



COMING
SOON:

- June 5—Messianic Jew Kirk Gliebe will speak during the morning service.
- June 5—Movie Night 6:00pm
- June 12—Second Sunday Fellowship at the park
- June 25—Fireworks & Fun 7:00pm at the Shawback's
- June 26-30—Youth Revolution Week (6:00-8:00pm)

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We are God's people. We are ambassadors of Jesus, entrusted with the message of the Gospel and the task of making disciples.

The Epistle

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

WWW.FBCT.NET

MAY 2011



Focus on the Family's "Truth Project"

Do you really believe that what you believe is really real?

In a recent study, the Barna Research Group revealed a stunning statistic that continues to reverberate throughout the evangelical world. Only 9 percent of professing Christians have a biblical worldview.¹

Because of this, today's believers live very similarly to non-believers. A personal sense of significance is rarely experienced, we spend our money and time on things that fail to satisfy and we begin to wonder what life's ultimate purpose really is. We are, in short, losing our bearings as a people and a nation.

To counter this slide within the body of Christ, we are

launching one of the most ambitious and powerful projects in the history of our ministry—Focus on the Family's The Truth Project.

The Truth Project is a DVD-based small group curriculum



The Truth Project will be held Sunday nights at 6pm from June 12 through mid-September.

comprised of 13 one-hour lessons taught by Dr. Del Tackett. This home study is the starting point for looking at life from a biblical perspective. Each lesson discusses in great detail the relevance and importance of living the Christian worldview in daily life.

We believe this one project represents the possibility for exponential change within the body of Christ, as we expect that thousands will be transformed by this curriculum. As it has been throughout history, God continues to call ordinary people to make an eternal difference in our world.

The Secret's Out About "Secret Church"

By Deacon Joe Howell

Thirteen people attended "Secret Church," a simulcast event with churches from all over the world on Good Friday evening. The church brought in pizza from Papa John's for dinner and everyone else provided drinks and snacks. Needless to say, we were well-stocked for the six-hour meeting.

This was the second of these events held to strengthen the church's understanding of the gospel and the doctrines surrounding the Easter season, as well as to inform us of the persecutions of various Christians



Thirteen people gathered for a six-hour bible study led by Dr. David Platt, Pastor of Brook Hills in Birmingham, Alabama.

outside the U.S. The mission focus was on India this year and prayers and offerings were given for those attempting to share the Gospel in that country. Please pray for those people who fear for their lives because of their witness for Jesus Christ.

Everyone seemed to have a good time and there was a great

deal of discussion about each of the four sessions during the breaks and after the study itself.

The material moved fast and there was a lot to mull over in terms of the various doctrines presented. Perhaps the church will consider doing this again next year. If so, please don't miss out on its blessing.



Congratulations to Anna McNew and LaRyssa Herrington, the only two youth to participate in Bible Drill in our area. We're proud of all your hard work and effort!

“Lest you think rulers in need of money have any qualms about where they get their cash...”

GOD LEADS OUR WAY

By Cheryl Street

The G.L.O.W. youth group attended the Dare 2 Share conference in March. We felt very blessed to take 13 students with us this year. At this conference the students were trained to share their faith with others around them. The goal of D2S is to make disciples who make disciples. Many of our students left this conference feeling energized to take the "Cause" to their school. In May we began the Dare2Share Gospel Journey Maui curricu-

lum and will be learning even more about how to share our faith.

Youth Revolution Week will be June 26th-June 30th from 6:30-8:30 this year. Last year we had an average attendance of about 8 students and it's my prayer that we can double that number this year. We would like to ask you to help us promote this week by inviting my prayer that we can double that number this year. We would like to ask you to help us promote this week by inviting a student that will be entering 7th -12th grade in August.

G.L.O.W. youth group adopted and agreed to support a Compassion International

student from Nicaragua a couple of months ago. We are encouraging each student to bring a dollar a week or four dollars a month to help with this sponsorship to either Sunday School or Youth Group and they have been asked to pray for her daily. Our student's name is Eveling Ramona Leyton Carranza and we were blessed by receiving our first letter from her last week. Students will take turns each month writing back to Eveling so that she can get to know each of us individually.

Historically Speaking

By Deacon Joe Howell

A certain TV Channel has been running a marathon of *Indiana Jones* movies lately. In keeping with this theme, I present you with the depraved Herod the Great in a segment of Josephus' *Antiquities of The Jews*. Lest you think rulers in need of money have any qualms about where they get their cash...

The Antiquities of the Jews,
Book 16

CHAPTER 7

HOW, UPON HEROD'S GOING DOWN INTO DAVID'S SEPULCHRE, THE SEDITION IN HIS FAMILY INCREASED

As for Herod, he had spent vast sums about the cities, both without and within his own kingdom: and as he had before heard that Hyrcanus;

who had been king before him, had opened David's sepulcher, and taken out of it three thousand talents of silver, and that there was a much greater number left behind, and indeed enough to supply all his wants, he had a great while intention to make the attempt; and at this time he opened the sepulcher by night, and went into it, and endeavored that it should not be at all known in the city, but took only his most faithful friends with him. As for any money, he found none, as Hyrcanus had done, but that furniture of gold, and those precious goods that were laid up there; all which he took away. However, he had a great desire to make a more diligent search, and go further in, even so far as the

very bodies of David and Solomon; where two of his guards were slain, by a flame that burst out upon those that went in, as the report was. So he was terribly affrighted, and went out, and built a propitiatory monument of that fright he had been in; and this of white stone, at the mouth of the sepulcher, and that at great expense also.

Josephus indicates that after this incursion into David's tomb Herod's family troubles so increased it was like a civil war was going on in the palace. Josephus speculates that both the increased troubles and the fire in the tomb were some sort of divine retribution for Herod's "impiety". Woe unto those who go where angels fear to tread!

Leaving a Legacy

We had a very emotional and powerful Chapel service at Lincoln Christian University on May 3, 2011. Dr. Robert Lowery, Professor of New Testament for 35 years, passed away at the end of April after a long battle with cancer. While I never took any course work with Dr. Lowery, I realized during the chapel service that he had a passion for Jesus Christ. As Dr. Lowery lay dying, he grabbed the hand of Dr. Paul Boatman, the dean at Lincoln Christian University, and said, "You will keep the legacy and fulfill the mission won't you?" Dr. Boatman replied, "As long as there is breath in this body,

I will continue!" Dr. Lowery passed into the presence of Christ shortly after saying these words. Wow, what a testimony!

It reminds me of the Apostle Paul when he came to the end of his life. He grabbed the hand of young Timothy so to speak and said, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Tim. 4:7). Paul certainly did fight the good fight. He fought for the gospel at every turn. Paul tells us that this fight was not without personal cost. Paul was beaten on several occasions and imprisoned for this fight. But, Paul says he never wavered in his conviction



about Jesus Christ or faith which he professed. These two extraordinary men leave us a legacy that is worthy of following. What kind of legacy will you leave for those to follow?

In Christ,
Pastor Michael J. Frazier

"You will keep the legacy and fulfill the mission won't you?"

Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader

Please join us for Movie Night on Sunday, June 5. We'll be enjoying the "Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader" at 6:00pm. There will be popcorn during the movie, but feel free to bring your own dinner for a pre-movie fellowship.

The Media Team is excited to finally watch a movie using our new projector, up-convert DVD player, and HDMI cable.

The movie is rated PG and lasts about 1 hour and 50 minutes.



Sunday, July 24 - Thursday, July 28

6:00pm - 8:30pm

Kindergarten - Grade 6

Family Night - Friday, July 29



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Come Worship

with Us!

Sunday:

Early Service—

8:15am

Sunday School—

9:30am

Morning Service—

10:40am

Evening Service—

6:00pm

GLOW (Youth)—

6:30pm

Wednesday:

Prayer Meeting—

6:30pm

First Baptist

Church of Tolono

204 W. Holden

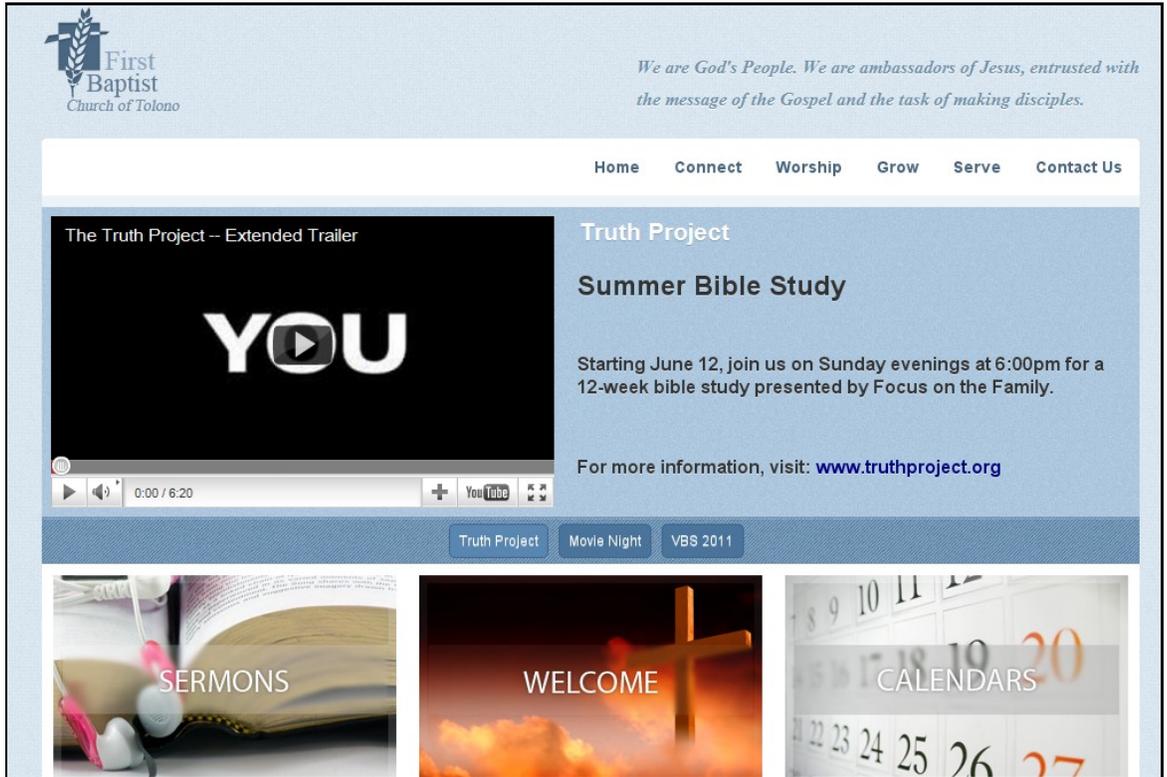
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The Media & Communication Team is proud to unveil our new website—www.fbct.net. John Urbank, a web designer out of Ohio, has been working on redesigning our site in his spare time over the last six months. It's a lot more streamlined and should prove easier to use. The sermons can now be listened to with the click of a play button instead of having to download a large mp3 file. We hope to also have the sermons available as a podcast soon. And, once we shoot it, we'll be adding a welcome/informational video to the WELCOME page. John is also working on redirecting our old address (www.tolonofirstbaptist.com) to the new site. Please take a few moments to acquaint yourself with the new layout.

Before & After



Top left—the sanctuary during our 2010 VBS; Top right—the stage set up for worship before the remodel; At right—our remodeled sanctuary with new, comfy chairs in place of pews.

