



Don't miss these opportunities to invite someone to church.

Invite Your Neighbors to Remember September 11

September 11, 2001 is a day America and the world will never forget. In honor of our fallen heroes, we encourage all Genevans to attend a morning of remembrance and hope as we gather for worship Sunday, September 11th on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

Through Pastor Mike's message, we'll be reflecting on the sacrifices made by so many on that fateful day. We will also be exploring how this tragedy affects us as people of faith and citizens of the world.

National Back to Church Sunday, September 18th

A recent study by the North American Mission Board (NAMB) and LifeWay Research found that 67 percent of Americans say a personal invitation from a family member would be effective in getting them to visit a church. A personal invitation from a friend or neighbor would be effective for 63 percent of those surveyed.

"We want to help Christians discover what approaches work best in today's culture," said Ken Weathersby, NAMB senior strategist for evangelization. "It's not about changing the Gospel but determining how best to share it."

Our services on September 18th, National Back to Church Sunday, will be specifically geared towards first time attendees and those who used to go to church, but don't any more.

We challenge every Genevan to take a personal interest in attendance by inviting someone new to church. Building the church is every Genevan's task!

What's inside:

Pastor's Message 2

Events 3

New Youth Leaders 4

Geneva Blessings 6

Don't Miss Town Hall Meeting

September 25th

Town Hall meetings are held in Simpson Hall after the 9:30 and 11:00 AM services. They are only about twenty minutes long, but it's plenty of time for us to communicate important information and hear your feedback.

We have a lot to talk about this month, including a restructuring of Session the possibility of opening an Early Childhood Education Center on campus, and sharing space on Sunday mornings with a Taiwanese Presbyterian Church. Please come and hear about these and other exciting things in the works!

GENEVA ON FACEBOOK!

Stay current with the latest announcements, programs and breaking news on Geneva's new Facebook page:

facebook.com/genevapresoc



Pastor Mike with grandson Joel.

August 25, 2011

Message from Pastor Mike

"Out of the generosity of Christ, each of us is given his own gift...until we're all moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God's Son, fully mature adults, fully developed within and without, fully alive like Christ."

(Ephesians 4:7-13, The Message)

As I watch my grandchildren grow and mature in their motor and speech skills I am so delighted. I relish in their joy in discovering new things and acquiring abilities they have watched their family do which they can now do. As their speech improves they are able to communicate their needs, wants and joys. There is nothing better than to be waiting at the airport for their arrival, to hear a squeal of delight and recognition coming

from down the hall as they run to meet their grandparents again.

Christian life is like that. We all start out as babes totally dependent upon our parents and others to teach us everything. And what a joy we get when we learn something new in faith. God our Father patiently provides for us a church full of people to help us mature in our application of our faith in him. We need the help of those who have lived longer in the scriptures, who have matured further in their walk with the Lord to mentor, coach, and train us in the ways of the Lord.

At Geneva Presbyterian Church we have wonderful people and programs to help us take the next step toward becoming "*fully mature adults*" in the Lord. None of us have arrived and there is always more to learn as we become "*fully alive like Christ*."

(continued on page 5)

Noteworthy Events

September	October	November
11 10th Anniversary of 9/11 Special Sunday Service	9 Rev. Jane Holslag Preaching (see below)	11 Veteran's Day
18 Back to Church Sunday	15 Mothers of Multiples Fall Sale	20 Advent Celebration
21 Presbyterian Women Meet	16 Homebound Communion	24 Happy Thanksgiving! - Office Closed
25 Town Hall Meeting	22 New Member Class	27 First Sunday of Advent

Presbyterian Women

All Geneva women, young and old, are invited to join Presbyterian Women, a group which meets monthly at the church to enjoy lunch, worship, special activities and speakers. In September, come get to know Pastor Mike's wife, Joni, who will be the featured speaker. Want to become a part of this wonderful group of women? Contact Mariam Corbett at 829-0249 or email her at mariamc@comline.com.

Rev. Holslag Preaches

The Rev. Jane Holslag was already known to many of us in the Orange County area from her time as associate pastor at Irvine Presbyterian Church. From 1990 through 1997 Rev. Holslag worked with the Berlin Fellowship in Germany and later as Coordinator for Ecumenical Fellowship in central and eastern Europe to establish relationships

between congregations in the United States and congregations in eastern Germany and Poland. In 1997 she began service at LCC International University in Klaipeda, Lithuania. She teaches in both the English and Theology departments. Read more about Jane Holslag at the PC(USA) website (<http://www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/profiles/holslagj.htm>) and at the Mission Crossroads website on Facebook (<http://missioncrossroads.ning.com/>).

Mothers of Multiples Fall Sale

Attention all moms with young children! The Mothers of Multiples (MOM) group is having their annual sale at the church Saturday, October 15th from 8:15 - 11:15 AM. You can get great deals on clothes, strollers and all things little kid related! This is a very popular event, so get here early and bring \$1.00 for admission.



The Rev. Jane Holslag

New Member Class October 22nd

Held in McClellan Lounge
from 8:30 AM to noon.
Come learn about
becoming a member of
Geneva. All are welcome.
No obligation to join.

Educational Opportunities

Community Bible Study

CBS offers women of all ages and backgrounds an opportunity for an in-depth look into God's word. This year's study is on the book of Revelation and is taught by Geneva member Lorraine Moon. CBS meets at Geneva every Thursday morning from 9:15 - 11:15 AM. If you are interested in joining the CBS women please contact Marilyn Popka at 949-360-9592.

Christianity and World Religions

Beginning September 11th, our very own Pastor Linda Flatley, Minister of Visitation, will be teaching a class on *Christianity and World Religions* at 9:30 and 11:00 AM in the Saddleback room and will run for six weeks. The class will run for six consecutive weeks and promises to be both informative and fun!

The Parent Network

Meets Sundays at 11:30 AM in the Saddleback room. All are welcome (even non-parents!). Most of the discussion centers around how we as Christians maneuver through today's world. Through scripture, mentors and prayer we try to figure it out together. Come join this lively group! (Beginning Sept. 11th to make room for the class mentioned above the Parent Network will meet in room 25).

New High School Director Jeremy Ryan and his wife Dasia (they're the ones with fingers sticking out of their heads!).



Geneva Welcomes New Youth Leaders

New and exciting changes continue to take place at Geneva, the latest of which is the hiring of two new part-time youth ministry leaders to fill the shoes of Mark Chapman who recently departed to become the Chaplain of St. Mary's School in Aliso Viejo.

Staci Ashby is our new Director of Middle School Ministries which will include the growth and development of kids fifth through eighth grade. Staci is studying at Fuller Theological Seminary, and will earn her Master of Divinity degree next June.

"I am most passionate about finding ways to share the message of God's reconciling love and grace with

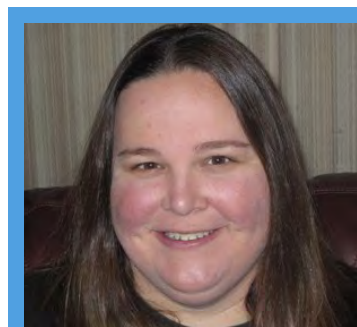
kids," says Staci, and her extensive experience in youth ministry bears this out. We are thrilled to welcome Staci to the Geneva family.

Our second newcomer is **Jeremy Ryan** who began leading High

School ministries this summer. In addition to many years following his passion in youth ministry, Jeremy earned a Masters of Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. Word has it that he could have also earned a degree

in video games, but the high schoolers will have to investigate that angle.

Please make it a point to give Staci and Jeremy a warm Geneva welcome when you see them.



Middle School Ministry Director, Staci Ashby.

Prayer List

Congregation & Friends:

Rhodora Carlos
Jeane Day
Bill Donnelly
Iris Farley
George Henderson

William Jarjour
LaVera Jeffries
Bill Klimek
Arleene LaSor
Shirley Masters
Dave Miranda
Connor Naughton
Jackie Overfield
Juanita Pettit
Steve Polanchak
Doris Rae

Zack Reed
John Smuk
Deborah Sonntag
Amelia Tungate
Jack Vest
Betty Waller
Ann Worley
Terri Whyatt

Military:

Matthew Gomez

Kyle Hansen
Alex Hathaway
Marissa LaCourt
Ross LaCourt
Clint Land
Garrett Mendenhall
Erik Olivas
Michael Sahn
David Weaver

Pastor Message continued from page 2...

Therefore, as we begin a new year many of these programs are just beginning. Jump in and take advantage of them with the excitement of a grandchild delighting in the experience.

My goal for the church is to have us respond to God's grace given to each of us in such a way that we are all *"moving rhythmically and easily with each other, efficient and graceful in response to God's Son..."* That's the kind of church people want to join—where they can *"glorify God and enjoy him forever!"*

Peace, Pastor Mike

Small Groups at Geneva

What is a small group? At Geneva, we use this term to refer to a covenant group of six to ten

people who meet on a regular basis to help each other grow in their faith through study and fellowship. Small groups can consist of all men, all women, or couples. One thing for sure, no matter what the make-up, small groups can enrich your life in a way no other church

activity can. If you are interested in joining, hosting or facilitating a group, please contact elder Kathleen Deason at 951-9149 or email her at rkdeason@aol.com.

Rummage Sale brings in over \$12,000!

Once again, we proved that one person's junk is another person's treasure as people flocked to this year's Geneva rummage sale. Thanks to herculean efforts by staffer Gloria Newell and her crew of volunteers, we raised over \$12,000 for the church's general fund.



Two-year-old Adelle Burt came to the rummage sale ready to do some damage!

Scholarship Recipients

College scholarships originating from the generosity of the parents of past Geneva youth member Kevin O'Neill, who years ago died in an auto accident, are given annually to deserving Geneva youth. Congratulations to the following students for earning this year's awards. Blessings to you all!

Lauren Baca
Sheridah Bennett
Christina Boeryd
Jordan Bridgman
Kaitlyn Deppmeier
Danny Dolan
Amanda Godfrey
Sarah Godfrey
Mary Levegood
Will Levegood
Jonathan Lorge
Basil McCallum
Christine Miller
Ben Norris
Emily Prichard
Lucas Reed
Mitchell Schneider
Hannah Tedrow
Kyle Wood

Geneva

BLESSINGS & OUTREACH

"...AND IN YOU ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH SHALL BE BLESSED."

GENESIS 12:3



Geneva members and close friends Rod and Jane Kingston and Helena and Peter Heydenrych join Freda and Michael Wenning on a sailing trip to Tonga.

Beloved Pastor Emeritus Rev. Dr. Michael Wenning Was a Blessing to All

The Geneva family lost a dear friend in the passing of the Rev. Dr. Michael Wenning on June 28th. Most widely remembered for conducting former President Reagan's memorial service, articles appeared in newspapers across the country in his honor. However, we know him best as our beloved pastor and friend.

Michael has always been there for Geneva. Most recently he helped shepherd our congregation through the departure of Jeff McCrory, stepping up to preach and give counsel to session and individual church members. His warmth, wisdom and faith was a beacon of light throughout the congregation

even though his own health was fading.

This light shone never more brightly than Easter Sunday, when



"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father in heaven."
Matthew 5:16

Michael preached a sermon at Geneva which he knew would be his last. Full of love and hopefulness, he challenged every one to accept Christ as their Lord and Savior and to follow the

teachings of Jesus. Although Michael considered the Reagan funeral to be the pinnacle of his ministry, at his memorial service his covenant brother, the Rev. Dr. John Huffman told those present that in his opinion Michael's Easter sermon outshone that achievement.

After he spoke, weak from his efforts, he sat on the chancel steps graciously greeting the long line of congregants, not leaving until he had spread his special love to everyone. This is the legacy of Michael: Love. He gave it freely to all, whether you were a former President of the United States, or a lost sheep looking for a pasture. May we all strive to emulate his example within our own lives.



Princess Kathryn celebrates her seventh birthday at Disneyland.

Little Kathryn Sings a Solo!

Watching Geneva's children's choirs is always a treat, but this past Mother's Day many sitting in the congregation couldn't keep tears of joy from flowing as seven-year-old Kathryn Tedrow grabbed the microphone for her solo.

Perhaps what some Geneva members don't know is that Kathryn was diagnosed with autism right before her third birthday.

"I remember when Kathryn would cover her ears when she just walked into the sanctuary because of the noise and echo," recalls Melissa Parker who has been Kathryn's choir director at Geneva since she was four, "watching her sing so clearly and confidently in front of all of us was nothing short of miraculous."

Trisha Tedrow, Kathryn's mom, attributes her daughters progress to early detection, great medical care, diet and supplements. "Before Kathryn could learn we had to take care of the problems she was having inside her body," she says,

"now she's thriving in a regular second grade classroom with the rest of the kids."

One thing's for sure, watching Kathryn sing on Mother's Day was a gift to us all and a definite testimony to the power of prayer, faith and love.

It's easier than you think!

A new day is coming for Sunday School this fall. We are going to be using some exciting new concepts for our children's discipleship time on Sunday mornings. The goal is to have more leaders teaching a little less often in a rotation that provides faith based education while fostering good relationships between teachers and children. If you are interested in having an impact on a child's life, teach! Contact Pastor Leanne at lstrommen@genevapres.org or at 837-4765 x215 to help out.

High Schoolers Need You!

If you are passionate about the growth of the high school ministry then you are invited to attend the high school support meeting **Sunday, September 11th at noon** in the youth room. We'll be talking about the vision for the high school group this year and beyond, as well as establishing a high school parent and mentor network to help lead and support our youth. Plus, if that isn't enough, we'll all have cookies! Please prayerfully consider becoming a part of this very rewarding ministry team.

Become a Deacon

What is a Deacon? Deacons at Geneva are privileged to serve a parish of about 8 - 12 households. It's expected that they will contact parish members once each quarter and homebound members once a month. If special needs arise, the Deacon Care Ministry will assist with hospital visitation, meals, visits, etc.. Is God calling you to serve others in this way? Will you answer, "Yes, send me"? If so, contact Sandi Henderson at 855-9088 or email her at sandigeorgeh@comline.com



Congratulations to Bill and Dot Donnelly who celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary September 1st.

Pastors & Staff

Have information to share in
"Geneva Today!"? Call Edie
Robertson at 949-597-0814 or
email her at
edithrobertson@att.net.

Michael Wallman
Interim Pastor

Leanne Strommen
Associate Pastor

Linda Flatley
Minister for Visitation

Jane Kingston
Director, Ministry
Support

Gloria Newell
Director of Finance

Eileen O'Hern
Director of Music

Staci Ashby
Director, Middle School
Ministry

Jeremy Ryan
Director, High School
Ministry

Elizabeth Kudryk
Nursery Coordinator



∞ In Remembrance ∞

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." *Matthew 5:4*
We pray for the families of the following Geneva members and friends who have
gone to be with the Lord. They will be greatly missed.

Mary Flowers	April 21	Nancy Howitt	June 27
Lester Overfield	April 21	Michael Wenning	June 28
Ann Borland	May 7	Sue Lord	July 7
Jean Fox	May 9	Florence Leese	July 16
Jim Pettit	June 4	Jane Johnson	July 27
Tom Kincannon	June 14		

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Geneva
TODAY!