

# The Connection

## From Pastor Kelli's Heart

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### Did You Know?

The CFC website has a Women's Ministries page! You can find it at [www.cfcnampa.org](http://www.cfcnampa.org) under the Ministries tab. Check often for news and updates on all upcoming ladies' events. You can even find this newsletter there!

### Women's Missions

Women's Missions' current giving emphasis for March '10 to March '11 is the Assemblies of God world outreach called Convoy of Hope. Also, Women's Missions is supporting the startup funding of our new church plant, CFC North!

**Ladies of CFC,** We are in an unprecedented period in history at this moment. We have an open door before us to be salt and light. I feel an awesome responsibility to see that you are equipped "for every good work."

I am calling all of us to prayer and fasting as we move forward into the destiny God has planned for all of us. Many of us are being challenged to be about our Father's business, and I believe heavenly positioning is happening right now. Some will keep on keepin' on with renewed energy and vision, and others will be inspired to move into new seasons that will require change and stretching. Wherever you are right now, I encourage you to be very sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading.

It's been so exciting to hear tremendous reports from Sisters, Chick Connection, Chick Chat, Live Deeply Bible Studies, Mommy & Me Play Day, Mommy Care, and Servant Ministries. CFC Women's Ministries is thriving under the leadership of some very amazing women! Nevertheless... more is still on the way!

We will be planning a couple of huge events for 2011, including another women's conference that will be our biggest and best yet. We will also be branching out in



### From the Editor

**Editor's Note:** We are so blessed to feature three guest contributors in this issue of The Connection! After you enjoy LaChelle Bohner's guest editorial, please turn to page three for thought-provoking and inspirational writings by Danielle Marquis and Jessica Piper. ~In Christ, Emily Berriochoa, Editor

Each year, I look forward to the two months that include Thanksgiving and Christmas. I love watching the trees transition from green to golden hues. The air crisp as the temperatures drop, and the earth emits a "crunch" with each step.

Thanksgiving rounds off November, but the spirit of "giving thanks," at least for me, has always continued into a month-long, joyous birthday celebration of our Lord, Jesus

numerous outreach opportunities. My heart is that every lady who wants to do something significant for God's kingdom would get the proper training and open doors to do specifically what God has called her to. Please make yourself aware and available as those opportunities arise.

During the holiday season, I always want to make sure I take the time to be thankful. I am truly grateful for my Lord's grace to me and for my husband and children who enrich my life in so many ways! I also deeply appreciate the wonderful women who work alongside me, pray for me, and invest in my life!

Dearest girlfriends at CFC, I am thankful for you and pray that these precious days during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays would be remembered as some of the finest you've ever lived. As a new year dawns, let's have a holy anticipation as we get prepared for MORE!

**Hugs and blessings, Pastor Kelli**

Christ. Light radiates from everything, reflecting off royal red, green, gold, and silver. Cheerful music greets me at every door, and fragrant pine mixed with baked goodies wafts in the wind. I relish this season!

My holiday love began in childhood. We didn't have much - my father pastored a small church - yet we didn't suffer lack. Even in tough times, some with few groceries in the house, we never went hungry. The Lord always supplied, though I'm sure my mother wished He were a little more "ahead of time" than "right on time." During the holidays, we would travel to my grandparents' houses on the Western Slope of Colorado. We passed through mountains covered with yellowing aspens and sparkling snow. Both grandparents' houses were decorated and filled with smells of fresh-baked goodies! My grandparents readily lavished any non-necessity "lack" upon my sister and me. Every year my mother would caution, *things have been hard this year; don't expect much.* Despite her forewarnings, I can't recall any "meager" holiday... **Cont'd on page 2**



# Mommy n Me playday

Mommy & Me Playday is an interactive learning and play time for moms and their children ages 1-6. We focus on creative learning through story time, art, and physical play. Play days provide a fun environment for kids and are a great way to fellowship with other moms.

For November, December, and January, Mommy & Me Playday will meet every 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00 am at CFC.

**November 11:** Thanksgiving-style potluck brunch. Sign up to bring your favorite dish to share.

**December 9:** Jesus' Birthday Party with cupcake decorating and lots of songs.

**January 13:** Children will be making time capsules!

*Cont'd from page 1...* Now, with my own family, I focus on bringing special memories into my children's lives. I decorate lavishly for fall then switch to a glowing, Christmas extravaganza immediately following Thanksgiving, sometimes before. We host multiple family gatherings and parties for friends. I spend hours cooking, baking, and cleaning up to do it all over again. Holiday bazaars, Gingerbread houses, school and church programs - my spirit lifts at the first hint of fall and rides high the whole hectic season!

I must confess, however, this year I've struggled to enter the enchantment that normally envelops me. My family has shared in the economic struggle, and quite frankly, I have allowed a spirit of lack to overtake my emotions. My mind has been plagued with "what ifs," and my attitude has been controlled by stress. Yet, I know what God's Word has promised to me.

*But my God shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. ~Philippians 4:19 (KJV)*

The Bible is filled with stories of God's provision, and my family has experienced this miraculous supply many times. Still, I must remind myself daily - choose to believe that His Word is true, and I cannot fail.

Joshua 21:45 (NIV) states, *Not one of all the LORD's good promises to Israel failed; every one was fulfilled.*

And Paul writes, *For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. ~2 Corinthians 1:20 (NIV)*

Christ is the "yes," the accomplishment of MANY promises, but the verse doesn't stop there. Through Him (Christ) the "amen" or "so be it" is SPOKEN by who? ME! (or YOU or US), thus bringing glory to God.

Maybe I need to review what I'm speaking - thinking - even acting upon. Does my "so be it" end with an exclamation point or a question mark? Have I become as the Israelites who, for unbelief and ungrateful hearts, never entered the Promised Land? Some even CHOSE never to cross the Jordan River, permanently remaining outside Canaan. Out of fear and reliance on themselves, they rejected the promise of Jehovah Jireh, God who provides (see the Book of Joshua).

I have experienced the miraculous, but there's more to come. The Promise lies ahead. It isn't about God's willingness to move on my behalf. His Word is true - He cannot break his promises. It's about choosing to say "Amen" and act accordingly - not of myself, but through Christ!

I encourage those feeling "lack" to join with me in confessing "Amen" to the promises God has given. Don't stop at that river! Make a "thankful" list, remembering what He has already accomplished on your behalf and being encouraged toward the promises He will fulfill. Let the enchantment begin!

*~LaChelle and her husband of 15 years, Dan, are HOME Group leaders. They have three children, ages 4, 8, & 14. LaChelle loves cooking, travel, writing, decorating, hosting parties, and singing on the worship team at CFC.*

# Sisters

...together we shine!

Second Tuesday of each month  
7:00 pm in The Refuge Cafe  
through May 10, 2011

December 14, 2010

"The Brilliant Wife"

Speaker: Kendall Tucker

January 11, 2011

"The Glowing Mom"

Speaker: Laura Hazelip

February 8, 2011

"The Polished Mother-In-Law"

Speaker: Pam White

~Contact Desiree Wiles for more info. [dwiles@cfcnampa.org](mailto:dwiles@cfcnampa.org)



## MOMMY CARE

at CFC

### ARE YOU PREGNANT OR HAVE YOU JUST HAD A BABY?

Mommy Care at CFC wants to bless you! Please contact one of these ladies to find out about our Mommy Care support for you or someone at CFC you care about.

**Jennifer Bell**  
250.1309  
[bobjanerae@yahoo.com](mailto:bobjanerae@yahoo.com)

**Christine Plummer**  
337.2031  
[dannychristinep@gmail.com](mailto:dannychristinep@gmail.com)



# CHICK CONNECTION

Next Chick Connection  
November 22 at 7:00 pm  
Jennifer Scott Speaking!



## LIVE DEEPLY

### LADIES BIBLE STUDIES

**Book of Psalms:** This study led by Pat Weech meets in the Adult Education room in the Original Building every Tuesday at 10:00 am for worship and study.

**Live Fearlessly:** This study led by Kathy Bowles is currently working through *Live Fearlessly: A Study in the Book of Joshua*, and is ending for the year on December 14, 2010.

**No Studies due to Holidays:** November 23, December 21, 28, or January 4. Studies will resume on January 11, 2011.

## Boxing With the Big Man



I look at this title now, and it just makes me laugh; however, ladies, I promise you that this is what I spent a good two years of my life attempting to do. I had begun my new

life as a social worker, was working in youth ministry and attending church regularly, and I thought my life was simply perfect. It is interesting how quickly things can change.

If we have things within our own lives we have not dealt with, there is nothing like helping others that will bring old issues to the forefront of our minds. As I witnessed daily the disastrous effects of children being abused, I began to remember the abuse which had occurred to me. Specifically, I was having horrifically vivid dreams about an incident of sexual abuse that happened to me when I was only three years old. These dreams plagued me for months, and as a result I began to turn away. I stopped attending services, quit working with youth, and turned my back on God.

After a significant period of time dealing with these dreams on my own, my life got to the point where I simply did not want to live. I believed suicide would be the answer to this continual deep pain. I could not understand why God would allow these things to occur to me in the first place, and it was even more difficult to understand why he would interrupt my wonderful life with these memories so long hidden within. The anger I felt was beyond anything than I could ever have imagined, and I was convinced that this pain was God's fault.

Eventually, I ended up with a wonderful Christian counselor. I was willing to work

on forgiving my mother, my father, and my abuser; however, I was not going to forgive God. Throughout this time, I constantly felt God's touch on my life, but I was ignoring any attempts God made to reach me. That was, until my counselor confronted me about my obvious defiance toward God. She asked me why I no longer pursued my relationship with God in the manner I had before. I explained that I couldn't be in that relationship anymore because the anger in my heart was too large. My counselor made one simple statement that utterly changed my life. *You don't think God knows what anger is? You don't believe he knows how you feel?* She reminded me that Jesus was sent to this earth to experience human emotions so we would understand that God knows our pain, our rage, and our sadness.

It was here that the battle began. My counselor encouraged me to do something I had not done in a long time - talk with God. So that is what I did; however, I did not talk. I yelled, I screamed, and I cried. I demanded answers; I questioned His will; I even told Him I hated Him. I put on my gloves and made every attempt to go fist to fist with God. But God never hits back. Every single time I brought Him my anger, pain, and demands, He would cover me with his love. God and I went several rounds until I was finally so broken that I allowed God to cover me. The AWESOME thing about our Lord is that when we are ready to stop fighting, He will show us how truly gracious He is. God then gave me the strength to truly deal with what I was going through by giving me the ability to forgive everyone including myself.

Even though I quit fighting God's will in my life, I still wondered why I needed to experience such pain and heartache. It was about a year later that I was working at a girl's home with a young lady who had sexual abuse in her past. This young lady was unwilling to discuss this with anyone, believing no one could understand her pain. I was able to share my story and encourage this teen to address the issue before it could tear her apart. I realized God had created a huge place in my heart for teenage girls, and I recognized that I had to deal with my abuse so I could counsel these girls in dealing with their own.

So, ladies, it may seem that what you are experiencing may feel like more than you can bear, but God has a plan for you. When we believe an experience is futile, God will always show us His ultimate plan. If you need to, put on your gloves and go a couple rounds with our God, because when you quit fighting, God will not stop loving.

*~Danielle Marquis is a social worker currently handling an elderly caseload. She has been married 11 years to Nathan; they have two children, ages 9 and 7.*

## Love, Part 1

***Wives, understand and support your husbands in ways that show your support for Christ.***

*~Ephesians 5:22 (The Message)*

I know, I know. You've heard that scripture a million times. It was probably read at your wedding or in premarital counseling. Between that verse and the entirety of Proverbs 31, we, as women, have had specific scripture thrown at us for...well, forever. It's not that the scriptures aren't edifying, but they certainly don't feel as positive as, say, John 3:16 or Jeremiah 29:11. Hey, I'm just keeping it real. So you might find it interesting that I chose Ephesians 5:22 to start this article. Come with me...I've a story to tell you:

My grandfather was a hard working man. He owned and operated two landscaping businesses and helped raise four daughters, two of whom were twins. He was the head usher at Central Assembly of God for many years, and with his big voice and big hands, a tap on the head of an unruly child meant they better shape up or "Red" was going to get them. He was dependable. He was honest. He was classy. ...And he was distant.

My grandmother was Red's beautiful wife, Ruth. She was one-quarter Cherokee with beautiful olive skin and eyes the color of Hershey's chocolate. She was a stay-home mom who canned, sewed dresses for her girls, taught Sunday school, and took care of all the flowers at Central Assembly... *Cont'd on page 4*



# Chick Chat & COFFEE

Tuesday, November 23, 2010  
7:00 - 8:30 pm

*Fellowship with friends - new and old*  
*The Refuge will be open for business.*

# Upcoming Events

## • Chick Connection:

Monday, November 22, 2010

Monday, February 28, 2011

7:00 pm, CFC Main Sanctuary

## • Chick Chat & Coffee:

Tuesday, November 23, 2010

7-8:30 pm, The Refuge Café

No Chick Chat in December

## • Ladies' Bible Studies:

Tuesdays at 9:45 am

The Refuge & Adult Education Room

No Studies November 23,

December 21, 28, or January 4

## • Sisters:

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Tuesday, January 11, 2011

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

7:00 pm, The Refuge Café

## • Mommy & Me Play Day:

Thursday, November 11, 2010

Thursday, December 9, 2010

Thursday, January 13, 2011

10:00 am in the CFC Gym

## • Bunco & Banana Split Night:

Friday, January 21, 2011

7:00 pm, The Refuge Café

All dates subject to change when necessary or due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts. Please check your bulletin, the CFC Life Center, and [www.cfcnampa.org](http://www.cfcnampa.org) for more information on upcoming events.

*Cont'd from page 3* ...She was dependable. She was godly. She was classy. ...And she was angry.

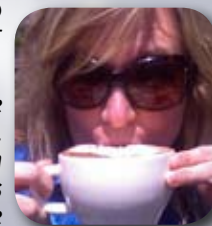
My grandfather expressed love through providing for his family...not through words of endearment or affection. That was the way of it, and it hurt my grandmother deeply. Walls were erected, fortresses built. The lights were on, but for him, no one was home.

Fast forward several decades. My grandmother has just endured a series of devastating strokes that have left her struggling with ever-worsening dementia. My grandfather has taken on the task of caring for her. The walls she spent a lifetime erecting have crumbled with one misfire of her brain, and all she can do is talk about her Red and how handsome he is...how wonderful he is...and boy, he'll sure be mad when he finds out this old man is taking care of her (the old man, of course, is Red). She begins to outwardly express respect for him. She edifies him. She supports him. At the same time, my grandfather's heart turns toward his wife. He begins to love her in a way he didn't know was possible and, with tears in his eyes, he tells his daughters how

badly he wishes he had shown his love for her throughout the years.

In relationships, all it takes is one bold move to open up the floodgates and allow a torrential river to flood your life: one word, one touch, one glance, one selfless act. What one thing can be done right now to change the course of your relationships?

*~Jessica Piper is on the worship team at CFC. Look for a continuation of this multi-part series in the next edition of The Connection.*



# On Laura's Schuhs

## Remedy For Loneliness?

*There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. ~Prov. 18:24*

Studies show you are happier when you have a friend or friends. Friends help you live a more satisfying life. You have that link of communication and the acts of caring and showing interest in someone else, which takes the focus off you. It has also been shown that friendships may help prolong life and influence healthy behaviors.

But remember: to have a friend, you must also BE one!

Since the time for thanks and giving are coming up, why not show some friendship and reach out to someone with the gift of "Friendship Soup"!

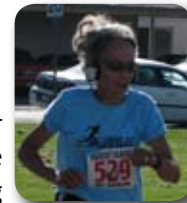
## Friendship Soup

1/2 C. dry split peas	1/4 C. dried onion flakes
1/3 C. beef bouillon granules	2 tsp. Italian or similar seasoning
1/4 C. pearl barley	1/2 C. uncooked long grain rice
1/2 C. dried parsley	2 bay leaves
1/2 C. dry lentils	1/2 C. any shape uncooked pasta

Layer these ingredients in this order into a 1 1/2 pint jar with the pasta on top wrapped in plastic wrap. Attach a label or tag with these instructions:

Additional ingredients needed: 1 pound ground burger; 1 28-oz. can diced tomatoes (undrained); 1 6-oz. can tomato paste; 3 quarts of water.

Remove the wrapped pasta and set aside. In a large dutch oven, brown the burger with black pepper and garlic powder to taste. Drain. Add tomatoes, water and soup mix from the jar. Bring to boil and reduce heat, cover and cook 45 minutes. Stir in pasta and simmer for 15-20 more minutes until all is tender. Yields 4 quarts or 16 servings. *~Laura Schuh is pictured running the Harvest Classic 10k in September 2010, where she won her age group.*



**The Connection**  
Volume 4, Issue 3  
Holiday 2010-11

The Connection is a quarterly publication of Christian Faith Center.

"We don't do life alone."

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