

THE ECHO

THE COVENANT



When you think of this time of year there are usually three dates that stand out. We start with **Oct.31**--the event that focuses more on death or evil than anything else. Next comes THANKSGIVING when we focus on what the word offers--Giving THANKS. Then comes **December 25**, CHRISTMAS or Christ's birthday celebration.

By the time you get this, **Oct.31** will most likely be gone. Next on the calendar is THANKSGIVING. I want us to review a quick *historical* application. Even though we Americans focus on this day as a reminder of the founding of our nation, I want to suggest there is more to it than that. I was reminded of this in an article I read by Chuck Colson who also quoted Barbara Rainey. I want to borrow thoughts from both of them to remind us of our great heritage, both as Christians and Americans.

Barbara reminds us of that time in history when the Mayflower landed in America. It landed about **60 miles north** of its intended destination. This might *nullify* the charter they had that was effective only at the original landing site. The bond servants on board believed they were no longer obligated to fulfill

Faith..... [we] solemnly...in the presence of God and of one another, Covenant." Of course it goes on, but I want us to focus on the last word--COVENANT!

These pilgrims had a good understanding of what that word **meant**. Feeling their purposes were God led, they wanted to--FOLLOW GOD. God had created COVENANTS between himself and His people in both old and new testaments. He still chooses to **covenant** with all who follow Him through a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

It was Gods COVENANT that led these people to establish a lifestyle that would exemplify Gods standards with all those they lived with **or** would contact in the near future. Because they placed such trust in this COVENANT, maybe we should refresh our memories on exactly what COVENANT means.

In Genesis 6:18 God says: "But with thee will I establish my **covenant**; and thou shall come into the ark, thou, and thy sons , and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee." In the Hebrew language the word is *ber-eeth'*--a Compact--because it was made by

Eisenhower Road Baptist Church

Special points of interest:

- > Bulletin Bloopers! What was Really Meant to be Said ...
- > Reaching out to the Families who came to the ERBC Fall Festival
- > Fresh Encounter Conference- God's Pattern for Spiritual Awakening
- > Enjoy Breakfast, Worship and Prayer at the Ladies Prayer Breakfast
- > Inviting all Veterans to the ERBS Veterans Day Program
- > Sharing our Blessings at the ERBC Thanksgiving Dinner

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The bond servants on board believed they were no longer obligated to fulfill their work agreement. Something had to be done to restore unity. The leaders met and worked on a document ... I am sure you remember ... it was entitled the Mayflower Compact. Listen to some of the clauses it contained.

"Having undertaken for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian

language the word is *ber-eeth'*--a Compact—because it was made by passing between *pieces* of flesh. It was the establishment of a confederacy, a **covenant**.

To establish a "**covenant**" means something or someone dies to set the stage for its completion. Christ laid His life down on the cross so God was able to establish a **covenant** with us! Such

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The Covenant

(Continued)

a day should be a day of THANKSGIVING for everyone who has accepted Christ as that sacrifice for their sins. As we enter into November will you make it a time of THANKSGIVING for the COVENANT God has made between us and HIM? Will you endeavor to keep that COVENANT between you and the Lord at the forefront of your actions now and in the future as well? If you and I will make such a commitment, it will truly be a time of THANKSGIVING for everyone.

Oh Happy Day,
Bro. Larry



Bulletin Bloopers

~The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.

~The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

~Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

~Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

~Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

~A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

Education Ministry

By Sandra Cisneros

Sunday School Attendance

Our first High Attendance Day observed last month was great, 156 in total. One of the biggest challenges we face in Sunday School Ministry is to maintain this momentum each week. This does not come easy. How can each class work toward growth in Sunday School?

- ~ Contact class members and absentees
- ~ Enroll prospects
- ~ Create an atmosphere of love and concern
- ~ Contact prospects through a personal visit
- ~ Establish new relationships.

I commend you for scheduling class fellowships for your Sunday School Class.

I want to encourage you not to rush in doing your Sunday School attendance. We want to make sure that when you bring your attendance folders to the Sunday School secretarial desk, the forms or reports turned in are completed and accurate. If folders arrive to the Sunday School secretarial desk by 10:00 a.m. we will have plenty of time to gather the numbers. This will also provide at least 30 minutes of Bible study time to those that assist in the money counting.

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In Touch Ministry

By Sandra Cisneros

The Family Fall Festival registration booth, and the Picture Booth will provide us with opportunities to visit the homes of those that came to the Festival. During our *In Touch Ministry* on Wednesday nights, we will be making visits with those families to bring them their pictures taken at the Fall Festival and to make ourselves available to them. Join us for this In Touch opportunity on **Wednesday's at 6:30 p.m.**



**Church Office Closed
for Thanksgiving
November 26 and 27**

Prime Timers

**Join us for our
November Thanksgiving
Dinner Social
Friday, November 20
6:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall**

Bring a side dish or dessert to go with the turkey and dressing. Also, please

ning in the church hall. Music will follow.
~Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.
~This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
~The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

assist in the money counting.

Our Sunday School attendance is picking up! This is exciting. I truly believe that as we continue praying, seeking God's guidance for this work, God will give the increase.



Bring a side dish or dessert to go with the turkey and dressing. Also, please bring non-perishable food items for the Agape Ministry.

The Lord's Supper **First Sunday of Every Month**

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26





Fresh Encounter Conference God's Pattern For Spiritual Awakening



Friday, November 6, 2009 & Saturday, November 7, 2009

First Baptist Church of San Antonio

Dear Pastor,

I want to encourage you (and your congregation) to prayerfully consider attending the "Fresh Encounter Weekend" with Henry, Richard and Marilyn Blackaby.

All churches need to increase the spiritual depth and vitality of their congregations. For the past two decades Henry Blackaby has influenced us and helped bring renewal to individual Christians and entire churches through his books and conferences. I have been greatly helped by his teachings and writings. This may be the most strategic time in our history to have him with us, for we may never be able to secure his presence again. Prayerfully consider attending and bring your deacons and Sunday School teachers with you.

Dr. Charles Price (San Antonio Baptist Association)

Friday, November 6 (7:00 pm to 9:30 pm) Sessions 1 and 2

Saturday, November 7 (8:00 to 3:30 pm) Sessions 3, 4, 5 and 6

A catered lunch will be provided for \$5.00.

For Reservations contact Patricia Ward: 210.525.9954 or patrciaw@sanantoniobaptist.org



Missions Ministry

By Sandra Cisneros

MISSION ACTION OPPORTUNITIES

Operation Christmas Child

Shoe boxes packed and ready need to be brought to the Church office by November 1. What an awesome opportunity we have to bring a smile to a child somewhere in the world.



SHARING OUR BLESSINGS

ERBC Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 22 at 6:00 pm



Plan on joining your church family in celebrating God's blessings with one another at our annual Thanksgiving dinner. **Note that it will be on Sunday night this year instead of Tuesday night.** Plan on bringing a side dish, bread, dessert or other food items to complement turkey, which the church will provide. There will be no evening service that night.

Children's Hunger Fund

Ladies, now that ERBC is connected with the Children's Hunger Fund, I want to encourage you to come with me to an *Open House* they will have on Saturday, November 7 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Please join me in the parking lot at 9:30 so we can go together as a group. Afterwards, we will go and have Soup & Salad at Olive Garden.

ment turkey, which the church will provide. There will be no evening service that night.

In Touch ministry will be contacting individuals and families that have visited our church this past year to invite them to join us. Also, please invite your family members as this is a "family" celebration with the body of Christ.

Boxes will be set up to collect canned goods in support of The Agape Ministry.

Music Ministry

Christmas Musical

Saturday Night
Dec. 12 - 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning
Dec. 13 - 10:45 a.m.



Children's Ministry

The King's Kids
By Ruth Cobb



PreK—6th Grade
Saturday, November 14
10: a.m. to 12:00 noon

Theme: Prayer

Activities: Bible story, music, crafts,
games and refreshments

RA'S / Royal Ambassadors
By Jim McDonald

For 1st—6th Grade Boys
Wednesday nights 6:30 to 7:30

Youth Ministry

"MGM"

Movie Game Madness
Friday, November 13
6:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.
Upstairs Fellowship Hall



Women's Ministry

Ladies Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, November 21
Time: 9:30 A.M.
Place: ERBC, Fellowship Hall
Breakfast, Worship, and Prayer

Friendships of Women

Every Tuesday Mornings
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: ERBC, Fellowship Hall
Bible Study and Prayer

School & Day Care

By June Richards

Discipleship Ministry

By Sandra Cisneros



For the third year we are again having a Veterans Day program here at ERBS. One of our teachers who served in "Desert Storm" in the U.S. Army will be the speaker this year. I am excited for you to know some of our great teachers. We are working on having a color guard to post the "Colors". We hope to have many veterans in attendance so we can thank you for your great service. The Veterans Day service will begin at 9:30 on November 11 at our regular chapel time.

Some of our short term Discipleship Bible study classes are about to conclude. It would be wonderful to hear brief testimonies about what you learned and the kind of impact the Lord brought to your personal life. If you have a brief testimony to share, call the office so that we can schedule you a few minutes for you to share your story. This will provide us an opportunity to celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit as well as to encourage others to join the future discipleship Bible studies. Six discipleship Bible Studies are now being offered for you to attend. Each session is at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

We are still in need of a DVD Player and a Radio/CD Player for the daycare. We play children's lullaby's while they are going to sleep. We use the DVDs while teachers are preparing lunches and snacks. If you have one of these that you are not using we would love to take it off your hands.

Veterans Day Program

9:30 a.m.—Church Sanctuary
In Honor of Our Veterans—Please Join Us



ship Bible Studies are now being offered for you to attend on Sunday nights at 6:00 p.m. We have three discipleship studies for adults, one for youth, one for children in first through sixth grades, and a New Believer / New Member Orientation class. Our discipleship team is praying and preparing to facilitate these wonderful studies which God will use to bring spiritual impact to our lives.

Call Sandra Cisneros if you would like to share your testimony about what God has done in your life as a result of the Discipleship Bible study classes.

Church of the Open Door (New Testament House Churches)

By Gene Loflin



Ongoing praises to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for His continued blessings on the ministry of the New Testament House Churches. Two of the three are totally independent meaning they have a godly group leader and are self-sufficient. I still continue my role as a shepherd for these Churches of the Open Door, but more of my time can be allotted to starting new house churches. For example, in October, I led a family of four to Christ and they will be starting their own house church. My role will be to facilitate their services until a leader has been disciplined and is ready to lead that church, which usually takes around 90 days. All three churches are averaging about 30 in attendance. There were ten professions of faith in October.

One of the questions I get about starting a house church is how that impacts a person's participation in a local church in their community. The idea of house churches is to invite people who are not attending any church to get involved with believers in their neighborhood to present the gospel and to get them plugged into discipleship training. So, yes you can continue to worship with your local church body while making your home available to people in your community who need to hear about the Lord. The house churches meet on a week day evening, not on Sunday morning. One of our house church leaders, Jennifer Franklin, stepped out in faith and contacted people in her sphere of influence to invite them to her house church. God sent four new people, just as a result of her trusting in God. If the Holy Spirit is speaking to your heart about starting a house church, please contact the church office at 655-4643 to get more information. Step out in faith believing that God will use you to reach the lost in your neighborhood!



Faith Ministry

By Elbert Davis



The Faith Teams would like to invite you to be a part of an EXCITING ministry to win lost people to Jesus. Speaking from experience, I know you'll be blessed. Trained leaders are available now to form more teams. Let me explain how the program works.

Teams are formed of three people: two men, and one woman OR one man, and two women.

- ◆ One leader who does an introduction, presents the community survey and the plan of salvation if appropriate.
- ◆ One record keeper who records survey answers and other appropriate information.
- ◆ One supporter who helps with small children or pets and prays silently while the survey or plan of salvation is being presented.

Team visits are made for approximately one hour and fifteen minutes on one night per week. Some teams also visit during the day. Normally, multiple professions of faith are made each night the teams visit. **OUR GOAL IS TO VISIT 1,200 HOMES OR MORE IN THE NEXT YEAR AND SEE MANY COME TO KNOW JESUS!**

Some of the results of the Faith Teams visits in the first couple of weeks in October include:

Some of the results of the Faith Teams visits in the first couple of weeks in October include:

- ◆ Seven professions of faith;
- ◆ Several residents requesting re-visits;
- ◆ The discovery of other Christians in the community.

GOD IS WORKING!

If you are interested in joining a team, please contact one of the following:

- ◆ Church Office at 655-4643
- ◆ Rose or Elbert Davis at 654-8495
- ◆ Gene Loflin at (912) 441-2986
- ◆ Ruth Cobb at 656-2672
- ◆ Jeanie Loomis at jlloomi@grandecom.net

Eisenhower Road
Baptist Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Dan Gulley	Nov 1 - Nov 7
Richard Hard	Nov 8 - Nov 14
Dan McDonald	Nov 15 - Nov 21
Lonnie Reece	Nov 22 - Nov 28
Lanny Smith	Nov 29 - Dec 5

Announcements

Justin Graves Band

Sunday, November 8
Morning Worship Service



Sunday Worship Flowers

The 2010 calendar is open for

October Attendance and Offerings

Sundays	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>25</u>
Bible Study Attendance				
Enrollment	292	293	297	300
Members Present	91	90	101	103
New Members	1	4	3	0
Guests	9	3	5	14
TOTAL PRESENT	101	97	109	117
Worship Attendance	129	148	138	162
Budget	\$9,444	\$9,444	\$9,444	\$9,444
Receipts	\$11,171	\$4,369	\$5,973	\$8,533

Mid-Week Attendance	<u>Oct 1-3</u>	<u>Oct 4-10</u>	<u>Oct 11-17</u>	<u>Oct 18-24</u>	<u>Oct 25-31</u>
House Churches		19	19	16	
Friendships of Women		3	8	0	3

The 2010 calendar is open for reserving a Sunday to have altar flowers given in honor of a loved one or special occasion. Contact the church office to

Happy 50th Anniversary, ERBC!

The deadline for submitting ideas, pictures, anecdotal stories, general information and addresses of former members is **December 1, 2009**. These can be submitted to Diana Hard at 657-6332 or Diana_Hard@hotmail.com.



Happy Thanksgiving!

*Let us come before him
with Thanksgiving
And extol him with music
and song.*

Psalm 95:2

**Health Yes!
Preventive Screening**

Wed., November 18
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Special Discount to
ERBC Church Members
Call 1-888-802-3105 to
schedule an appointment