



The Crest Connection

Connecting people with the Life that counts for eternity!

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM CREST BAPTIST CHURCH, CRESTON, IOWA

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2012

January's mission emphasis will be the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Weekly Schedule

- Sunday:**
9:30 am Bible Study
10:45 am Worship
- Monday:**
10:00 am Weight Release Meeting (1st & 3rd weeks)
- Tuesday**
4:30 pm Counting Carbs Meeting
- Wednesday:**
6:30 am Prayer Meeting
6:30 pm Children and Youth Ministries
7:00 pm Adult Bible Study
- Thursday:**
12:00 pm Men's Bible Study
6:00 pm Celebrate Recovery
6:30 pm GriefShare and Women's Bible Study
- Friday:**
9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Beloved,
We begin another year. And with a new year we often face it with the sense of a clean slate, plans to be more disciplined, and anticipation of better things to come. But, for some, there is a sense of uncertainty. Think over your last year versus the way you began it. Certainly, there were some unexpected joys, like the wedding of our daughter, Katie, on Christmas Eve or the December 3rd birth of Brayden Emerson—unanticipated on January 1, 2011. Likewise, some faced unexpected losses, disappointments, and grief in 2011. How do we keep all of this in a proper perspective? Most importantly, we have to



FROM THE PASTOR

continue to hold on, in faith, to the understanding that God "rules over all, works through all, and is present in all" (Ephesians 4:6). We can trust His wisdom and guidance when we are uncertain because God says, "For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope'" (Jer. 29:11)

So, we can move confidently into a new year with the assurance that God is with us and leading us in "paths of righteousness for His name's sake" (Psalm 23:3). I look forward to traveling those paths with you this year.

In His love,
Chuck

The youth are looking forward to several things in the next couple of months. In January the annual Winter Jam takes place on January 20th and Jerry Hartman will be coordinating with those that would like to head up to Des Moines for a night of Christian music with names like Toby Mac. We are planning a winter fun day in February with a tentative date of February 4th. There will be more to come on the details.



YOUTH GROUP

★ News ★

March 16 & 17th. This is the beginning of spring break and those who would like their youth to attend this great conference can plan accordingly. Ask the youth who is going to be there. Their Christmas presents are by the authors.

Our Sunday school and Wednesday night study times have just finished a four week "Difference Makers" unit, talking about such things as social ills, helping others, marriage by design and racial lines. In exploring these

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**ADULT BIBLE CLASSES:
SUNDAYS AT 9:30 A.M.**

Going Right in a Culture Gone Wrong—(Room 9b)

This class will help you to respond to five actions our culture takes.

10 Choices — (Room 9a) James McDonald shows you the power of personal choices and how to make the top choices—starting now!

52 Key Bible Stories— (Room 4) This study will give you an overview of key people and events of the Bible.

The Invisible War— (Room 5) This video/discussion for-

mat by Rick Warren teaches how to overcome 3 essential kinds of temptation.

ADDITIONAL SMALL GROUPS

MONDAY: *Women's Weight Release Group* —Contact Vicki Brown (782-5487) Youth Room at 10:00 a.m. on first and third Mondays.

TUESDAY: *Counting Carbs*— Contact Sherry Taylor (782-5820) Room 9b at 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY: *Abide in Christ* — Andrew Murray's book shows the blessings of a life spent in the presence of Jesus and how that may be realized by every believer. (Meets at 7:00 p.m.)

THURSDAY: *The Ragamuffin Gospel*—Men's Lunch Study, Room 9b at Noon. Contact Shawn Lange (344-6257)

Celebrate Recovery—Contact Rich Ornelis (202-4307) Child-care provided. (6:00 p.m.)

GriefShare—Contact Lexie Starlin at 641-344-1861, Marilyn Ralls at 641-344-5974 or Crest at 782-2018. (6:30 p.m. - Office)

James, Mercy Triumphs— Beth Moore's new study of the Book of James. (6:30 p.m. at Myra Spindler's home. Repeated on **Fridays at 9:30 a.m.** in Room 9b)

**COUNTRY ROADS
BAPTIST CHURCH—LENOX**

December was busy, with a showing of Veggie Tale's latest Christmas movie "Little Drummer Boy", going caroling, and Christmas Eve service. I did contact Casey's and they have dropped the price. They encouraged me to touch base with them again in July if it hasn't sold. As we look to 2012, there are some things set and some things still a little fuzzy.

We are having a youth gathering on Sunday, January 1st for some "snow games", pizza and watch a movie. We are considering taking the youth to Ignite in the spring. We are now seeing about 6-8 teens each week on Wednesdays.

We will have a planning meeting to finalize plans for 2012 sometime after the first

of the year. Things we are considering are hosting some 5th quarters after some home basketball games, Beach Blast event, VBS, rodeo week and others. We hope to see the return of our friends from Tennessee again this year to help with Rodeo week, but that is not certain as of right now.

We continue to strive to focus on relationship building and being patient for God to build His church. We have seen a few visitors recently from other churches and pray that God will make His will clear to them about where He wants them. But mostly, we long to see those that do not know Jesus, come to have a hunger for and eventually place their faith in our loving Savior. Praying that we see that happen in 2012!

The Greens

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Beth Moore's newest study, *James: Mercy Triumphs*, includes the topics of joy, hardship, faith, reversal of fortunes for rich and poor, wisdom, gifts from above, single-mindedness, the dangers of the tongue, humility, and prayer.

Plus, Beth introduces a 5-tiered study approach that she has never done before. Level 1: Participate in the video session only; Level 2: Complete the homework assignment; Level 3: Handwrite James; Level 4: Reading *The Next Level* (included in workbook); Level 5: Memorize James. So, no matter where you are in your spiritual growth, you will be challenged to take it to a deeper level. Studies will be on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. (the Spindler's home) and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. (Room 9b).

January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 <i>Regular Sunday Schedule</i> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (all ages) 10:45 a.m. Worship Service Worship Only on New Year's Day</p>	<p>2 10:00 a.m. Women's Weight Release Group Birthday: Tammi Ornelis Anniversary: Jerry and Laura Hartman</p>	<p>3 Birthday: Karla Hynes Anniversary: Elmer and Nancy Young</p>	<p>4 Birthdays: Karla Powers; Brenna Shimer</p>	<p>5 Birthday: Roy Dwyer</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Birthdays: Ben Landers; Mary McCracken</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>9 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>10 4:30 p.m. Counting Carbs (Daniel Plan)</p>	<p>11 4:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting Birthday: Wilma Osmun</p>	<p>12 Birthday: Diane Fienhage</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 2:00—4:00 p.m. All-Church Bowling, Panther Lanes (\$5 plus shoes rental) Birthday: Jeff Bierle</p>
<p>15 Noon Business Meeting/Lunch</p>	<p>16 10:00 a.m. Women's Weight Release Group Birthday: Jean Swanson</p>	<p>17 4:30 p.m. Counting Carbs (Daniel Plan) Birthday: Joyce Young</p>	<p>18 Birthday: Marilyn Ticknor</p>	<p>19 Birthdays: Theo Hartman; Anna Thompson</p>	<p>20 7:00 p.m. Winter Jam Wells Fargo Arena, Des Moines</p>	<p>21 Birthday: Coltyr Frey</p>
<p>22 Noon Appalachian Service Project Lunch (Free-will Offering) Birthday: Eva Cadman</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 4:30 p.m. Counting Carbs (Daniel Plan) Birthdays: Gay Lynn Owens; Jason Wolfe</p>	<p>25 Birthday: David Gravlin</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Birthdays: Mitch Green; Heidi O'Kane Anniversary: Dick and Gay Lou Lechtenberger</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 4:30 p.m. Counting Carbs (Daniel Plan) Birthdays: Gert Müller; Kristen Young</p>	<p>Regular Wednesday Schedule 6:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m. TeamKID and Youth Ministry 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>Regular Thursday Schedule Noon Men's Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery 6:30 p.m. Grief-Share; Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>Regular Friday Schedule 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study</p>	<div style="background-color: #008080; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>BCI State Men's Retreat - Boone</p> </div> <div style="background-color: #008080; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>BCI State Men's Retreat Y-Camp Training Center, Boone January 27-28 5:00 p.m., Friday to Noon on Saturday</p> </div>



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***Crest Baptist Church is... Committed to Christ—Connecting with Each Other—
Commissioned to Serve Our Community and World***

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issues some of the students have already had discussions where the topics have come up at school and they had just had the experience of exploring the issue from a Christian worldview. The youth have shown some real insights as they dig deep into issues and study scripture.

The new unit is "Stewardship" and should prove to be very interesting in examining our priorities from a biblical perspective. Don't be shy in asking our youth about what they are doing and studying. They have some very interesting things to share.

- *Cindy Young*



The Crest family expresses their sympathy to:

Our Hearts go out to... the family of **Lila White** in her death on December 4; **Denny and Vicki Brown** in the death of his nephew, Ron Lowrey, on December 15; **Ron and Glenda Brownlee** in the death of her aunt, Esther Cates, on December 27.



We rejoice with Matt and Megan Emerson in the birth of their son, Brayden Dean, on December 3. Big sister, Kayci, and big brother, Brysen, welcomed him home.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

If you have a "hurt, hang-up or habit" it's a great time to join this Christ-centered 12-Step ministry. We meet every Thursday night at 6:00 p.m. for a meal, worship, teaching/testimonies and men and women's open share small groups. Child-care is provided. Call Rich Ornelis (202-4307) for details.

MEN'S ANNUAL RETREAT

All men are invited to the Baptist Convention of Iowa State Men's Retreat on January 27-28 at the YMCA Camp, Boone, IA. The cost is \$40 (\$20 reservation deposit is needed by January 22. Sign up at the Welcome Center or bulletin tear-off.