



# Creative Connections Ministry

e-news

July/August 2008



## *Welcome!*

It is important to us to be able to communicate with you, our ministry friends, so we are excited to bring you our first e-newsletter! We will feature news, events, prayer needs and more, in each issue.

## *Upcoming Conference*

Once again, it is time for us to make the annual trek to the AMFM (Association of Marriage and Family Ministries) conference which will be held this year in Phoenix, Arizona. We are blessed to be among many of the country's top marriage and family ministry counselors, pastors, speakers and authors. The entire conference is faith-based, and we start each and every morning with prayer and worship. There is none other like it. It is the highlight of our year, and much like a family reunion each time. We not only receive the highest quality of training in ministry, but experience rewards such as this year's concert by Michael O'Brien, the former lead singer of NewSong (who sang "Christmas Shoes"). This year we will be presenting a workshop on the first day of the conference entitled, *Stepfamily Basics: Building a Strong Foundation*.

## *Knee Work*

Please pray for the conference in general: the ministry leaders, trainers, attendees, Eric and Jennifer Garcia (Founders and Directors) and the entire AMFM team that work tirelessly to make this event the best it can be each year. Pray for God's purpose to be fulfilled and for Him to be glorified. Many churches and congregations across the country will sow and reap benefits through this year's conference. Below is our specific itinerary. We'd love your prayers to cover each day.

OFFICIAL MEMBER



Association of Marriage  
& Family Ministries

Saturday, August 2

Sunday, August 3

Monday, August 4

Leave-drive to Barstow

Drive to Phoenix-staying at the Arizona Grand Resort where the conference will be held

11:30am to 4:30pm - Marriage Movement Forum

6:00 pm to 6:30pm - Prayer meeting

7:00 pm - Meeting and preview screening of the movie "Fireproof", coming to theatres September 26th, an

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# PRAYER

Tuesday, August 5

Wednesday, August 6

Thursday, August 7

Friday, August 8

Saturday, August 9

Sunday, August 10

Friday, August 15

excellent movie promoting healthy marriage and a strong message about Jesus Christ ) pray for the movie to be successful in theatres so Hollywood will know that there is a Christian audience hungry for more).

Conference begins with prayer and worship in the general session. We teach our workshop from 10:30am to 12:00. After lunch, we'll be in workshops all day until 4:30pm. Then, we have been given an awesome opportunity by Clint and Penny Bragg of Inverse Ministries. We will be filming for 30 minutes, to make a 2-minute "ministry snapshot" DVD that can be mailed out to churches, leaders or anyone interested in our ministry/resources. We will be able to put it on our website. Next, we'll wrap up the day with a general session in the evening after dinner, winding up around 8:30 or 9:00 pm.

Conference schedule-general sessions and workshops

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Closing session ends with a *Date Night*, featuring a concert by Michael O'Brien!

Post-conference trainings and a chance for us to network with other leaders. A possible board meeting with the *Stanislaus County Healthy Marriage Coalition*.

Drive to San Diego to visit Kathy's son and do some sightseeing.

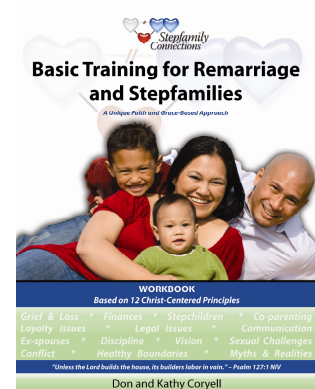
Drive home.

## Upcoming classes

We will begin new classes **Tuesday, September 16, at 7pm** at Shelter Cove Community Church. We will be using our recently published workbook, *Stepfamily Connections: Basic Training for Remarriage and Stepfamilies*.

## Recent Events

The workbook has been ordered from at least nine states since it was published in March, due to an article published in the Modesto Bee and many local newspapers across the country. The article featured our resource and ministry, and highlighted the Blended Family Conference at Calvary Temple Worship Center in Modesto. We were honored to be the keynote speakers at the conference. Stu and Joni Gilman, the Stepfamily Ministry Leaders at Calvary Temple, and their team, did an awesome job of community outreach for the conference. They had a children's track and a teen track while we were speaking to the adults. The conference was a success, with over one hundred adults registered and many teens and children who came forward to accept Christ or deal with unforgiveness.



Don and Kathy Coryell, Founders and Directors of *Creative Connections Ministry*

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