



# The Newsletter

December 2011

## Special points of interest:

- Prison Fellowship Ministries
- Project Angel Gift Tree
- Christmas Services and events

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## Prison Fellowship Ministries

**Prison Fellowship Ministries** is a world-wide ministry with several local churches involved. Our church is one of seven working together for the ministry of the Gospel of Christ.

**Why do this ministry? Jesus said,** "I was naked and you gave me clothing. I was sick and you cared for me. I was in prison and you visited me. When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you? And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to

me!"

Matthew 25:36,39-40

### Schedule for the Incarcerated

\* Sunday morning worship for both men and women. 8 AM - 9 AM (Our church heads up the 2nd Sunday of each month).

\* Monday night Bible Study/Worship for Protective Custody inmates 7 - 8:30 PM

\* Monday night one-on-one for men 8 - 9 PM.

\* Wednesday night Bible Study for ladies 6 - 8 PM (Our church leads the 3rd Wed of each month).

\* Third Monday of



each month 7 PM Men's Prayer.

- Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study 10 AM - 11 AM
- 

**How Do I Get Involved?  
See Tom Tena  
301.475.9520  
or Dale Hammett  
301.475.5122**

## Ministry Appreciation - Prison Fellowship Ministry

Life Community recognizes the dedicated men and women working in Prison Fellowship Ministry. Their unwavering commitment toward

our incarcerated is a beautiful testimony of God's love working today. We salute all those working with Prison Fellowship Ministry, but want to mention those who

attend Life Community Church of God.

Tom & Rose Marie Tena, and Dale Hammett are charter members of the St.

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## Ministry Appreciation - Prison Fellowship Ministry (continued)

Mary's County Prison Fellowship Ministry. The following people also minister on a regular basis with the Prison Fellowship Ministry: Pat Smith, John Ince, Richard Bakaye, and Jeffrey & Erica Barnes.

Please give these ministers a "pat on the back" and words of encouragement to continue in the race.

You can see the latest news and testimonies from Prison Fellowship Ministry at [www.pfm.org](http://www.pfm.org)!

### Pastor's Corner

*"But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy." Luke 1:43-44*

We tend to forget the circumstances and the environment surrounding the people we read about in the Bible. Times were hard for Mary and Elizabeth. In their time Roman occupation and hard work were constantly on their mind and added to that was the difficult process of having a baby. Yet, in the midst of these struggles, the coming of the Messiah and the knowledge that they were being used by God to bring salvation to the world was cause for great joy!

Inside of each of us is a gift ready to be born. Each of us has the Messiah living in our hearts and His message of salvation waits inside of us for the opportunity to enter the world around us.

Christmas is a celebration of the coming of Christ. This Christmas, let it also be a time of sharing Christ with those who need Him most? The lost, the lonely, the needy, the homeless, the prisoner and those who are in our hospitals. Let each of us experience the gift God has placed in us, leaping for joy at the coming of the Lord in spite of any negative circumstances that surround us.

Amber and I would like to thank each of you for a wonderful year of service and fellowship and we both want to wish you the Merriest Christmas and the Happiest New Year.

Pastor and Amber Shepard





# You're Invited!

*To an After-Christmas Party!  
Join us for a Potluck dinner -  
December 30th 6:30-8:30 PM*

*Childcare will be provided for children up to  
age 5, children ages 6 and above can join us  
for dinner.*

## Anniversaries & Birthdays



### December Birthdays!

- 4 - Lisa Rhine
- 8 - Thomas Goodwine
- 8 - Charlie Hugg
- 8 - Jor-El Sanchez
- 9 - Brian Baden

- 11 - Connie Yiengst
- 12 - Erica Barnes
- 15 - Staci Wolfe
- 17 - Nancy Fernandez
- 17 - Diana Stone
- 18 - Ciera Taylor
- 20 - Dia'mond Rhodes
- 24 - Madisyn Diggs
- 26 - Jaimlynn Rhine
- 26 - Melissa Shepard
- 26 - Robert Wong



### Corrections/Opt In/Opt Out

to:newsletter@lccog.com

*Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? Do we have your information wrong? Do you want to receive a copy of this newsletter in your email inbox?*

*Please let us know!!*

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed in the newsletter and you would like it to be, please fill out a Database Information Sheet. The information sheets are located in the Church foyer or you can send your information

**Opt In** - If you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail, please send a request to newsletter@lccog.com.

Or send a note to the church office at: P. O. Box 670 California, MD 20619 to receive a copy by mail.

**Opt Out** - If you have received this newsletter by mistake and would like to be removed, please send an e-mail or card to the addresses listed above.

**ARE WE MISSING YOUR INFORMATION?**



**PLEASE LET US KNOW!!**

Wrapping Arms 'Round Many  
**WARM**

WARM is a sheltering program of the faith community that operates in our county. Its purpose is to provide a warm, dry and safe place for men, women and children to sleep during the cold weather months of November through March.

Life Community Church of God is thrilled to be a host church this season! We will be hosting WARM the first week of December 2011 (from Sunday evening December 4th through Sunday morning, December 11th).



## December 18th @ 11 AM Don't Miss: Operation Baby King A Children's Church Production

Join angel agent Double O-Heaven and a host of helpers in this delightful telling of the Christmas story. Discover what happens when several spies try to claim the newborn, Jesus for their own countries. Double O-Heaven and his angel agents must show them that Jesus is for everyone.

### Angel Gift Tree

Angel Tree, a ministry of Prison Fellowship, seeks the reconciliation of prisoners' families to God and to one another through the power and truth of Jesus Christ. It begins with a Christmas gift and the Gospel.

Each year, LCCOG participates with other churches in our area to buy a toy and a gift of clothing for local children who have a parent in St. Mary's County Correctional Facility.

It may seem like a small act of charity to give a prisoner's child a gift at Christmas. It is not! Such seemingly small acts of kindness are often a powerful channel of God's love. Any time we as a church show mercy to a child, we show mercy to their parents. That is true whether they live next door or in jail. No act of service is too small when you show the love of Jesus Christ through Angel Tree!

Angel Tree will be available on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Each number on the tree represents a child and age with a recommendation for gifts provided by their guardian. All names are kept confidential. Gifts should be returned on December 18<sup>th</sup> for distribution that week. Due to the children's play, please return gifts to the children's church room.

If you would like to support this Ministry by adopting a child, distributing gifts, or know of others in need that this ministry can assist, please contact Rita Penn, 240-676-5331, Angel Tree Chair or John Ince at the church office.

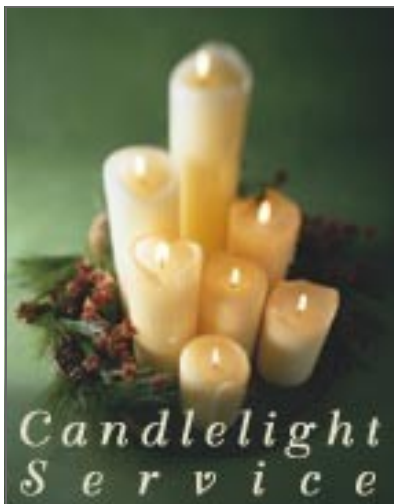
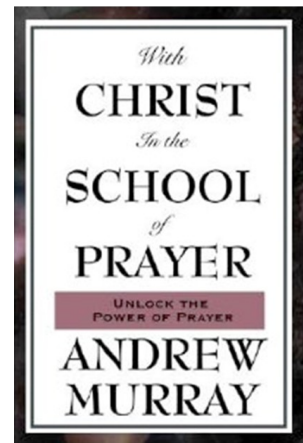


## Book of the Month

In the book "With Christ in the School of Prayer" the concise chapters manage to fill the reader's heart with a hunger for God's presence. Murray's passion for prayer shines through all 31 lessons. He truly takes you to the school of prayer and leads you before the throne of Almighty God. 'If ye abide in me, ask whatsoever ye will, and it shall be done unto you.'

Power with God is the highest attainment of the life of full abiding. Andrew Murray describes the role of the Holy Spirit within the church and exhorts Christians to use the blessings God has given us. It is a guide to living a life as a temple of the Holy Spirit and will fill your heart with a hunger for God's presence through 31 powerful lessons on prayer. "Lord, teach us to

pray" (Luke 11:1). Drawing on Scripture, he begins each day by showing how Biblical principles apply to Christian prayer; teaching the importance of the Holy Spirit in prayer, the value of faith, forgiveness, and perseverance. Each lesson ends with Andrew Murray sharing a personal prayer.



*Join us for a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at  
7:00 PM on Saturday, December 24th.*

*On Christmas Sunday, December 25th there will be one  
service only at 11:00 AM.*

*Merry Christmas!*



## Important Dates!

December 4  
Receiving New  
Members

December 18  
Children's Christmas  
Play during 11 AM  
service.

December 25  
Christmas Morning  
Service (one service  
only) 11 AM

December 4—11  
WARM Nights

December 24  
Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service  
@ 7 PM

December 30  
After Christmas  
Potluck Party 6:30-  
8:30 PM

Wrapping Arms 'Round Mary  
**WARM**

## Weekly Happenings

### Sunday Schedule:

Worship: 8:30 A.M.  
Sunday School: 10:00 A.M.  
Worship Service at

Esperanza Campus: 10:00 A.M.  
Worship & Children's  
Church: 11:00 A.M.

A.W.A.N.A.: 4:30 P.M.  
(Kids Bible Club)

### Monday:

Individual Prayer: 6:30 P.M.  
Corporate Prayer: 7:00 P.M.  
LCCOG 101: 7:00 P.M.

### Tuesday:

Praise & Worship  
Practice 7:00 P.M.

### Wednesday:

Ladies Bible  
Study: 9:30 A.M.  
Adult Bible  
Study: 7:00 P.M.  
Bible Trek Kids  
Bible Study: 7:00 P.M.

### Thursday:

EPIC (Youth): 6:00 P.M.  
Praise & Worship  
Practice 7:00 P.M.

### Friday:

College and Career  
Group 7:00 P.M.  
Men's Ministry  
Fellowship: 7:00 P.M.  
(Every 2nd & 4th Friday  
At the Mission)

**Life Community Church of God—Serving God by Serving Others**



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