

It's That Time of Year Again!

It's time to saddle up and hit the trail for Saddle Ridge Ranch VBS!

Your VBS team is preparing for a tremendous year of VBS in our associational churches. Eight of us attended the State Jump Start in November and are scheduled to attend the State Training Clinic in Fairfield on March 6th. We've had a couple of team planning sessions and are gathering up materials and ideas to present a "bronc bustin'" training clinic for your VBS staff on April 20. You won't want to miss it!

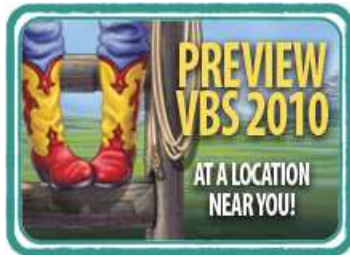
During VBS, kids will "travel" to the Saddle Ridge Ranch, where they'll learn the answers to some of life's questions: Who am I? Does God care about me? What is God's plan for me? How can I be like Jesus? And What do I do now? Loaded with all kinds of ranch fun, games, and hoe-down music, this year's theme will keep the kids excited while teaching them great spiritual truths.

It's not too early to start rounding up your VBS workers and getting your church excited about summer ministry. The VBS Clinic will offer dozens of ideas for all your workers, from administrators to snack servers, so bring everybody! We're including a class for Hispanic workers this year, so be sure to include an invitation to anyone in your area who would like to work with Hispanic children.

See you at the Chuck Wagon Supper, 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 20th, at First Baptist

Church in Gridley! Training classes are scheduled from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for all areas of VBS. Even if you're not certain about having a VBS this year, come on down and join the fun....maybe we'll change your mind! See ya at the ranch!

Contact Jack & Dollie Harvey,
530-673-2924 or
jdharvey3037@sbcglobal.net



Women's Retreat Meeting, February 6th

Planning is under way for our 15th annual Women's Retreat, to be held at Richardson's Springs, September 17-19th, 2010, with our first meeting on Saturday, Feb. 6th, 2010, at Gridley First Baptist Church. Our Main Conference speaker this year will be Riette Stringfellow, the wife of our DOM, Tom Stringfellow. The theme this year will be **"Leaving a Christian Legacy"**.

Again, we plan to hold our "early bird" luncheon accepting early registration and a non-refundable \$20 deposit. The date is April 24th, 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM at Grace Baptist Church in Oroville. Information to follow. Our next meeting will be March 6th.

Your Women's Retreat Committee

Day Light Saving Time begins in March! Whoopee!!

Spring Forward! March 14th, 2010

~SBBA ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR~

March 2010

- 2 Ministers' Fellowship Breakfast – 8 AM Chico
- 2 Migrant Ministry Meeting – 6:30 PM @ 1st Baptist, Gridley
- 6 State VBS Clinic, North – El Camino Baptist, Sacramento
- 6 Women's Fall Retreat Meeting – 10 AM @ 1st Baptist, Gridley
- 7 Evangelism Clinic (GPS) - 6 PM, Grace Baptist, Oroville
- 8 Evangelism Clinic (GPS) - 7 PM, Grace Baptist, Oroville
- 9 Evangelism Clinic (GPS) - 7 PM, Grace Baptist, Oroville
- 14 Day Light Saving Time begins
- 16 Ministers' Fellowship Breakfast – 8 AM @ Yuba City



The MESSENGER

MARCH 2010

Sierra Butte Baptist Association
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PO Box 1316
Gridley, CA 95948

Dr. Tom Stringfellow, *Director of Missions*

Lois Macfarlane, *Associational Secretary*

FROM THE DOM:

Now is the time to get serious about GPS . . .
God's Plan for Sharing!

We can't emphasize enough the importance of all Christians to be able to share our Faith. The training event on personal evangelism is the right event for all church members to prepare their skills in this important work for our Savior. Dr. Wilson has written this course with Sierra Butte in mind. His efforts will prepare us for a variety of witnessing techniques and opportunities. Bring all you can to these 3 nights, March 7,8,9.

Good things are happening as we are reminded of our purpose as an Association: "Churches helping Churches reach their communities for Christ."

With the help of several of our churches, the Sutter remodel project is nearing completion. Tom Coleman and Lyle Paul have led our volunteers in this opportunity to help a sister church. Grace, Oroville, has just completed projects for sound improvements in Sutter, Wheatland, and Paradise. They have been a great blessing to all.

Let's keep the fires of GPS burning.

Pastor Tom

Personal Evangelism Clinic

On March 7th, 8th, 9th, we will sponsor a training event on "Personal Evangelism". This opportunity comes on the heels of our 4-week GPS events. Every church member needs to know the basics on sharing their faith with others.

This clinic was not on our original training cycle schedule. It came as a result of the presentation on "Soul Shaping" by Dr. Jim Wilson. His expertise is in "personal evangelism". He is committed to Sierra Butte and our GPS push. Classes will be held at Grace Baptist, 3646 Oro Dam Blvd, Oroville, 533-1456 on the following schedule:

Sunday, March 7th, 6:00 PM

Monday, March 8th, 7:00 PM

Tuesday, March 9th, 7:00 PM

Other Association News:

Camp Dates have been set:

☒ Children's Camp will be August 10-13th, 2010 at Camp Conery, Lake Almanor. The fee will be \$89.00.

☒ Youth Camp will be June 14-18th, 2010, at Camp Conery, Lake Almanor. The fee will be \$98.00.

Men's Ministry:

☒ Our next BBQ will be held May 1st, 2010, at Grace Baptist Church, Oroville. John Craig will be the speaker. The cost will be \$6.00, with 'first time guests' free. Everyone, please bring a side dish.

☒ Our first ever Men's Retreat, August 27-28, 2010, will be held at Woodleaf Young Life Conference

Sierra Butte Gears Up for GPS!

Sierra Butte Bible Institute's support and provision of GPS was a raging success with 125-200 present each night (depending on who counted). We are looking forward to Dr. Jim Wilson's seminary level evangelism training at Grace Baptist, Oroville, March 7-9. We are encouraging churches to plan additional prayer times and sharing training in preparation for Prayer Walking on March 20 and door-to-door outreach on March 27 in preparation for an incredible Easter service. Some are adding New Testaments or Gospel of John to the door hanger bags. There is even a children's musical from Word Music entitled "GPS, God's Plan for Salvation". Churches are encouraged to let the association office know of their GPS activities so they may be shared with others by way of encouragement.

Doug Crowder,
Evangelism Division Leader

Sierra Butte Student Work

We recently received word that Eric Teitelman was relocated to the East Coast. This would end his work as leader of student work known as "The House of David".

We have been blessed with a new couple, Paul and Christy Worcester to lead "Christian Challenge" on Cal State Chico's campus.

They are reaching into the student body faithfully and are reporting great inroads. Pray for them as they lead out in this much needed student work. Below is their contact information.

Paul and Christy Worcester, Christian Challenge CSUC
1275 Virage Lane, Chico, CA 95973, 530-828-6606

Will We Get Summer Missionaries This Year?

This is the question that Sierra Butte has been asked regularly. The following is an excerpt from CSBC, Fresno: "For the past few years NAMB has been able to let us submit as many requests as we approved here at the state office. In 2010, NAMB MUST be more strategic with their funding for student missionaries, so for 2010 NAMB will be appointing the number of requests we will be able to submit for our state. What this means is each request will NOT be processed this year on a first-come-first-serve basis, but rather by review/approval by the state office team". What does this mean for Sierra Butte? Our paper work requesting SMs to CSBC has been turned in, but we still need to turn in a "tentative calendar schedule" by April, 2010.

Obviously the economy is going to play a big part not only in determining if our churches will be able to afford to house the SM for a week, but for how many NAMB will be able to pay their air fare and insurance. So please pray about your church's involvement and contact us here at the Office to reserve your date if you haven't already done so. Dates still available are:

June 12-19

July 3-10

June 26-July 3

July 10-17

Thanks!, Lois

Sierra Butte Baptist Association

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 13th, 2010
First Southern Baptist Church
112 N Yolo Street
Willows, CA 95987

Dinner: 6 PM Meeting Following