



FBCD's Ignite Youth Groups' Hottest Stories & Updates!

Volume 3 Issue 1

January 2016

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Happy New Year!

By: Andrea Barajas

Hi, everyone! Welcome to 2016! I hope this year will be better for everybody, spiritually and physically. New Years is the time to make resolutions. For most of you, that means having ambitions and goals set in your mind that you would probably forget later such as; losing weight, getting good grades, volunteering at places, spending more time with your family, traveling more often, etc. But sometimes, we lose track of our resolutions and think that they're impossible to accomplish. Instead of all that, why don't we connect ourselves more with God? In the end, He's all that matters. As it says in

James 4:13-17....

"Come now, you who say 'Today or tomorrow we will go into this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.' Why,

you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.' As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them."

Basically, the writer of James is explaining how humans' New year's resolutions are about pointless things that we expect but can't say for sure. Let's say, for example, you say you can't wait to go hiking in a week. You make all these plans on what to do and how to do it but you forget something very important. God. You can't do anything without God. He's in control, and only He knows your future. So, my brothers and sisters, it's up to YOU this year to get closer to God. Will you take the initiative?

Love always,

Andrea Barajas.



Living Intentionally

Jackson Fong—Student Ministries Pastor

Hey All!

I pray that you are well, that your Christmas was blessed and that 2016 has started well for you.

This year I feel that God is calling us to be more intentional. Our Sunday morning series has been about kicking off the new year and we are going through a portion of the book of Joshua (namely, chapters 5 and 6). Wednesdays we have been going through a series about Intentional Living. So often we miss some of the basics because it's not something we plan. In preparing for this new year, I wanted to share with you some of what we are planning intentionally.

Offer more opportunities for students to dig deeper into scripture as well as to be more practical.

Have better communication with students, parents, and leaders

Regular and specific opportunities to serve/give/think beyond self

Provide an abundance of opportunities for students to intentionally be exposed to large multi church discipleship experiences

Provide an abundance of opportunities for adult and student leaders (And Parents) to grow

Encouraging more family interaction

This month we are focusing on ways to *kick off the New Year* and ways to *live intentionally*. In life, most things don't happen by accident. We usually don't accidentally eat or accidentally do our homework or accidentally do our chores. We CHOOSE to do them. (Even if we may not want to.)

We have been and will be looking out our goals this year, specifically our goals regarding our relationship with God and others. We'll be looking at what our goals are, making them manageable, gaining vision, getting help and following through.

Our Alpha course Thursday nights with Rodger (730 pm in the Fellowship Hall), our Girl's Walk through the Bible with Katie, Discipleship Tool Kit Groups and Girl's Small groups are all groups you have a chance to be a part of to help you in your pursuit of God.

God says in Jeremiah 29:13, " You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all of your heart."

In addition to these small groups, Sunday school (Entrench), midweek fellowship (Ignite), special events (Turn Your Campus, Planet Wisdom, Summer Camp), there are also opportunities to serve (Beacon Light Mission, Jill's House and Rainbow Acres). There are great numbers of ways to live intentionally this year. We will also be making leadership selections at the end of this month.

You can choose the direction of this upcoming year. Choose wisely.

If you have any questions about any of this or just in general, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Excited for this New Year,

Jackson

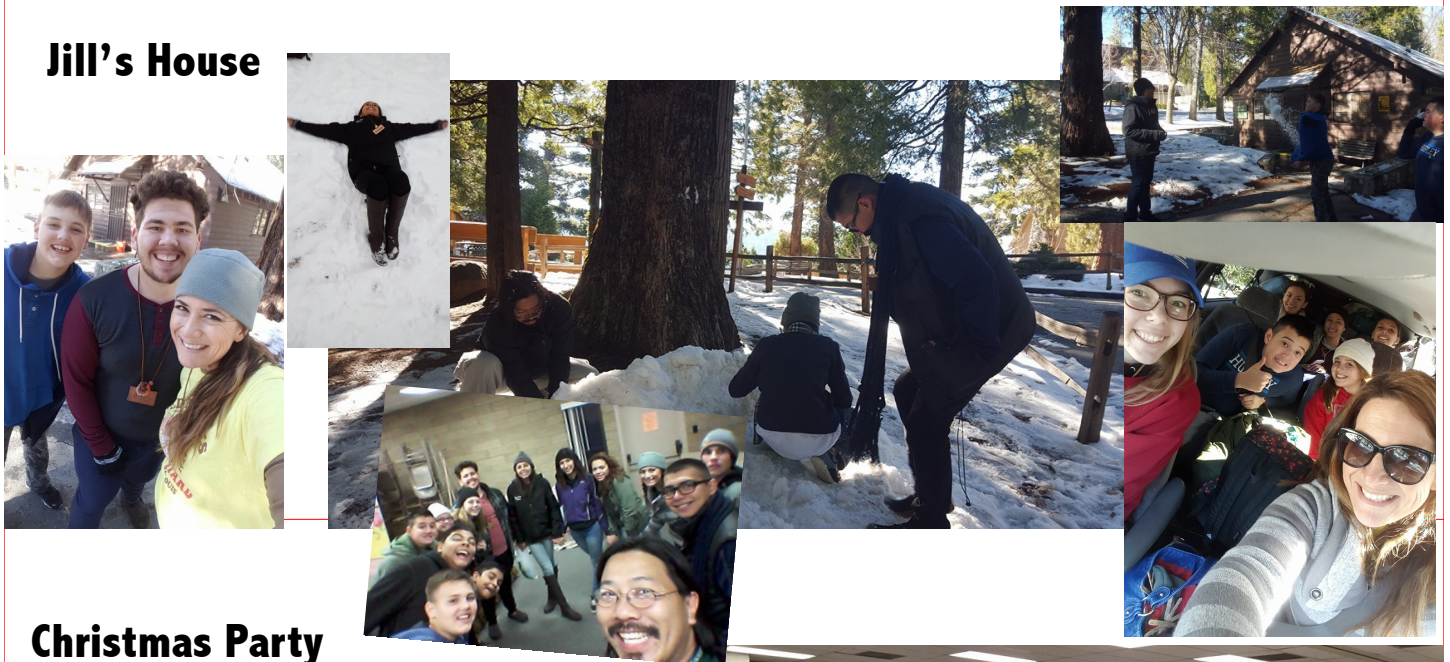
Reviewing Past Events

Hmmm ... we are missing Pictures and reviews.

Perhaps they were **YOURS.**

Submit for the next issue!

Jill's House



Christmas Party



Reviewing Past Events

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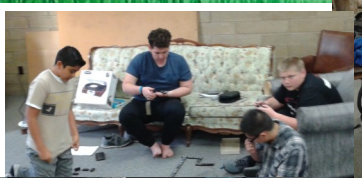
Christmas Party



Christmas Play



Game Day



Beacon Light

SAVE THE DATE!

Please see Katie with a deposit of \$25 to reserve your spot BEFORE the End of January.

2016 Summer Camps @ Thousand Pines

Middle School

July 3-8, 2016 *

High School

July 17-22

* This date is based upon a minimum of 6 registering **before** the end of January

YOUR Article Could Be Here!

We are looking for

- Short stories • Devotionals • Your Questions • Your Memories (Past Events)
- Photos / Artwork

It does not have to be long. (Or it can be as long as you would like.) We are looking for a minimum of two paragraphs.

You can look up a passage of Scripture and share about what God is teaching you.

Share about your stories, your struggles and your dreams.

We want to give you options as well as opportunity.

TAKE THE Opportunity!

Send Submissions to
 JacksonF@FBCDowney.org or
 andrea.brja2@gmail.com

<p>Stay Informed!</p> <p>-Check out FBCDowney.com</p> <p>-Find our Student and Parent Facebook Pages</p> <p>-Text Updates</p> <p>Middle School—Text JHS to 33733</p> <p>High School—Text HSGroup to 33733</p> <p>College—Text FBCA to 33733</p>
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Dates to Save in 2016

Jan 23	Turn Your Campus
Feb 6	Be Still Saturday
Feb 6	Beacon Light Mission
Feb 10	Agape Feast
Feb 13	Parents Night Out
Feb 19-20	Jill's House Mission Trip 1
Mar 5	Beacon Light Mission
March 11-12	Stuck In The Middle (Middle School ONLY)
March 29– Apr 2	Rainbow Acres Missions Trip
April 8-9	YS Team Training
April 22-23	Planet Wisdom
May 13-15	Jill's House Mission Trip 2
July 3-8	Middle School Camp
July 11-15	VBS
July 17-22	HS Camp
Dec 3-5	Jill's House Mission Trip

Upcoming Events!



Submission options

2016 Updated Submission Topics and Themes

February—Love, Relationships, Purity (Due Jan 24)

March—Easter, Forgiveness, Christ (Due Feb 21)

April—Spring, Growth, Spring Cleaning (Due Mar 27)

May—Mom, Beauty, Nature (Due Apr 24)

To submit pictures or articles for next month Contact

Andrea - andrea.brja2@gmail.com

or Jackson - Jacksonf@fbcdowney.org

Looking to Lead?

Pick up a leadership packet and turn it in before the end of January.

Positions include:

Tech
Publicity
Worship
Devotions
Retreat
Service
Recreation
Small Group Leaders
And More!

Help Make a difference!