

# HERALD OF ALCC



## Kathie's Korner - Shades of Gray

By God's grace, Abundant Life is here  
to bring people to wholeness through God's grace.

I find myself unable to stay on one side of the fence or the other sometimes. Its not that I waffle on the BIG issues, I simply find myself agreeing with points on both sides. When a commentator on one side of an issue discusses his revulsion for "snitches," I share his revulsion. Even when I find this weakness in myself, I abhor it. I detest the hypocrisy required to be a "good" tale carrier.

I hate lying, in an equal amount. When I am looked in the eye and told what I know to be a falsehood, my stomach turns. I clearly remember many of the lies I have been passed and who told them. I think that I remember every lie I've ever uttered, and each of them is a violation of who I wish to be. I remember even MORE CLEARLY the pain having to confess my sin to the person I had wronged – but that's another story, altogether.

I flop between appreciating the media for keeping us informed and hating it for

carrying only partial truths - or what I have been told are partial truths. And then, echoing Pilate's cry as he stood in judgment of Christ, I say, "What is TRUTH?" I want a black and white world, but this one is covered with shades of gray.

Some people are able to look at one side or the other and see only white. I find myself seeing both sides of most issues painted with the brush of "humanity - gray." When I begin to think one side is more "white" than the other, it isn't long before the impure motives or the deception of the issue is exposed. And once again the world is gray.

My faith is the one place where I can find a refuge from the storms of uncertainty that plague me. There, there are some absolutes, some clearly black and white issues. Along with the Psalmist, David, I say,

*"One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty*

*of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.*

*For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock."*

Because my life is set upon "dwelling in the house of the LORD," there are clear directives for me to follow. I don't have to question the rightness or wrongness of integrity in each situation. Truth and wholeness is ALWAYS the right choice. I don't have to question whether my actions are correct when I have followed God's principles. They ARE.

Surrounded by shades of gray, do you wonder that I love to "dwell in the house of the Lord?"

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

Psalm 100:4

## This 'N' That - Lois Goodwill - Introducing Cheri Barber



Abundant Life received a large bonus when we were blessed with Gabe Barber as our Associate Pastor. Not only his wife, Cheri, but three beautiful children, as well: Andrew, 5, Keira, 3, and Kai, 1.

Cheri was born in Bakersfield, where her dad has a hearing aid company. Cheri's interest was in science, so Cal Poly seemed a good decision to make when it was time to choose a college. She was preparing for a future career in Bio Chemistry.

The first week at Cal Poly was the first step toward events that eventually made some interesting changes in her plans. All the new students were invited by the Inter Varsity Club, to a Welcome Party featuring an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social. Inter Varsity is a Christian Group that works on college campuses to introduce students to Christ and help them grow in the Christian faith. Cheri prided herself in her interest in science and was not a Christian, but she loved ice cream and had

her eye on a couple of cute guys. She had met one of them who lived downstairs. His name was Gabe Barber, and he planned to go, as well. Small groups were formed, their group being those in their dorm. When they announced they would be starting a Bible study, she decided to go. After all, it was only right as she had consumed two bowls of their ice cream. Gabe already planned to go. The Bible study was a new experience for Cheri.

She enjoyed all those in the group and realized most of them were Christians, but her hang up was "How could she believe in someone or something she couldn't see?" She and Gabe were just friends but she knew his beliefs were very much a part of him. He gave her a book for Christmas called "More than a Carpenter" by Josh McDowell. Cheri was not a big reader, at the time, but she read one paragraph that changed her whole mind set. Josh Mc Dowell wrote of striking up a conversation with his seat mate. When the man next to him was confronted with the claims of Christ the man asked: "How can I believe in someone I can't see?" Josh then asked the seat mate if he believed that George Washington was the President of the United States. The man replied, "Of course." Josh asked, "How do you know, have you seen him?" Cheri realized she had always believed in George Washington and the history books telling about him, and yet she

was not believing the Bible and the truth about Jesus. So, Cheri gave her life and heart to Jesus.

She received a letter from Gabe during Christmas break, and then a second one. She read them over and over. Something was happening to her. When she went back to school and saw Gabe, she flew into his arms. A big change from before, and a nice surprise for Gabe. The two students dated for two years and were engaged for a year before they married.

During this time, she knew God's tug on her heart to be a pastor's wife, and Gabe knew his desire was to be a pastor. He graduated from Talbot Seminary. Cheri became a chemist and worked as a Pharmaceutical Sales Representative, until their family started arriving.

One of their interesting experiences was Gabe's ministry at the Taiwanese Church where there were three languages spoken. Gabe preached to those who spoke English, while others ministered to the Taiwanese and Mandarin population.

We extend a great big welcome to the Barber family. Their address is close by: 243 Cypress Hill, Grass Valley. Their telephone number is 278-4982. Also a big welcome to Gabe's parents, Mike and Leila Barber. They are pleased to be able to have their son and family close by and are a big help, as well.

# November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Ladies' Bible Study 10:30 am Family Night 7:00 pm	3	4 Men's Bible Study 7:30 am  Women's Seaside Escape 6:00 pm	5 Harvest Festival 12:00-3:00 pm
6 Worship 8:45 am 10:30 am "Lunch Bunch" 10:30-12:00 12:30-3:00	7	8	9 Ladies' Bible Study 10:30 am Family Night 7:00 pm Tom's lunch 10:00 am	10	11 Men's Bible Study 7:30 am Golden Empire Communion 1:30 pm	12
13 Worship 8:45 am 10:30 am	14	15	16 Ladies' Bible Study 10:30 am Family Night 7:00 pm	17 Tom Coopers's Dinner, Sierra Pres. Church 5:30 pm	18 Men's Bible Study 7:30 am	19
20 Worship 8:45 am 10:30 am	21	22	23 Bible Studies are dismissed	24 Thanksgiving Day	25 Men's Bible Study dismissed	26
27 Worship 8:45 am 10:30 am CIB Build Day 12:00 Hospitality lunches	28	29	30 Ladies' Bible Study 10:30 am Family Night 7:00 pm			

A publication of  
ABUNDANT LIFE

Senior Pastor  
SAMUEL D. FLOYD

Associate Pastor  
GABE BARBER

Our Elders

Samuel Floyd 273-4665  
Dan Watson 273-8165  
Greg Fowler 478-1976  
Chris Bierwagen 477-5992  
Tim Floyd 272-9074  
Gabe Barber 278-4982

Our Deacons

Larry Van Cleave 268-7314  
Vic Giles 268-0457  
Chris Frank 432-3946  
Randy Cassel 432-3396  
Wayne Badding 432-0588

Telephone

530-273-1139

E-mail

abundantlife1139@yahoo.com

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD,  
CALL ON HIS NAME;  
MAKE KNOWN  
AMONG THE NATIONS  
WHAT HE HAS DONE.  
SING TO HIM,  
SING PRAISE TO HIM;  
TELL OF ALL  
HIS WONDERFUL ACTS.  
GLORY IN HIS HOLY NAME;  
LET THE HEARTS OF THOSE  
WHO SEEK THE LORD REJOICE.  
LOOK TO THE LORD  
AND HIS STRENGTH;  
SEEK HIS FACE ALWAYS.

PSALM 105:1-4

**Classes Available on Family Night  
Wednesdays - 7:00 p.m.**

**Adults**

Current Sermon Series Downstairs  
Dan Watson  
Band of Brothers Downstairs  
Chris Bierwagen & Tim Floyd  
Mark Downstairs  
Greg Fowler

**Youth**

(Middle School & High School)  
»crossover» Sanctuary  
Chris Navo & the Youth Team

**Kid's Klub**

Kid's Klub Fellowship Hall  
Kathee Baerresen & Team

*These classes remain open to new members at all times.  
For more specific information, call the church office, 273-1139.*

Look for Abundant Life Community Church  
@ alconline.org & on facebook

Abundant Life Community Church  
10795 Alta Street  
P.O. Box 3237  
Grass Valley, CA 95945