we can have our freedom to just be who we are but still have those guard rails. In the cone there are three scoop, the first one was the friends and people around us that lift us up and keep us going. The second scoop was the camp food that without it we would not be able to say we really went to camp! :) The third scoop was chapel, where we are able to learn God's word and grow closer to Him. Next was the whipped cream which was, of course, the night games which is what makes the event the more memorable. And of course waking up to Mrs. Holmes singing to us was the "nuts sprinkled on top," and lastly, the cherry which is Jesus. He was the main focus and is the one that really is the only one that allows us to do things like this as His Church and His body. I will always remember my time at camp and never forget the impact it had." - Juliana Egger

"I loved camp, especially the quiet time. It helped me get in touch with God." - Luke Dean

"I really think the lesson about having good friends meant the most to me." - Ben Dean

"I think the highlight of the getaway was praying over Doug and making new friends." - David Richards

"I really enjoyed the night games. The lessons really got to a personal level telling how people change and showing how God works in their lives. The topic of unity was good showing the importance of working together in Christ. - Josef Hanson



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Nancy Mack explains how PBC has been involved in Angel Tree: "Angel Tree is a program under the umbrella of Prison Fellowship Ministry, and our church has participated for about 20 years! I wouldn't have believed that, but time does seem to fly by. I remember delivering gifts with my daughters when they were growing up! It is a ministry dedicated to families I believe—helping to make sure children of a mom or dad in prison are not forgotten, and to let them know that their parent loves them. This is important, it is not just a gift to an impoverished child or family, in fact that may not even be the case. It is a gift from the parent for that child, in an effort to provide something they can use and to share their love. The inmates must complete an application to participate in the program, they don't simply sign up, it does take some effort on their part
(continued below...)

"So our part in this at Pioneer Bible Church is to come along side and provide these gifts for the kids. It takes many hands to do this work, from Vicki Butler who numbers the applications (and transfers the personal message each parent writes on the application to their child to the angel), to phone callers who obtain gift request information, table volunteers for angel sign-outs, purchasers, gift wrappers, and finally deliverers! Our church has done a Wonderful job supporting this ministry along with others during this special time of year, and we want to thank you for all you do."



Linette Harris'
Russian Tea Cakes



Mix thoroughly:

1 cup soft butter
1/2 cup powdered sugar
1 teaspoon Vanilla

Sift together and stir in:

2 1/4 cup sifted flour
1/4 teaspoon salt

Mix in:

3/4 cup finely chopped nuts

~Chill dough. roll into 1 inch balls. Place on un-greased baking sheet (cookies do not spread) Bake until set, but not brown. While still warm, roll in powdered sugar. Cool completely, then roll in powdered sugar again. Store in sealed container at room temperature. (Does not freeze well...gets gooey when defrosted!) Temperature: 400 F. Time: Bake 10 to 12 minutes. Amount: About 4 dozen 1 " cookies.

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