



MAY 2007

[fbcmodesto.com](http://fbcmodesto.com)

## From Pastor Wade

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Do you have any idea what's going on at FBC? Most of us would probably respond, "Sure I do!" and we'd name the

ministries with which we're most familiar, and probably add "and lots more!"

Sunday through Thursday, May 6-10, we're going to celebrate ... as thoroughly as we can ... all God is doing through the 181+ ministries of FBC!

We want to celebrate what God is doing among us and through us currently, as a base for launching into the future. To that end, the Celebration Dinners are part of our focus for Building on Purpose. We'll meet at 6:30 and enjoy a

delicious dinner together. Then, we'll launch into the presentation. By the time we're done, our hearts will be full and we'll truly be praising God for what He's allowing each of us to experience in and through this congregation.

Childcare is provided for children birth through 5th grade, but we need you to call the Children's Ministry Office and let us know what night you're coming and what ages of children you're bringing. We'll have food ready for little ones between the ages of four years through 5th grade. The last day to reserve childcare is April 30.

If you haven't yet turned in a reservation card for the Celebration Dinners, please call the Church Office at 521-0181 and let us know when you're coming.

I'm looking forward to seeing you there!

*Wade*

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by Jana Bullock

WOW, Is This Cool!

Prayer warriors of all ages descended upon the church campus Monday, April 23 through Friday, April 27

with a common goal: to call upon God and blanket the site of the new multi-purpose building in prayer!

The “Week of Prayer” was held in accordance with the principles set forth in the Word. These principles state that to construct physical buildings, His people must call upon His name in prayer first (Acts 1:14). Participants did just that! Many even brought their small groups and prayed together.

Those prayers included thanks to the Lord for what He has done in the lives of His followers and for the growth of ministry, both in our community and abroad. Thanks were also given for God’s faithful provision through His people’s service, leadership and sacrificial giving.

Some chose to pray in the prayer tent that was set up within the boundaries of the new building, while others chose to walk the outline of the building perimeter. Many felt blessed by their participation and were

heard sharing their excitement for the future of His ministry here at First Baptist Church.

Prayer journals were made available to provide encouragement and document our journey to seek God’s face together in prayer.

As one participant wrote, “What a joy to hear clearly from the Lord regarding what He specifically wants us to sacrifice for this project. I am so excited. I have been joyful in a way that defies explanation. Imagine what God will accomplish in His church as we all come to a point of complete surrender and obedience! This project is already a HUGE blessing! It has brought focus to my heart and mind. I know now what God wants from me ... EVERYTHING! (wow) Praise God!”

Another participant wrote, “Thank you for wanting to use us and help us grow into all that You want us to be for Your Kingdom. Please give much wisdom as we seek to do this building and, may Your provision be GOD SIZED so all will know that this could only come from You ... help us do Your will and help us keep up! We trust and adore You.”

Still another wrote, “As we move forward with what we believe God is leading and showing us to do, I feel a great sense of humility. I believe that God is asking me and each of us to surrender and humble ourselves to Him and before Him.”

And, as one six-year-old participant put it, “Wow, this is cool!”

## Rebekah Jones - Compassion in person

Rebekah is a busy mother raising a teenage daughter and running a business with her husband out of their home. However, when she heard through Advancing Vibrant Communities about an elderly woman



who needed help picking up her groceries from a charitable organization, she felt the tug of the Holy Spirit to serve in the name of Christ. Rebekah so enjoyed her meeting with Betty “Lynette” Wylie that she volunteered to get her groceries every month.

In October, Mrs. Wylie became ill and was unable to eat for two days. When Rebekah heard about her friend’s illness, she came by nearly daily to prepare porridge for her in the mornings, change her bedding, buy food and take

her to her doctor visits.

Says Mrs. Wylie, “It’s a great consolation to know that there is someone I can trust. And she is always so cheerful and happy.”

Rebekah has found that serving Jesus is its own reward. “It is so satisfying to help someone who truly appreciates it.”

*This article is reprinted with permission from Advancing Vibrant Communities Newsletter, November, 2006.*

*Update:* Mrs. Wylie was recently hospitalized, and Rebekah has remained at her side. The two have become dear to each other. “When you are old and live alone,” says Mrs. Wylie in her elegant English accent, “you are dependent on others for many things. I get lonely often. But God has always been there through the hands of people like Rebekah. She’s like a breath of fresh air. It makes one feel there is good in the world.”

## The Make It Count Domino Theory

At one time in our lives, most of us have played with dominoes, carefully lining them up and then knocking them down. It's somehow satisfying to see how one domino affects the next, and the next, until they're all

moved in the same way.

Often we believers don't realize just how much our ordinary lives affect the lives of others, just like dominoes moving other dominoes on down the line.

Carrie Lester had been away from the Lord for several years after her retirement.

She says she was discouraged and miserable. "One day at physical therapy," Carrie recalls, "I was waiting for treatment, and reading a Christian novel. A woman named Gloria noticed my book and asked me where I went to church.

We discovered we both went to First B."

Gloria invited Carrie to a summer Bible study she was

leading in her neighborhood. Carrie said she was busy on Tuesdays and couldn't come, so Gloria and the other women moved the study to Mondays just for her.

"During her study," says Carrie, "I conquered my fear of giving complete control to Jesus, and my life hasn't been the same since!" Gloria has since become a dear friend of Carrie's. "Gloria glows with the love of Jesus," Carrie says, "and I want everyone to know she is making it count!"

Now it was Carrie's turn to touch another life. On an ordinary day in an ordinary setting, Carrie was having lunch at a local eatery, as she does nearly every day. Each time she enters the restaurant, a friendly lady

gets up and opens the door for Carrie, who gets around with a walker. On a particularly crowded lunchtime, this lady sat down at Carrie's table to eat.

"During our conversation,"

Carrie reports, "I mentioned my Tuesday afternoon Bible study, and she asked where I



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I like to do things. I don't like to sit around a table dreaming of activities.

When Enoch's High School opened I saw a "to do" chance.

To fund extracurricular activities, the principal organized a foundation. That sounded intriguing.

Surely there were things "to do." The band needed a foundation representative, so that's what I would do. Soon I found myself sitting around a table dreaming. With me were: a regional businessman, who corrals customers; an FBI agent, who corrals bad guys; an executive secretary of a large law firm, who

corrals lawyers; and me – who corrals 10 year olds. What's wrong with this picture?

To top it all off, since I represented the band on the foundation, that made me president of the "as yet to be organized band boosters."

Again I found myself sitting at a table dreaming — this time envisioning an ideal band booster program. Through this I was reminded of a few things. Christ calls us to wash the feet of the city — to be servants to those in need. God won't let us stay in our ruts, we're stretched, because He knows the only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.

by Barry Courtney



## The Make It Count Domino Theory

*Continued from page 4*

went to church. She said she'd been planning to take a bus to Five Points, then walk down Needham to First Baptist." Carrie offered her a ride, and discovered the woman had been praying for someone to go to church with. Carrie was her

answer to prayer.

Carrie's new friend is attending church and Tuesday Bible study. And who knows how her life will affect the lives of others and continue to make it count?

# Coffee Club

The first Saturday of each month my friend, Jody McClay, and I get together with a group of junior high girls

by **Lynne Thompson**

from church for a Bible study at a local coffee house. This idea was the brainchild of my friend, Amy Olson, and it's been tons of fun. Their parents drop them off for an hour and a half, with enough cash to buy pastries and hot cocoa. Together we pray, open up a devotional book and away we go.

I've been so blessed to see how the girls have grown. They have begun asking the hard questions and together we discuss how to apply their faith in real-life situations. On one occasion we took a field trip to

the jewelers next door, to watch as one of our members received her purity promise ring. Very exciting. It makes me wish there were more Bible clubs like this across the nation.

Price of coffee: \$3-50

Pastry: \$2.00

Time to prep for the study: One hour

Commitment: One Saturday a month for 1 1/2 hours

The opportunity to impact the lives of young girls for all eternity ... priceless.



## Next Level Serving Modesto

The Next Level ministry is for single, post-college people in their early career stage of life. One of their outreach goals is to help the community through Advancing Vibrant Communities (AVC). Recently they spent a Saturday painting over graffiti left by local gangs on the fences along a Modesto canal. Participant Devan Vo says, "This is one of the many ways we can give back to our community. The neighbors appreciated what we did, but more importantly, we did this for the glory of God."



# Life Stories From The First B Family

God gets all the glory! God is so awesome. I am taking an eight-week CNA class that MJC does in a whole semester. I've never had so much fear replaced with faith. God is with me through every step of this journey. The instructor is an atheist. This is not by chance that God has placed me in front of this man. My first responsibility is a hospice patient who was an RN and is a Christian. Her brother comes and sings gospel songs every other day. I pray the Holy Spirit is changing the atmosphere. One big miracle – is me – going to school and doing OK! God is building my self-worth. I am feeling so overwhelmed and loved all at the same time. Many thanks to all who have been Jesus in skin for me. I'm amazed every day.

My life was pretty rough. I grew up in an abusive and drug-ridden lifestyle. I used drugs and drank since I was 15. I accepted Christ into my life about nine months ago. Gradually I have been given my life back. Even more than that, I've been blessed by the Lord in just about everything that's going on in my life. I love the Lord and I know He's with me every step of the way. I am in God's Way Out.

## The Prayer Tent

Located in the Pavilion parking lot, The Prayer Tent was open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, April 23 through 27. Standing inside the footprint of the proposed multi-purpose building, the tent provided a special place for hundreds to come and talk to God, praise Him for His faithfulness and ask for His guidance and blessing.



"They all joined together constantly in prayer ..." (Acts 1:14a NIV)



**MAY 2007**

## National Day of Prayer

• America Unite in Prayer •

### Thursday, May 3

- 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
- The Family Room
- Prayer guide provided

## Membership Class

### New Five-week Class

- Sunday, May 6, 9 a.m.
- Pavilion Garden, Room 931
- Taught by various pastors

Membership questions?  
extension 2609

## LIFEGroups

### LIFEGroups - a place to belong

- Connect with other adults
- Call or go to [fbcmodesto.com](http://fbcmodesto.com)

LIFEGroups questions?  
extension 2609

## S.H.A.P.E. Class

### New Six-week Class

- Sunday, May 13, 9 a.m.
- Pavilion Garden, Room 937
- Come and discover how God designed your gifts, abilities, personalities

S.H.A.P.E. questions?  
extension 2609

**Let's Celebrate!**

**May 6-10**  
Pavilion Concourse

*Celebrate what God is doing in our church*

**CHOOSE ONE NIGHT**

- Online at [fbcmodesto.com](http://fbcmodesto.com)
- Church Office during the week
- Reservation cards available in worship services

## Pacesetters

### Monthly Prayer Meeting

- Monday, May 7, 3:30-4:40 p.m.
- 818 Needham Street

### Sunday Lunch Bunch

- Not meeting, May 13, Mother's Day

### Yosemite Day Trip

- Wednesday, May 23
- \$31, includes lunch, please call by May 14 for sandwich choice
- Leave 7:30 a.m., return 5 p.m.

### Conference on Successful Aging

- Saturday, June 23
- Calvary Chapel, Visalia

Pacesetters questions?  
extension 2617

## First B Saturday Night

### Chapel @ 6:00

A worship service with the same relevant teaching and worship as Sunday morning, 10:45

Kid Country programs available birth through sixth grade

## GriefShare Class

### Seminar/Support Group for Women

- Wednesdays beginning May 9
- 6:30-8:30 p.m., 1325 11th Street
- For women grieving the death of someone close to them

GriefShare questions?  
extension 2305 or e-mail Linda Choate  
at [lchoate@fbcmodesto.com](mailto:lchoate@fbcmodesto.com)

## Believer's Baptism

### Sunday, June 24

*If you would like to be baptized, please attend the Membership Class or call the Church Office and schedule an appointment with a pastor*

Baptism questions?  
extension 2609

## Tech Ministries

### Help Needed

- Media team and sound mixer
- During worship gatherings
- Worship Center/The Edge

Tech questions?  
extension 2806

*Building on Purpose  
embrace today ... imagine tomorrow*

## Commitment Weekend

**Saturday, May 19 - 6 p.m.**

**Sunday, May 20 - 9 and 10:45 a.m.**

Be praying about how you can participate in the four-year building campaign. Prayerfully prepare your commitment card for Commitment Weekend!

## STUDENT MINISTRIES

### Junior High

#### FOCUS – Sundays

- 9 a.m., Chapel

#### C-Groups - Wednesdays

- 6:50-8:30 p.m., Chapel
- Not meeting May 9
- *Deeper Focus* – May 23, 6:50 p.m.

#### Insomnia: A Night of Sleepless Fun

- Friday-Saturday, May 18-19
- 7 p.m.-7 a.m., Chapel
- \$30 (includes bowling, Boomers and breakfast)

#### Grad Night Dessert

- Sunday, May 20, 7-8:30 p.m.
- Pavilion Concourse
- *RSVP by Wednesday, May 16*

#### Jumpstart Baptism/Membership

- Sunday, May 27, 5:30-7 p.m.
- The Family Room

### High School

#### The Deep End - Sundays

- 9 a.m., Pavilion Concourse

#### 128/Fuel Groups – Wednesdays

- 6:45-8:30 p.m., Pavilion Concourse

#### Summer Camp – June 11-15

- \$259 by May 30/\$279 after May 30
- \$50 (deposit by May 30 holds low cost)

#### This Summer

- July 14 – Santa Cruz Boardwalk, \$10
- August 8 – Giants game, \$20

### College Ministry

#### 18-20 Somethings

#### Ignite – Sundays

- 7 p.m., The Point, downstairs

#### Discipleship Groups • Sundays

- Guys–9 a.m., The Point, upstairs
- Ladies–9:15 a.m., CE Bldg, Rm 304

#### Prayer Warriors

- Fridays, 7:30 a.m., CE Bldg, Rm 304

Student Ministries questions?  
extension 2506/2508

## The Next Level

Post-college age, single young adults

### Tuesday Night Small Groups

- 7 p.m., The Point, downstairs
- For career age and 20-somethings

The Next Level questions?  
extension 2506

## Men's Ministries

### Saturdays Coming Up ...

- Motorcycle Ride, May 12
- Hot Rods/Classic Cars, June 23
- Rafting, August 18
- Retreat, September 14-15

### Men's Small Groups

- Various groups meet weekly
- Call for more information

Men's Ministries questions?  
extension 2617

## Marriage & Family Plus 3

### Living Together In ...

#### grace ... truth ... surrender

*God has called us to become families bound to each other by the cords of grace, truth and surrender – the same cords that bind us to Jesus Christ*

- Sundays, 9 a.m.
- Pavilion Garden
- *The Second Half of Life as a Married Person—Things You May Not Have Considered*
- *Running the Rapids—Guiding Teenagers Through the Turbulent Waters of Adolescence*
- *Eight Refutable Truths About Adultery*

Marriage & Family Plus 3 questions?  
extension 2621

## Worship Ministries

### Worship Choir • Thursdays

- 6:30 p.m., The Point, downstairs
- High school and up welcome
- Childcare provided

### Worship Orchestra • Thursdays

- 7 p.m., Worship Center
- High school and up welcome
- Childcare provided

Worship questions?

extension 2113

## Kid Country

### Adult Bridges Ministry

- Volunteers needed to drive special needs adults to church on Sundays
- Sign up in the Kid Country Visitor Center or call the Kid Country Office

### Opportunity To Serve

- Change a child's life by serving in Kid Country
- Stop by the Kid Country Visitor Center or call the Kid Country Office

### The Armor of God Day Camp

- Monday-Friday, June 18-22
- \$18 per child (age 4 years by 12/1-grade 3 this fall)

### Super Camp

- Sunday-Thursday, June 24-28
- \$220
- Silver Spur Conference Center
- Grades 4-6 this fall

### Super Camp Kick Off

- Sunday, May 6, 10:45 a.m.
- Chapel

Kid Country questions?

extension 2307

## Sunday Night Teaching Time

### Will Not Meet

- May 6, 13 and 27, June 17 and July 1

Sunday Night Teaching Time

questions? extension 2622

## Park Café

- Join this fun and growing hospitality ministry, sign up in the Park Café on Sunday

Park Café questions?

extension 2506

## Women's Ministries

### Small Groups

Call for times and locations

Sunday – *Jesus the One and Only*

Monday – encouragement and prayer groups

Perfect Gifts — for moms of children with special needs

Grandmoms in Touch

Tuesday – childcare for morning groups only

• Groups: *Believing God; Daniel; Acts;*

*Live a Praying Life; What's So*

*Amazing About God; Lord, Give Me*

*a Heart for You; Lord, Teach Me*

*to Study Your Word in 28 Days;*

*Women of the Old Testament*

Wednesday

• *Romans Part 4*

Thursday

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

• 9:15 a.m., Pavilion Garden, first and

third Thursdays; Bible study meets

second Thursday; childcare available

Encouragement & Prayer Groups

• Various groups, call for details

• *Ladies in Waiting* — deals with infertility  
call 521-4143 for details

### Save the Date – SoulScape

• August 3-5, *The Great Escape*

• Retreat at Old Oak Ranch

• Registration begins June 3

Women's Ministries questions?

extension 2306

## World Outreach

### Prayer for the World

- Monday, May 7, 6:30 p.m.
- 1325 11th Street

### Chinese Fellowship

- Sundays, 3 p.m., Pavilion Garden

### India Fellowship

- Sundays, 10:45 a.m., 1325 11th Street

### Laotian and Cambodian Fellowship

- Sunday, 10:45 a.m., CE Bldg, upstairs

World Outreach questions?  
extension 2622

## Recovery In Christ

### Ministries Support Groups

Substance abuse, dysfunction and dependency

#### Groups Available

Thursdays, 7 p.m.

Pavilion Garden

Childcare provided, birth-sixth grade

*Recovery groups available for men and women. Our Recovery Ministries is designed for people to work through difficult issues that cannot be worked through alone. We are here to help! Contact the Church Office for information on groups.*

Recovery In Christ questions?  
extension 2621

## Family Camp 2007

### Monday-Friday, July 23-27

- Register during the week in the Kid Country Office

Family Camp questions?  
extension 2307

## Monday Night Church

### MNC Service and Dinners

- Mondays, May 13, 20, 27
- 6 p.m., Pavilion Concourse

### Volunteer to Help

- Childcare, sign language, prayer partners, food service

Monday Night Church questions?  
extension 2621

## Single Adults

### Single Focus Sundays

- 10:45 a.m., The Point, downstairs
- *Sitting on a Hill Talking to Folks: Past, Present and Future* – led by Terry Holliday

### Friday Night Kick-back Time

- 7-9 p.m., The Point, downstairs

Single Adults questions?  
extension 2618

## Young Marrieds & Young Families

### Sundays

- 9 a.m.
- Build friendships, enjoy relevant life teaching
- The Point, downstairs
- Led by Pastor Mike and the teaching team

### Small Groups

- Meet weekly

### Summer Activities

- June 2 – rafting, Knights Ferry
- July 13-15 – camping, Chinquapin

Young Marrieds/Young Families questions? extension 2609