

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BOB

Sunday, January 3, 2010

Good morning and welcome to Abundant Life! I am glad that you are here; I consider it an honor to worship the Lord together today. If this is your first time to worship with us please take a minute to complete one of our Welcome Cards located in the guest packet. If you did not receive a guest packet you can get one at the Information Center in the lobby. Once you complete the card either drop it in the basket during the offering or leave it at the Information Center. Again, I am glad that you are here today!

Happy New Year! Thanks for worshiping with us on this first Sunday of 2010. Each year at Abundant Life we prayerfully establish a ministry theme. The theme for 2010 is **From Generation to Generation**. As we have sought to diligently prepare for ministry in the coming year we are doing so with the purpose and goal of ministering to all generations the love and grace of Jesus Christ with intentionality.

The Church of Jesus Christ is made up of people from every nation, tribe, tongue and **GENERATION**, at Abundant Life we desire to serve our generations well with God's love. As people, we so often get caught up in being traditional or contemporary and as we do we often fail to recognize the needs and interests of others. We want things to be done in a way that is most appealing to us and our "style", we even get to the point of frowning on anything that seems "traditional or contemporary." I have found that almost everyone has traditions in their lives, whether it is our worship style, clothing style, the way we live as a family or the way we celebrate birthdays and other special occasions. Most of us also possess characteristics of being contemporary – flat screen TVs, DVRs and cell phones to name a few.

At Abundant Life we not only desire to serve all generations well, we want to celebrate all generations. We all have things that we have learned that we can teach others. Older generations need to teach the younger generations the lessons they have learned in life, younger generations can teach older generations the value of new ways to learn and serve God. The lessons may take place in mentoring relationships, friendships, or learning how to operate a new cell phone (should I say "smart phone"?). The key is that we all are open to learning from one another!

We value every individual and the unique gift they are to the Body of Christ; we will be intentional in celebrating the contributions of every individual to the life of the Body and role that we all fill in one another's life.

2010 is going to be a great year as we celebrate and share life together **From Generation to Generation!**

Blessings to you in the New Year!

Pastor Bob

Thank you to everyone for your prayers and support for the Smith Family this week. Thank you for preparing food for the family and for demonstrating God's love for them during their time of grief after the passing of Lennis. The blessings of the Family of God were displayed this week and will be needed for the coming days and weeks as well.

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

Wednesday Night Connection –New service time beginning January 6, 2010 is 6:30PM – Join us as Pastor Bob leads a study entitled **Rebuilding the Real You** – a study from the Book of Nehemiah.

CHURCH WORK DAY!

- Saturday, January 9 – 8AM-Noon
- Yard Work and General Cleaning
- Preparations for the renovation/expansion of the Kids Church Building (moving, cleaning out, storing items)
- Everyone welcomed – bring rakes, gloves, leaf blowers, chain saws, hedge trimmers, etc

Welcoming New Members - Sunday, January 10, 2010

We will be receiving new members into partnership at Abundant Life. Please see Pastor Bob for more details.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2010, 10:30AM

We will be sharing plans for 2010 and ratifying the appointment of three church council members for two year terms. The meeting will be a part of the Sunday morning service and everyone is invited and welcomed to attend but only church members will be eligible to vote for church council members.

PRAYER REQUESTS / NEEDS

- **Bill Smith Family** – for God's grace & peace after the passing of Lennis Smith
- **Danielle Harris** – recuperating from surgery, healing of cancer
- **Madison** – 9 year old cousin of Shannon Covington, healing of cancer
- **Jenny** – Shannon Covington's aunt – healing of cancer
- Remember those in our church and community who have lost jobs and those who are struggling financially

Upcoming Events

Jan 6 – Starting Wednesday Night Series – *Rebuilding the Real You* – 6:30PM
Jan 9 – Church Work Day – 8AM – Noon
Jan 10 – Receiving New Members – 10:30AM
Jan 12 – ALOFT – Ladies Ministry Meeting, 6:30PM
Jan 17 – Annual congregational Meeting – 10:30AM
Jan 17 – Church Council Meeting 4PM
Jan 17 – The Leading Edge 6-7:30PM
Feb 7 – Super Bowl Fellowship 6PM
Feb 13 – Valentine's Banquet