



LIVING WATER AT CREEKSIDE

Reaching Up + Reaching Out + Reaching In

Jan/Feb
2010

FEARLESS

In The New Reality



Message Series

Jan. 3 - Factoring Fear

Jan. 17 - His Promise

Jan. 31 - Rebuilding

Feb. 14 - Praying

Jan. 10 - Money Matters

Jan. 24 - Strong and Courageous

Feb. 7 - Keeping Intimacy Alive

Feb. 21 - Worshipping

Fearless: In The New Reality! by Chuck Peterman



Chuck Peterman
Minister

You don't need to walk out the door to sense the desperation in the air. Our living rooms and holiday conversations have been invaded by a troubling stream of thoughts. The thoughts linger in individual minds, and finally make their way into the consortium of relatives and friends voicing their opinions and concerns. The air used to be light and loveable all the time. Now a heaviness lingers longer than we want as economic and other woes overwhelm. Everyone looks for glimpses of light in the tunnel of chaos. Friends want to bring good tidings, but underlying feelings of fear consumes the faith attempting to peek its head out of your woes. *"Will 2010 be a new and brighter season of life, or will the coming horizon only display lightening and thunder clouds?"* We all wonder. We all are tempted to FEAR. To make matters worse, the barometer of feelings rises higher yet and comes careening to the forefront of our minds with a new phrase ... "The New Reality."

There is people talk of a "new reality" in business, marketing, education, travel safety, retirement plans, health care, technology, law. My search engine only came up with 12,100,000 hits on the "New Reality". Many of those sites refer to books on the subject to help people with their mounting distress over the signs of the times. Do we have the tools to prepare for this? How will we cope? Twelve million plus articles are out there to help you punch through perhaps perhaps not.

Perhaps ... just maybe ... God has a better way for us. What if you really got in touch with the God of the universe this year? What if you really were able to gain His heart of understanding, His mind of wisdom and His eyes of discernment? Would it make you stronger? Would it make you lighter? Would it make you a light in the gloom and doom of the "group think"? I believe so!

The Bible is full of stories and people who dealt with REALITIES just like those we are facing and many even worse. (It's so real and so raw there is testimony of failure in dealing with their ancient realities.) It's also so real that it deals squarely with principles for shining, even in times such as these! Isn't it time you say goodbye to fear? It's time for our deep conscience to muzzle that four-letter word and feeling deep within our soul through the available power of the Holy Spirit and His Word.

2010 will undoubtedly have raw and

ruthlessly hard realities. However, you will be equipped and empowered to stand above the crowd. You will be prepared. I hope you will make this eight week series on money matters, promises, relationships, global calamities, rebuilding, intimacy and worship in "The New Reality" a priority.

Connection Point

Our first Connection Point this past fall was a huge success as three new groups were started in ONE NIGHT! People who weren't already connected to the body of Creekside were connected in a fun and friendly environment of activity and direction. When you aren't connected you are initially nervous about the whole idea of meeting up with people you don't know. But I've got to tell you ... it's been so rewarding to those who overcome those initial trepidations. After about 10 minutes of time together at CONNECTION POINT there was laughter, chatter, spark and pizzazz! That's what happens when personalities come together in the name of Christ to grow in Him and give His grace to others. All Life Group facilitators, group members and ALL UNCONNECTED CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY MEMBERS are needed to be here Sunday January 17th from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm for our next connection point gathering.

*Grace and peace,
Brother Chuck*

GOT PRAYER? Breath prayers - prayers-on-the-go! "Lord, guard my mouth." "Lord, thank you for Jesus." Every moment of the day is an opportunity to experience God in every circumstance. "Pray constantly, rejoice always, be thankful in all circumstances and the peace of God which passes all understanding will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." *The Prayer Team*



Student Ministry by Ric Huxford

Programs Changing and Parent Meeting

As soon as we obtain the certificate of occupancy for the modular buildings we will change the Student Ministry Programming. We will have the 7/8th grade students and High School Students meet at different times. Our Middle School group will for sure meet on Wednesday nights and possibly the High School as well, but just at a different time. We will have this all worked out before our parent meeting on January 10, 2010. The meeting will be immediately following the 8:30 worship service in the High School room or, if possible, in the new modular building. I am asking that all parents of 7/8th grade students or High School students be present for this important meeting. I will have calendars to hand out and other important information. I will also request help in various areas to make our ministry succeed. We have a great need for drivers for trips, sponsors for Sunday and Wednesday evenings and other special events.

Please make this meeting a priority. I hope to see you there! Thanks in advance for your help and support ... our students are awesome and you will love working with them!



Ric Huxford
Student Minister

January 15, 2010 Winter Jam Concert

We will take a group to Winter Jam this year. Tickets are \$10.00 at the door and the concert will be held at the Jacksonville Memorial Arena. Sign up at the youth table if you want to go!

- **Doors open at 6:00PM**
- **Pre-Show approx. 6:20PM**
- **Lights Down approx. 6:55PM**
- **Show Ends approx. 10:20PM**
- **The LINE UP is:** Third Day; Newsboys; NewSong; Tenth Avenue North; Fireflight; Sidewalk Prophets; Robert Pierre; Revive; and Guest Speaker Tony Nolan



2009 Turkey Shoot

We had a great turn-out for both Saturdays of our turkey shoot this year. Special thanks to James Marx, Dan Hinson, Rick Castleberg and all those who helped with registration. We had around 40 first-time guests. It was awesome!

Celebrate Recovery by Maggie Frew

Maybe it was Chuck's voice of reason, but more likely the Holy Spirit that moved my heart when I first heard of a class for those that had Hurts, Hang-ups or Habits. I didn't know it then but I found there were hurts in my life that were preventing me from further spiritual growth. I was drawn to the meeting. Why? I didn't even think about it, I just knew I had to be there. The first part of the meeting went ok, (I knew the songs anyway). Then we broke into small groups. I figured this was trouble. Women in one room, men in the other. After introductions we talked a little about ourselves.

Well, that was easy enough, after all I knew the subject matter. We laugh now, but all of us wanted to know how soon we'd be 'fixed'. Soon we were in a "Step Study" and working out of workbooks. Many thought-provoking questions here and lots of 'AHA' moments. Later, I began to understand the why and why nots of my childhood. By then I wanted to share with this group of five I had become so close to. No one judged me, nor did I want to judge them. We went through this together, and together came our strength. It has

been proven to me that, there are some things in life we can't do alone. It's been wonderful to know that there is a safe place to do them. This experience has been a life-changing one, and one not to be feared. It's a new freedom, new love, new relationships, and in a new safe place. During our year, ten families have transferred their membership, five people have been baptized and one rededication. Praise!

*Maggie Frew
Assimilation Coach*



“The Best Place To Celebrate Christmas”



FRANCE



GHANA



**THE BEST PLACE TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS...
IS IN YOUR HEART**



SWEDEN

A World of Christmas was a great success! There were outside presentations reenacting the Christmas traditions in Africa, Mexico, France and Germany that were very authentic. The outside crew built elaborate sets that were enjoyed by church members and visitors. Too bad we can't keep the structures in place all year long-- they look phenomenal sitting on our property. The inside play presentations were especially delightful this year because many preteens and teens played pivotal parts in the play. It was really a joy to see the young thespians act, sing and dance! The play also had many adults, including the choir, who sang beautifully as the young angels searched for the most beautiful place to celebrate Christmas. They searched in Germany, France, Africa, Sweden, California, the Islands and Mexico to find the best place. They realized that the Christmas traditions from around the world all had the same message in common-- the best place to celebrate Christmas is actually not a place, town or city, but truly within your heart. We celebrate the gift of Jesus Christ in our own personal way all year long.

In His Service, Lafayette Cope



MEXICO



GERMANY



Worship Ministry by Marcel Murray

It is my desire to see that all of us here at Creekside grow in the knowledge of Christ and ultimately become mature, devoted worshippers of God. My hope is our lives will reflect the God we love and bring Him glory and the aroma of our lives will be a sweet-smelling incense unto the Lord. We were created to worship. It's not a matter of if we will worship. It's a matter of what we will worship - the Creator or the creature. According to the Westminster Catechism, the chief end of man is to worship God and enjoy Him forever. God is the object of every Christian's devotion and worship. In God we live, move, breathe and have our being. Our lives are to be surrendered in every aspect unto the Lord.

The ultimate goal is to become a mature, fully devoted, worshipper of God. Worship celebrates Christ and the reconciliation He won for all who are willing to come and worship. Worship celebrates His life, death and resurrection. Worship celebrates the victory Jesus won at the cross on behalf of His children. That's why worship is more important than any other worldly pursuit! "The church is first a worshipping community. Evangelism and other functions of ministry flow from the worship of the church." (Worship is a verb, p. 18, John Weber.) Worship is important because worship is a source for spiritual renewal, and I believe that the primary work of the church is worship. "Worship celebrates the Christ-event." The word "worship" translated means to "bow down or humble oneself before a greater authority." (Praise and Worship Study Bible, p.7) It can also mean to attribute worth to someone or something. When God's people

mature into fully devoted worshippers, it brings Him glory and fulfills the calling on the life of every believer. "Worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness, the nourishment of mind with His truth, the purifying of imagination by His beauty, the opening of the heart to His love, the surrender of will to His purpose. All of this is gathered up in adoration, the most selfless emotion of which our nature is capable and therefore the chief remedy for that self-centeredness which is our original sin and the source of all actual sin." (William Temple's *Readings in St. John's Gospel*, Vol. 1, p.68 London: Macmillan Co., 1939)

My goal is to teach and to lead God's people in the knowledge of who they are as worshippers of the most Holy God. It is my calling to inspire God's people to become a royal priesthood and a holy nation. During worship God is enthroned upon the praises of His people. Worship is not just the singing of songs, it's a lifestyle based upon a love relationship with Jesus. Everything we do or say should come from a life of worship. "*I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.*" (Romans 12:1)

I love the way John Piper put it in his book entitled, "Let the Nations be Glad," when he said, "Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exist because worship doesn't. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the

redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever." Worshippers will always have job security in God's kingdom! The highest aspiration for all believers is to become a worshipper of the one true God of Israel.



Marcel Murray
Worship Minister

In Conclusion, just being a believer is not enough. The culmination of the Christian life experience is to become a worshipper. Being a mature, fully devoted worshipper means you live what you believe. Every believer should know the Word and live a life that is totally submitted to the Lord. In order that we might fully enter in and experience God in all His glory. The calling of the church and every believer is to make disciples of all nations. To take the good news to those who have not heard. My highest calling is to lead the church into the presence of God so that all can see that He is good, and all can bow down and worship the King! It's through His mercy and loving kindness or active benevolence that He has allowed us to approach His throne of grace. The reason that the Lord has called us to worship is to have fellowship with Him. He enjoys it and we benefit from it.

*Worship Him In Truth,
Marcel*

Women's Ministry By Cynthia Montello

High Hopes & High Praise Women's Conference

It started as a meeting with Laura Ranneklev, Traci Mathies, Kathy Cope and myself. Our common desire was to create an event that would combine our women's ministry with an outreach effort. Our prayer was that this event would ignite the hearts of the women at Creekside and help our women's ministry go deeper into the realm of service and open up opportunities to help women who were homeless, hungry and suffering.

We came up with the idea of a women's conference to be held at the City Rescue Mission - a conference that would partner the women at Creekside with the women at the City Rescue Mission. No amount of planning could have ever helped us do what the Holy Spirit did at this conference, held on Saturday, November 7th.

We had a day filled with great talks, music, an art project, meals shared, drama skit, gift bags and special songs by the Haitian Women's Ministry and a talented young lady named Kara Frazier. Marcel Murray led the music with the help of Lafayette Cope and singers. The talks had to be written by the Holy Spirit because each one blended perfectly into the next. The four of us who gave talks purposefully did not talk too much prior because we wanted to allow the Holy Spirit to influence us.

I gave the first talk and spoke about living life in a pit, how Satan works hard

to get us into those pits and how hard it is sometimes to even recognize that we are in a pit of sin, despair, fear or loneliness. I spoke about a troubled past and all my attempts to escape and find peace but only to slip deeper into a pit. It helped to break down walls and bring us all into a place of seeking God's help and His plan for our own lives. Then Traci spoke about the lies Satan tells us and how he tries to destroy our lives, derail us and confuse us. She brought in her wonderful stories about her family



and gave us many illustrations of how to live in strength and faith. She talked about self esteem and reinforced in us that we are all beautiful daughters of God and heirs to the throne of grace. Annie Grogan gave her testimony and reminded us all of the faithfulness of God to rescue us. Kathy came on last and filled the place with the Word of God and a message of hope for us all. She reinforced in us God's promises of love and redemption.

We finished up with a call to give your life to Christ and intercessory prayer for all who wanted it. Every

single one of the 30 women from City Rescue Mission came forward for prayer and to rededicate their lives to Christ and His plan.

Matthew 7:17 tells us that every tree is known by the fruit it bears. The fruit that is coming forth from this conference has been amazing and is still coming. Creekside women have partnered with CRM women in mentorships. We are currently working on remaking one of the dorm rooms and helping to provide additional sheets, blankets and pillows. We are putting together an ongoing food drive to help with the demands for food at CRM. We are also organizing a visit for the CRM women to come worship with us at Creekside on a Sunday morning. We will follow the service with a reception and honor them as our guests.

It was an incredible day and we are all looking forward to what God will do with our hearts and our relationships with these wonderful women who need love and encouragement so desperately. We all praise God for this day and we are still floating from the power of the Holy Spirit and for all He showed us through this amazing encounter with the women at the City Rescue Mission. For more information, go to www.crmjax.org. Thank you to all who helped make this day possible.

*In His Service,
Cynthia*



Introducing Creekside's New Elders



Mike Boe

My wife Marianne and I were married June 20th 1982. We have three children, Christine 25, Eric 19, and Kevin 14. I was blessed to personally be able to baptize each one into Christ. Christine lives on her own here in Jacksonville while both Eric and Kevin live at home with us. I was baptized into Christ at Lehigh Acres Christian Church. There, as well as at Swiss Cove Christian Church, I served as a Deacon and in other capacities including Servant Leader for home Bible studies, senior high school ministry and men's ministry. I also helped as needed in teaching, communion meditation, and home visitation. My family and I have been attending Creekside Christian Church for nearly 3 years. I'm currently serving as Servant Leader for Life Groups and co-teach a 5th and 6th grade Sunday School class. I have also taught middle school and college, helped in the greeting ministry, served communion and served as a sponsor for 4th through 12th grade events.



Bob Cockerham

Pat and I were married July 4, 1968 and have three children, Dana, Chris and John. They each attend here at Creekside with their spouses, Chuck, Pam and Kathryn, and our eight grandchildren. I grew up in the Evangelic and Reformed Church. In 1969 I was baptized into Christ in the Azalea Hills Church of Christ in Mobile, Alabama. I have attended independent Christian Churches since 1971 and have served in Elder positions at Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, KY, Mandarin Christian Church (now Christ's Church) in Jacksonville, FL and here at Creekside Christian Church. Pat and I have attended Creekside since its formation in 2002. I currently serve on the Missions Team, the Finance Team, assist with communion preparation and serve as Building Team Leader for the modular building project.



David Francis

Sandra and I have been married for forty years. We have two daughters, Karen and Michelle, and are proud grandparents of Madison, Isabella and Abigail. We have lived in Julington Creek for 11 years. I was born and educated in England and my profession as a mechanical engineer has taken our family to many areas of the world. We moved to the USA twenty years ago and I am the co-founder and director of BCR Environmental, a water treatment company. I was baptized into Christ in 1999 Jacksonville Church of Christ and there served as Family Group Leader, children's ministry teachers, Celebrate Recovery Ministry Leaders and served on the Board of Trustees. Two years ago we joined Creekside Christian Church. During this time I have served in the chair set-up ministry, Connect-the-Dots Ministry, Greeting Ministry, Men's Bible study and served communion. Just over a year ago we were invited to start the Celebrate Recovery Ministry which serves the church and the area of North St John's County. We have been fortunate to see lives changed through God's healing power.



Brian Paul

Tammy and I have been married for 26 years. We have two sons, Zach and Haden. Zach is married to Amanda Moody. We have lived all over the country but call Jacksonville our home. I graduated from Purdue University in 1984 and earned my masters degree from Indiana Wesleyan University in 1988. I have spent the past 25 years in the home building industry. I accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and was baptized at Ocean Beach Baptist church at the age of 20. Over the years, Tammy and I have overseen and participated in small groups, Bible studies, youth programs, served as church building director; and led men and women's ministries. We have had the opportunity to be a part of many wonderful churches and joined Creekside Christian in 2007. I currently serve as Servant Leader for our Missions and Benevolence programs, serve on our Finance Committee, and serve communion on Sundays. I am also actively involved with the local efforts of the Salvation Army. My family is saved and much of my extended family is saved. We have experienced first hand the life-changing message of Jesus Christ.



Reaching Up + Reaching Out + Reaching In

Creekside Christian Church
92 Life Spring Way
Saint Johns, FL 32259

Sunday Service Times
9:30 am Worship and
Children Bible Study
10:30 am Connection Time
11:00 am Worship, Young Adults and
Children Bible Study

Phone: (904) 287-2777
chuck@creeksidechristian.com
www.creeksidechristian.com

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Please let us know what you think.

Write to nikki@creeksidechristian.com

*Be Blessed,
CCC Newsletter Team*

**"A Great Commitment to the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40)
and Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) will make a great church."**

Newsletter Team: Kathy Chasteen, Marie Cockerham, Ron Cockerham, Lafayette Cope, Giovanni Dawd,
Jane Fader, Don Norris, Nikki Thompson

Photographs by: Ron Cockerham, Tyler Cope, Travis Guerra

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Nicholas David Blount

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



In Acts 20:35, Jesus said *"It is more blessed to give than to receive"* Creekside Christian proved this again this year with 130 boxes donated for Operation Christmas Child, a 20% percent increase over last year. These boxes have begun their trek to India. Thank you for your generosity again this year! May you have a blessed Christmas.

*In Christ's Service,
Debi Tillis*