

BULL CREEK COWBOY CHURCH
By Deb McMerrell

Living for the one who branded us...JESUS!!!

It was blessing Sunday morning to see that so many folks tried to start the new year off on the right foot by attending church. We were bustin' at the seams at Bull Creek with folding chairs all the way into the foyer!

And what a great message Pastor Mike brought, titled "Weight Lifting", encouraging us to strengthen our family relationships, our community relationships and our spiritual relationships. I think everyone could relate.

"You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus." 2 Tim. 2:1(NIV)

It's been a busy week at B3C. The big New Year's Eve bash was a huge success. I don't have the names of winners and didn't witness it myself, but heard there were lots of good rides and even more sore folks the next couple days, including some of the gals and one cowboy preacher!

Saturday morning was the monthly men's breakfast, this month out near Oliver's place. They said it was a beautiful setting by a lake and had a great turnout of about 35 for some good grub and an inspiring message by Oliver. Their meetings and messages are focusing on men being leaders in their families and church.

Saturday night the ladies' ministry had their 3 month secret sister reveal party. They also had 35-40 in attendance and had a great time of food, fun and fellowship. Saturday, January 17 is the ladies "spa retreat". This was an overnight retreat last year but is just a one day retreat this time. If interested notify Brenda Boen or call the church office.

I don't have details yet but the Outdoor Ministry Team's annual predator hunt is coming up on January 24th. Notify Randy Oakes or call the church or I will have more info next week.

Trying to get your life in order and start the new year off right is sometimes very difficult. Bull Creek's Celebrate Recovery program is a program that can help with that. It's a Christ-centered 12 step program for life's hurts, hangups and habits. Most folks think it's just for drug and alcohol abuse, but that's not the case with a Christ-centered program. If you're dealing with family or marital problems, depression, eating disorders, have children with problems, loneliness or just any multitude of hurts, you can learn the tools to help you cope. Just come and visit some Friday night and you might decide it's for you. We have a song, praise and worship time and every other week is a lesson night and every other a testimony, usually one of our own folks. Then we meet in small groups, women with women and men with men, according to what your need is. On Friday, January 30 we'll be having a special speaker and music. Randy Byrd will be at Bull Creek to tell his amazing story and sing for us. If you've not heard him before try to come. You WILL be blessed. There will be a meal

following. There will be a men's step study beginning before the end of January. If interested notify Bill Howard or Paul McMerrell.

Another great event coming up is the next day, Saturday, January 31. Bull Creek Ladies Ministry is sponsoring a "Couples Seminar" presented by Sonny & Cindy Spurger, from 9:00am until 4:30pm. There is a fee that includes breakfast, lunch, snacks and your materials. Notify the church office or Brenda Boen for more details.

If you don't have a church home, come on out and try us at Bull Creek. We hope you feel welcome to come just as you are. We're not fancy, just plain folks worshipping the Lord. Visit our website to learn all sorts of things about us, see pictures from numerous events, hear the sermons and read this newsletter now. If you have been on the email list this is the last time it will go out unless you go to the website and sign up for it. For others that just like to read our little article it will still be in the papers but you are welcome to go to www.bullcreekcowboychurch.com and sign up too.

Well, that's about it for this week. Hope you have a great year. Make that New Year's resolution! Exercise daily! Walk with the Lord!!