

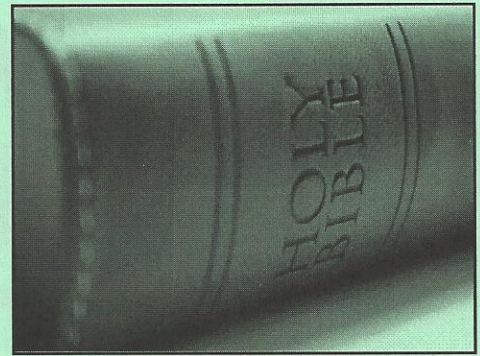
... unto you  
is **BORN** this day...  
a Saviour, which is  
**Christ the Lord.**

Luke 2:11

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**F**or many years the New International Version (NIV) of the Bible has served the church community as an English translation that is readable and fairly reliable. The company which publishes this best-selling version is Zondervan, out of Grand Rapids, MI. However, Zondervan has stopped publishing the 1984 NIV and replaced it with the 2011 NIV which has gone very much in the gender neutralizing direction. So if you are buying a new Bible that is NIV, be sure to check if you are purchasing the 1984 version or the newer edition. You may want to purchase the English Standard Version instead. The ESV is a more accurate translation, from my perspective, and is still very readable.



*World* magazine reports that at its June meeting the Southern Baptist Convention expressed its “‘profound disappointment’ that the publishers of the 2011 New International Version (NIV) of the Bible favored gender-neutral translation, and a request that Southern Baptist bookstores keep the new version off their bookshelves. Zondervan’s first gender-neutral effort, Today’s New International Version (TNIV), appeared in full in 2005 but was so mired in controversy that it never gained currency. The 2011 version retracts some of the TNIV’s gender-inclusive renderings, including many of the most controversial, but in the end retains 75 percent of them.”

The Committee on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood has evaluated this new 2011 NIV and released a very critical report, part of which is quoted below for your consideration, not only for personal Bible purchases, but also for the church’s future purchases.

*The 2011 NIV was based not on the current NIV (1984) but on the TNIV (2005). The 2011 NIV retains 2,766 (or 75%) of the TNIV’s problematic gender-related translations that led CBMW, and eventually the larger evangelical world, to reject the TNIV in 2002 and 2005. We still consider these 2,766 examples to be inaccurate translations of terms that have male meaning in the original Hebrew or Greek, male meaning that is lost in this new NIV. Therefore, this translation cannot be considered sufficiently trustworthy in its translation of gender language or in its translation of singular and plural pronouns generally. We consider this too high a price to pay for attaining gender-inclusiveness in a translation.*

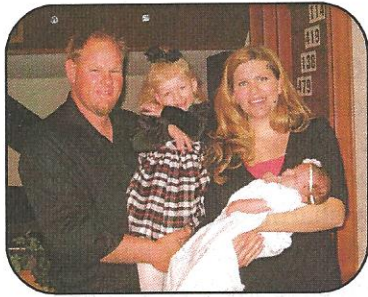
*In addition, the 2011 NIV changes some key verses on women’s role in the church so that they favor an evangelical feminist position, especially in translating 1 Timothy 2:12 in a way that differs with all other commonly-used modern English translations and that gives women a wide open door to serve as pastors and elders in churches, contrary to the actual teaching of the New Testament.*

*We regret, therefore, that we cannot recommend the 2011 NIV as a sufficiently reliable English translation. And unless Zondervan changes its mind and keeps the current edition of the 1984 NIV in print, the 2011 NIV will soon be the only edition of the NIV that is available. Therefore, unless Zondervan changes its mind, we cannot recommend the NIV itself.*

For those of you who wish to read more about this, you may go to:

[www.cbmw.org/images/articles\\_pdf/cbmw%20final%20analysis%20of%202011%20niv.pdf](http://www.cbmw.org/images/articles_pdf/cbmw%20final%20analysis%20of%202011%20niv.pdf)

*Pastor Scheuers*



### **Courtney Elisabeth De Hoog**

brought much joy to Marty, Jillian and big sister Olivia when she was born at San Antonio Community

hospital on October 1, weighing 8 pounds, 14 ounces and 20 inches long. They named her after her Beppe, Liz De Hoog. Olivia is an awesome big sister, she loves on Courtney and is a big help to Mom, helping her pick out diapers and other important tasks.

Marty and Jillian claimed the promises of the covenant to them on November 6. It was very special as her Grandpa, Rev. Mike Dengerink, was able to administer the sacrament of baptism to Courtney. Many family and friends attended, including Courtney's great grand parents, John & Dee Staal, from Ripon. After the service they had a Birthday/Baptism celebration since Olivia turned 3 the next day.

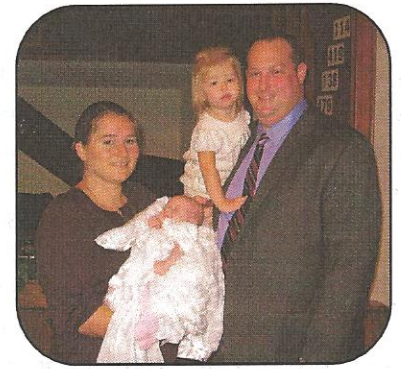
Courtney is fearfully and wonderfully made by God, for His glory. Marty & Jillian have a concern for Courtney's sight, they don't know if or how much she can see at this time. She has had Doctor appointments with neurologists and ophthalmologists, and has an MRI and head x-ray scheduled for the near future. Please uphold them in prayer as the uncertainty is very difficult. Marty & Jillian find comfort that Courtney is in God's loving, merciful and powerful hands.

### **Tessa Kathryn Peters**

brought many surprises to Mike and Anna. First, they did not know if they were having a boy or girl until she was born.

Second, she was due October 14, scheduled for a Cesarean delivery on October 12, but decided to come on October 2! But what a blessing she is! She was born at San Antonio Community Hospital and weighed 6 pounds 10 ounces and was 19 inches long. Her sister, Kenna, has a love/hate relationship with her right now. Sometimes she loves and kisses her and other times she is very jealous for Mom and Dad's attention. But what can you expect from a 21 month old?

On November 6, family and friends came to witness the special sacrament of baptism to Tessa by Pastor Scheuers. Mike & Anna were especially happy that Anna's parents, William & Shirley Martinus, from Michigan were there. May God bless you and give you patience and wisdom to raise both your daughters to love and serve our Lord.



### **"What is a Sacrament?"**

*by Judy Rogers*

*What is a Sacrament? It is a holy ordinance,  
Given by Christ unto believers showing His great love for us.  
Baptism was ordained, and the Lord's Supper;  
Jesus gave them to His church to keep and to remember.*

*Sacraments given us by Christ; To signify and apply God's covenant to our lives*

*Sacraments cannot bring to us salvation;  
Only God who gives us faith can make us new creations.  
And the Spirit moves living and working through us,  
And by special sign God seals His covenant blessings to us.*