

The Berean BANNER

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Stand Firm

I remember being in college back in the 70's when John Lennon's song "Imagine" came out. It's beautiful melody was amazing and I loved listening to it. Yet, in my spirit, as I listened to the words, I knew that what he was singing was not Biblical and was a description of a world without God, without accountability and without eternal hope through faith in Jesus Christ. This past New Year's Eve, this song was played in New York Times Square, only the words were changed in one little line to reflect today's prevalent secular thought, "and no religion too" was changed to "and all religions true."

In 2006 we were coming back from our first trip to India and were in the beautiful airport in Kuala Lumpur, Malay-

sia (a place I had never even heard of until God called us to be a part of His work in India). There, in an airport bookstore was Richard Dawkins new book, "God Delusion." I remember being shocked but not totally surprised that someone articulated in modern language what Satan has been trying to sway people into believing since the dawn of time. I was hoping at the time that this book would never reach the shores of the USA but it did.

We are living in a time when the new atheism has taken a hold of our culture. This "religion" offers world peace with few or no absolutes; tolerance of all religions, ideas, and lifestyles; and many other confusing thoughts that are contrary to Biblical Christianity. It is a very popular belief system, so much so that it dominates much of the teaching in our universities and educational systems and is a part of the daily stream of media that is around us.

Lennon does not have the answer, Dawkins either. The world is giving ear to mere humans. Sa-

tan has repackaged his lie. It is the same lie of deception he has been telling from the beginning.

We cannot lose heart or hope as we live in this world with it's lures. Our message must remain the same because "Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever." Hebrews 13:8. Our methods, however, may need to be reevaluated in order to reach a generation that is longing to bring about world peace through compassion and caring, but doing so without Christ.

We might wonder what we can do, what we can say. It starts with prayer - asking God for wisdom and a heart of compassion. He will prompt us to care for people as Jesus does. He will call us to sacrifice our time and resources. He will help us to live and tell the saving grace of Christ to a lost world.

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong. Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13, 14

Debbie Wetzig

"Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever!"

Hebrews 13:8

Church Family News

Our sympathy to the family of Gertie Sanders who died on January 9, 2012. Pray for Richard & Yet (daughter) Peters and other extended family. Gertie attended our church until she could no longer live alone and moved on to Meadowlark and then the Hospice house where she passed away.

From Jacque Jaeger: "Thank-you so much for the cards - they are such a warm hugging blessing to me. I thank God for the love sent to me via the cards which I view and reread. May God bless you!"

Church Finances

As of 12/31/11

General Offerings: \$285,932
 General Budget: \$329,127
 Total Income \$311,073
 Total Expenses \$294,041

Praise the Lord, He is faithful! We have all the bills paid. The total income and expenses reflect designated funds (such as Helps, Short-Term Missions, etc.) as well as our general operating expenses. Our 2012 budget is \$285,863 Please be in prayer as we strive to be good stewards of God's resources!

If you have any questions about your 2011 tax receipts, please call the church office.

Listen on the Web!

Check out our
 Worship Service at
www.grenadaberean.org

Banner Options - Email office@grenadaberean.org to receive this by email. **If you no longer wish to receive the BANNER**, call us at 530-436-2529 or email us, thanks.

AWANA NEWS

February 11 - ReCharge! This special event designed for AWANA leaders will be a boost to the ministry of working with children. It is local - at Hornbrook Community Church from 1-4 pm. It will include an hour of encouragement for all workers, then, training for all volunteers for the AWANA games/quizzing which will be held at our church. Please let us know if you are coming!

March 10 Spark-A-Rama, AWANA Games and T&T Quizzing for all Siskiyou County AWANA clubs! Hosted by our church. **Needed:** Volunteers to be time keepers, line judges, concessions and more - Please let us know if you can help at this event.

New Women's Bible Studies

LIVING BEYOND YOURSELF

.A Beth Moore DVD Series on Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit

Tuesdays, 10:00am - noon
 in HeBrews

&

HERE & NOW THERE & THEN

A Beth Moore DVD Series on Revelation.

Mondays, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
 At Michelle Clem's,
 4118 Pineview Dr.

You are welcome to join these studies at any time!

Youth News

High School: Join the Youth Discipleship taking place each Tuesday morning at Pastor Benji's home, 6:30 am!

Coming Up for both Jr. & Sr. Hi
 Feb. 5 Super Bowl Party
 April 13, 14 Acquire The Fire

Winter Sunday School

Adults:

Bible Class - Mike Spearin is teaching the book of Isaiah. Meets in the chapel/library.

"Prayer Time" - come together with other believers to pray. Meets in Pastor John's office.

"Sacred Parenting" - a Gary Thomas DVD series is facilitated by Mark & Sue Freudenburg and meets in HeBrews.

FOR KIDS:

We offer graded classes for all ages beginning with 2 year olds. We also have an infant nursery for 0-2!

YOUTH:

Youth going into grades 7-12 are divided into two groups for dynamic teaching from the Bible!

BRING your family to Sunday School!

Other Events

Double Nickels
 55+

"Love Banquet"

Tuesday, February 28
 12:00 noon

Bring a potlunch dish plus some verses on love to share!

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."
 I John 4:10, 11

College/Military Express

Let them hear from home!

During the month of February we will have opportunity to:

- ♥ Bring encouraging notes from home for our college/military young people.
- ♥ Take time during the services on Feb. 12 & 19 to write them a note, a verse, or draw a picture!
- ♥ Give towards a gift card for each one!

Watch for the special display that will have all the information and a list of names.

Rethink
 Church
 Family!

Coming in April...



...have deeper relationships in a small group while studying God's Word and praying together...



Superbowl Party!

February 5 at 3:00pm

at the Bach's, 439 Rolling
Hills Dr., Yreka

For grades 7 - 12



Coming Up in 2012

- ♥ March 10 AWANA Games & Quizzing
- ♥ March 25 AWANA Grand Prix
- ♥ April 11 All Church Roller Skating in Medford
- ♥ April 13 - 14 Acquire the Fire Trip
- ♥ June 9 -10 GCBC 50th Anniversary
- ♥ June 18 - 22 Vacation Bible School
- ♥ July 1 - 15 Missions Trip to Kamloops BC
- ♥ July 24 - 27 Berean Jr. Camp at Indian Scotty for grades 4-7 (fall '12)
- ♥ August 31 - September 3 All Church Labor Day Campout