



# The Grapevine

*"You Are Our Branches"*

*Woodside Village Church celebrates God's love in both worship and music,  
proclaims the Gospel in words and deeds, and reaches out to meet  
the needs of our members, our community and our world."*

## God's Spirit Will Empower Your Witness

*Jesus said to the disciples "When the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere" . . . (Acts 1:8)*

One of the greatest things the Holy Spirit wants to do in the life of all believers is to empower their witness. The word for power in this verse comes from the Greek word "dunamis", from which we get the words dynamite, dynamic, and dynamo. God didn't give us the power of the Holy Spirit to feel something, but to accomplish something.

Sometimes the Holy Spirit's power acts like dynamite in our lives, blasting us with zeal, jolting us out of complacency, and motivating us to greater spiritual growth. At other times, God's Spirit is like a dynamic, generating power that will help us live from day to day at a level we could not achieve on our own. We need to remember the encouraging words the apostle Paul gave to young Timothy: "For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline" (2 Timothy 1:7).

Did you find it difficult to "invite" someone to "Back to Church Sunday"? Are you timid in your witness for Christ? Is it hard for you to speak up for what you believe? Then consider tapping into the power He has made available to all believers through the Spirit. The Holy Spirit will give us the added dimension of boldness, power, and persuasiveness in our invitation and in our witness to the love of Christ.

Before we know it the 'hol(y)days' will be upon us (Thanksgiving, Christmas). There will be many different events and worship opportunities to participate in. Why not draw upon the power of the Holy Spirit and "invite" your neighbor, your co-worker, your friend, or your family member to "come to church" with you? Your "invitation" could make an eternal difference in the life of someone you care about.

May God bless us all as we grow in our reliance and understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit.

See you in Church!  
*Pastor Mike*

## **What is a Steward?**

One definition states that a steward is a person who manages the affairs of a household or an estate of an owner. In the Christian sense, a Steward is the manager of the affairs of God on earth. God has made each of us Stewards and has given us abilities and talents that are unique and we should use these abilities and talents to serve God.

Everything we have is given to us by God: Time, health, relationships, talents, property, the Gospel, and the environment. A Christian Steward serves God out of love and gratitude for these gifts, knowing that it's not how much we have but what we do with what God has given us. *"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."* (1Peter 4:10)

**Human life** is the first and greatest gift of all and carries great responsibilities with it. Life itself is a stewardship. As Christians, we know that our lives are sacred trusts. We are the stewards of those lives; God depends on us to use them to accomplish God's purpose. When God gives us life, we don't know how much time we have to use that life. But, whatever time we have is a gift from God, and we must use it wisely in every activity throughout the day. We must budget our time so that we are able to give of our time to fulfill God's plan.

**Stewardship of healthy body and mind.** God gave human beings superior minds-- to be used to the fullest capacity in discovering God's plan and understanding self and others. We were also given bodies in which to accomplish God's work - bodies to be treated with respect (taken care of), not abused (harmed). We present our bodies and we renew our minds as an offering to God.

**Stewardship of talents.** God gives all people potential talents when they are born. Each of us can share in God's plan in his or her own way. The Bible tells us that if we use our talents wisely, we will be better able to use them and will even develop others-- but if we don't use them, we may lose even those talents we do have.

**Stewardship of relationships** are a gift from God and a measure of our stewardship for God. **At home:** Providing Christian education for our children; living and growing together as a family. **At work:** Showing our fellow workers the example of Christian behavior and supportive caring. **In church:** Participating with others in worship, projects, events, etc., forming and nurturing friendships.

**Stewardship of the Gospel.** As Christian stewards, we have been given three ways to experience our partnership: **1)** To receive the Gospel: we experience the Gospel as an act of faith in God. **2)** To share the Gospel: we bring God's message into the world, that all who believe in God will have eternal life. **3)** To reflect the Gospel: we show others by our daily life, how we accept our responsibility as Christians.

**Stewardship of property.** We bring nothing into this world . . . and we take nothing out of it. Everything that we have while we are here comes as a gift from God. In appreciation, we choose to share a portion of these gifts. The stewardship of our property is an ongoing process. We give regularly and systematically in proportion to the gifts which we are given . . . the talents, which earn us our possessions. Because we love God, we gladly dedicate these gifts to God's service, and give a worthy portion to the care of people in need.

**Stewardship of money.** Giving money to the church is a symbolic act and a spiritual discipline . . . the offering of ourselves in service and devotion to God as well as an obedient and willful trust in God's provisions. Giving is a practical matter too, because the offering makes it possible for the church to pay its bills and carry out its mission and ministries in Christ's name to further his kingdom.

**Our whole life is a partnership with God. Each of us can live as God's Steward.**

*"From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required."*

*Luke 12:48*

See you in Church!

*Pastor Mike*

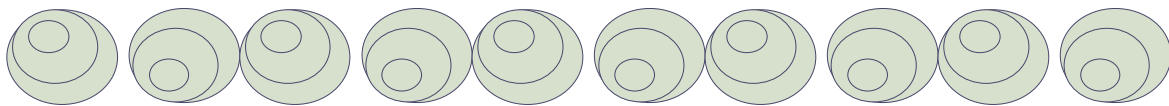
## Stewardship 2011

Beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in October and continuing the following 4 Sundays . . .  
(5 Sundays in October) . . .

Each ministry board is encouraged to work on a 5 minute temple talk to highlight their ministry board, and appoint a spokesperson to share with the congregation after the announcements i.e., . . . what their ministry team was able to accomplish this last year, what were the highlights, etc. and what their dreams and visions are for the coming year . . .

2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday -	Oct. 9 <sup>th</sup> . . .	Worship . . . .	(Theme – Celebrate)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday -	Oct. 16 <sup>th</sup> . . .	Growth . . . .	(Theme – Proclaim)
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday -	Oct. 23 <sup>rd</sup> . . .	Service . . . .	(Theme – Reach)
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday -	Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup> . . .	Admin./Finance . . . .	(Theme – Stewardship)

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - November 6<sup>th</sup> – Stewardship Sunday**



### *Woodside Village Church New Member Classes*

*Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> & October 16<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00 a.m.*

Anyone interested in considering becoming a member of the Woodside Village Church family is invited to meet briefly with Pastor Mike after Worship on **Sunday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>** to receive a *self study information packet* to be followed up by a review and discussion session after Worship on **Sunday, Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>**. For your convenience, an alternative meeting for those who cannot make the Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will be scheduled for Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Those interested in joining, will be received into membership on **Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>** during the Worship service.

# Back to Church Sunday

**A HUGE thank you to everyone that made BTCS a real success . . .**

- the **office staff** who prepared the invitations and the worship bulletins
- **Bob Mullen and crew** who refinished our benches and trimmed and tidied the gardens
- **Maynard Nonnemacher** who fixed the broken gate by the chapel
- **David and the rummagers** who hid all the "treasures"
- **Ed** who drained and cleaned the baptismal pool
- the **set up crew**
- **Barb Tagg** and her leaf blower
- the greeters from the **Worship Board**
- the worship, the music & the **choir**
- **Pastor Mike** and his BTCS sermon
- **Jerry Straks** our "Sound Technician"
- the **Sunday School teachers**
- the **BBQ, nachos, lemonade & cookie crews**
- the games that the **teens** took charge of!
- the **face painting and tattoo crew**
- the **FREE raffle & prize table crew**
- Photographer **Erika Crowley**
- the **cleanup crew** . . . and last but not least . . .
- All of **YOU** who came and mingled and made our visitors feel welcome

We don't know about you, but we had fun working with such a great group of people. Though our crowd was not big, that we know of, 7 or 8 of the visitors came because they received the invitation in the mail; others were there because they received an invitation from a friend, a family member, or from a neighbor . . . We had about 90 people in worship. Pretty good for a non-holiday service!

Again, thanks for all your help, we could not have done it without each and every one of you.

Growth Ministry Team,  
*Karlene Harvey, Nancy Riewerts, Sue Brock, Carolyn VanCise, & Spencer Riewerts*



**Check out our website for photos that were taken by Erika Crowley of**

**Back to Church Sunday**

**[www.wvchurch.org](http://www.wvchurch.org)**

## MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 7 P.M.  
DINNER STARTS AT 6:30 P.M.

*Our feature film (postponed from last month):*



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*Football coach Harold Jones, befriends Radio, a mentally challenged man who becomes a student at T.L. Hanna High School in Anderson, South Carolina. Their friendship extends over several decades, as Radio transforms from a shy, tormented man into an inspiration to his community.*

*Starring Ed Harris and Cuba Gooding Jr.*

Thank you to all who donated to our appeal for money  
to cover our theft of electronic equipment.

We received \$2210 in donations!!



Dear Woodside Village Church Family,

Thank you so much for the surprise celebration, acknowledging the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of my Ordination. Not only was it a surprise, but it was very heartfelt, with the special music from my ordination service, a plaque memorializing the anniversary, the chocolate cake!, and the pictures. Most especially meaningful to me were the many cards expressing your kind sentiments. I usually say that I don't like surprises, but this surprise was particularly delightful!

I am enjoying our ministering together at Woodside Village Church, reaching out and spreading the good news of God's love to our community.

See you in Church!

*Pastor Mike*



DJ (our church cat) was taken to Sequoia Veterinary Hospital by our local librarian, Alison. He was diagnosed with cancer of the abdomen and has approximately six months to live, with or without treatment. His vet bill was paid for by members of our congregation and he is *really enjoying* the canned cat food that Sandie has donated.

## Serving Our Lord

Date	Deacons
October 2	Chet Yee, Mary Soubirous, Ross Soubirous
October 9	Chet Yee, Mark Dickey, + 1 volunteer
October 16	Chet Yee, Jack Riewerts, Nancy Riewerts
October 23	Chet Yee, Mary Soubirous, Ross Soubirous
October 30	Chet Yee, Mark Dickey, + 1 volunteer
	Readers
October 2	Carolyn Van Cise
October 9	David Bean
October 16	Ravi Thomas
October 23	Eric Pedersen
October 30	Paul Hackworth
	Greeters
October 2	Carolyn Van Cise + Glen Hise
October 9	David Bean + Vic Frederick
October 16	Ravi + Julie Thomas
October 23	Ashley + Eric Pedersen + Jennifer Lindberg
October 30	Jodi + Paul Hackworth
	Sunday Breakfast
October 2	Carolyn Van Cise
	Communion Assistants
October 2	Ellen Schillig + Karlene Harvey
October 9	Carolyn Van Cise + Barry Willbanks
October 16	Karlene Harvey + Cindy Murphy
October 23	Jennifer Lindberg + Carolyn Van Cise
October 30	Karlene Harvey
	Coffee Hour Volunteers - Diane Griffiths overseeing
October 2	Sharon Aissa
October 9	Diane Griffin
October 16	Worship Board (Jennifer Lindberg)
October 23	Worship Board
October 30	Phyllis Brock + Gaye DeBenedetti