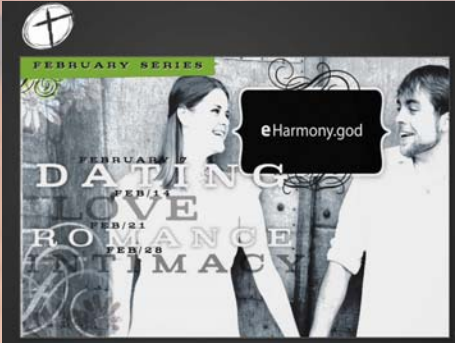




## This Week at Centerpoint, 7 February 2010

There's a lot of excitement around our Fellowship as new aspects of our ministry begin to "take off." Connect groups have begun to meet, [centeringlives.com](http://centeringlives.com) is off and running, Centerpoint Challenge is in its final planning stages, and several exciting worship opportunities are upcoming – but there is still much to be done and we still have more places to serve than we have volunteers to fill them. Where can you serve? *"Everyone who seeks, finds and to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened"*

The past week:

- John delivered the first message in our new series: **eHarmony.god**. This Sunday's sermon concerned dating and, yes, the Bible does have quite a bit of useful instruction that pertains directly to (what used to be called) courtship. We thought a practical demonstration of what *not* to do would be useful for our younger crowd, so we asked a kid called "Chop" to show us his reputedly irresistible "chops" with the ladies. His pickup attempts did *not* impress the lovely young lady who had clearly already internalized the principles that John related in his message.
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- Let's clarify something about worship at CPF: Enthusiasm in the service is quite *welcome*. We encourage laughter, clapping, hands raised in praise, and so on. We *are* starting to hear an "Amen!" or two from the crowd when appropriate, but we don't *quite* have the "when appropriate" part down yet: This week we "Amen-ed" when John said his wife Debbie was a hundred times the woman he dated in college. Understandably, John asked, "How do you know?"
  - Bethany Barr-Phillips and her band again graced us with their superb music and worship leadership. This week John decided not to interrupt them in mid-set. Bethany will be back for (sadly) her final time with us on Feb 21<sup>st</sup>. After that, we'll have to go to Japan (where her husband plays professional baseball) to visit *her*. We can keep up with her on her [website](#), however.
  - Our faithfulness: We had 689 in worship this week and giving totaled \$15,528.96. Thanks and blessings again to all who came and all who gave!

Upcoming and ongoing:

- Youth meet on Wednesdays at [Camp Grandview](#) from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Bring your Bibles and \$3 for pizza.



- Not that we're into "body counts," but 689 was a new record for us – we have almost maxed out the Legend's ability to provide seating and a few people remained standing or sat in the hallway outside the ballroom during Sunday's service. This is an exciting "problem" to have, but we mention it because it affects when we will transition to two services. Easter (April 4th) is still the most logical date as we forecast upcoming events, but earlier is still possible. Just be aware: Two services mean twice – and in some areas, such as childcare and nursery workers, perhaps three times – as many volunteers as we now use. So don't be surprised if you get a phone call or email asking to help – and please be in prayer yourselves concerning where you might be called to serve!
- A reminder: **Our website is up at [centeringlives.com](http://centeringlives.com).** Video and audio versions of John's messages are now available on the site and more features are being added every day.
- Our Valentine's Day sermon will be, appropriately enough, on "romance." Come one and all who belong to the vast hordes of the "romantically challenged!"
- John's message on Feb 21<sup>st</sup> will be "PG-13." It will deal with "intimacy" from a Christian perspective, which is a euphemism for... well, yeah... *that*. We will have children's activities available downstairs at the Legends during the entire service.
- On Feb 28<sup>th</sup> *all* children except those under four will be in the main service because we will not have access to the downstairs rooms at the Legends. Nursery care will be available for children four and under upstairs.
- On March 28<sup>th</sup>, our normal facilities at the Legends will be unavailable, so we will hold our service at the beautiful [Marriot Renaissance Conference Center in downtown Montgomery](#). More details will follow as the date gets closer.
- Mark your calendars: Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup> will be CPF's first-ever Tent Revival! We will have a large tent set up in the field just north of the Legends. There will be lots of singin', preachin', and eatin'. More info to follow.
- A Peru mission trip information meeting for senior high students, their parents, and other interested adults will be held this Sunday at 8:30 am at the Legends.
- Our pastors, John Schmidt and Scott Schumpert, will be formally ordained on Sunday, Feb 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm, at the Legends. Please join us for this important and moving event.
- Our inaugural Centerpoint Challenge 5K / 10K / 1 mile run will be held on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds will go to support the Peru mission trip and other mission activities. We need runners **and sponsors**. For details, click on "Centerpoint Challenge Run" at [centeringlives.com](http://centeringlives.com) (you can download race info and forms, as well as register online), pick up a flyer this Sunday, contact the church at 356-3076, or contact our event organizer, Karen Bernard, at 868-0920 and [karen.barnard.hrv@statefarm.com](mailto:karen.barnard.hrv@statefarm.com).



- If you enjoyed last Sunday's drama, but don't want to let "Chop" get all the glory, come and take part yourself! The CPF "Way Off Broadway" Drama Team needs your talents! We need everyone from actors, through stage hands, to video editors. The team will begin to hold regular meetings; the first will be this coming Tuesday at 6:00 pm at the Church office ([696-C Commerce Court, Prattville](#)). Contact Karen Hunerwadel, 358-8638 or [jklandm@charter.net](mailto:jklandm@charter.net), for details.
- We still need volunteers to help stuff Sunday bulletins every Friday morning at 9:00 am, at the church office. Call Cyndi at 356-3076 (or email her at [cyndi@centeringlives.com](mailto:cyndi@centeringlives.com)) and sign up today!
- Inaugural membership classes will be held March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> from 11:00 to 12:00 at the Legends (that is, after the service, in place of the "going deeper" sessions). Anyone wishing to join Centerpoint Fellowship will need to sign a membership covenant with the church. The membership classes will cover what that covenant entails, including what it means to be a Christian and what our expectations are for our members.
- We now have over 180 in small group worship and new Connect Groups are still forming. Many of those already formed still have space available. Our goal is to get everyone possible connected to a small group in order to go deeper into God's word, to make new friends, to receive encouragement and support, and to serve others in the community. [Go here for a group listing](#), or contact Don Darling, our Connect Group Ministry Team Lead, at 549-5524 or [darlingdesignbuild@yahoo.com](mailto:darlingdesignbuild@yahoo.com). (Please note that some of the information on the group listing has changed and more groups are being formed, so be sure to check the [website](#) frequently **and be sure to contact the leader(s) of the connect group you are interested in for the most up-to-date info.**
- Remember that the Legend's excellent buffet is available for brunch after the service each Sunday. If you would like to enjoy brunch there on Easter Sunday, you might wish to make reservations now.
- Find us in cyberspace at:
  - o [www.facebook.com/CenterpointFellowship](http://www.facebook.com/CenterpointFellowship)
  - o **And on the web at [www.centeringlives.com](http://www.centeringlives.com)** (as well as.org and .net)
- Contact us at 356-3076, or:
  - o [john@centeringlives.com](mailto:john@centeringlives.com)
  - o [scott@centeringlive.com](mailto:scott@centeringlive.com)
  - o [cyndi@centeringlives.com](mailto:cyndi@centeringlives.com)

Our final words of comfort come from David: *"Trust in the Lord and do good... Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. Be still before the Lord and wait patiently on Him."* (Ps. 37:3-7, ESV)