

Cliff's Notes

November 2008; Vol. 3, Num. 2 www.GBFSV.org

GBF is 2 years and 3 months old. We've had 1st-time visitors 115/116 Sundays, 1,002 people have walked through our doors. In November we averaged about 115 folks each Lord's Day. Pastor Cliff has preached 28 sermons on the Gospel of John so far...today we begin chapter 7. God continues to bring faithful families our way. We had about 20 people attend our last GBF prayer vigil. We've had our 'FIRST-EVER' GBF baby—**Bethany Hope Ding**, born to Evers and Lois on 11-20-08. We look forward to the day when will we celebrate our first-ever GBF wedding. Pastor Cliff is conspiring with singles in the church to that end.

Operation Christmas Child 2008

Since 1993 Franklin Graham has led a ministry called '**Operation Christmas Child**' (OCC) in which shoeboxes filled with gifts are given to needy children around the world. The gospel of Jesus Christ is always given with the gifts, for Christ is the greatest gift to the world (John 3:16). To date, over 61 million boxes have been distributed! This is the second year that GBF participated in this simple and worthwhile ministry. Jesus said, "*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*" This is one small way to give to others in need. Last year our little church packed 88 boxes—this year the saints came through with **110!** Packing them together during the Fellowship Meal was a blessed, fun and inspiring time of fellowship.



Lexi & Mnt. View High gave 20 boxes!



Mary Varney & girls accessorizing



Bree thinking about upcoming Debate



Michelle & the cute Ding



O. C. C. Man!

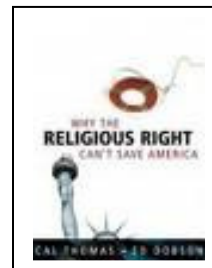
Introducing

GBF's newest 'member'—
Bethany Hope Ding:
5 pounds, 5 ounces



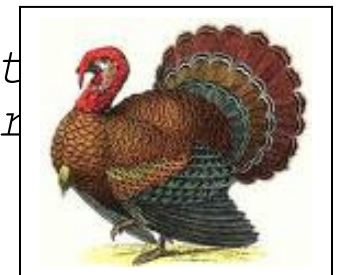
Good Reads

Need a good book for the holidays? In light of the election year we just had, one of the best books I've read on politics & the Christian is **Blinded By Might** by Cal Thomas and Ed Dobson. Cal Thomas has been one of the most insightful political pundits for 4 decades. But even more importantly he's a strong Christian committed to the authority of the Bible. If you want to establish the proper plumb line in your world view regarding politics, then this one is a **must read!** It seems like Christians don't read much anymore. These are the days of warp-speed info...



get it fast and get it shallow...in a sound-bite. Our attention span can't handle a slow, thorough read of a long, informational, well researched tome. But I'll recommend another one anyway—one of my favorite books of all time, ghost-authored by a dorm-mate of mine from Westmont College, Jeff Baldwin. It's called, **Understanding the Times**, by David Noebel. If you have a teenager and you want to prepare and protect their faith from the onslaught of secular education confronting them in college, then **make them** read it. Get the unabridged version! Read it with them. You'll never see the world the same. That's a good thing. See the website of their ministry at www.summit.org

Every day is Thanksgiving for
the Christian: "In everyt
give thanks, for
the will of



*God for you in Christ
Jesus"*
(1 Thessalonians 5:18)