

Torrance First Baptist Church the Proclaimer

April 2018 Volume 31 Issue 4



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Easter Greetings: He Is Risen!



Easter Sunday, April 1

Bring your family and friends to enjoy a special presentation at both morning services by our Colossians Kids as they share about our risen Savior.

They will transform our Easter Sunday into an event of joyful worship, playful presentation, and fresh examination into the story of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross that "untangled" us from our sin.

Women's Ministries

"Showers of Blessings" Potluck Sunday, April 15



All ladies are invited to a potluck and a chance to "give back" by making no-sew blankets for the Linus Project.

The mission of the Linus Project is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth, and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of handmade blankets and afghans,

lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers." You may also bring gently used kid-size blankets to donate.

Proclaimers are also
available for viewing and
printing on-line:
www.tfbclife.org

From the Pastor's Heart



Once a year those of us who follow Jesus, and even some who are not followers of Jesus, celebrate a miracle of gigantic proportions. That miracle is Jesus Who was buried in a tomb on a Friday afternoon and walked out of the tomb on Sunday morning. The obvious conclusion from this is that Jesus is more powerful than

even death itself. For us mere humans, death is unavoidable—but not for Jesus.

Today, our culture is obsessed with living as long as possible. There are new treatments and products claiming that they can help people live until they are 100+. But no one is claiming that they can keep people from experiencing death. Everyone dies and everyone knows that. It is an undisputable fact.

That is what is so amazing about Jesus. He actually conquered death. So when He says that if you give your life to Him He will adopt you into His family and give you everlasting life, He can actually do that. In fact He is the only One Who can.

In John chapter eleven, Jesus says, *“I am the Resurrection and*

the Life (note: that is what He proved by walking out of the tomb). *He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; ...”* (v. 25). Even if you have been given eternal life by Jesus, someday you will most likely physically die. But that death is simply a transition from your temporary life here on earth to your permanent eternal life with Jesus in heaven. That is what Easter tells us Jesus has to offer. That is not only good news it is great news.

Let’s celebrate our resurrected life in Christ this Easter. Join us this Sunday evening, March 25, for our Easter Concert; Friday, March 30, for our Tenebrae service, a self-directed time to reflect on the death of our Savior; and Easter Sunday, April 1, for a very special time of celebrating Christ’s resurrection and our eternal life in Him.

Pastor Charlie

Reflections by Pastor Rog



Dear Church Family,

Periodically my mind goes back to when I was a boy attending Sunday School and many wonderful memories flood my mind—memories of God’s people who served Him amid great difficulties. They are men and women who serve as a wonderful example to us today. One of those people is Joshua. Remember him? Upon Moses’ death he, under God’s direction, was to lead the nation of Israel into the Promised Land. What a tremendous challenge! Following in Moses’ footsteps was hard enough in itself, but then taking this host of people into a land filled with enemies would discourage anyone but for God being with him.

I’m so thankful that our Heavenly Father not only is always there for us, but that nothing takes Him by surprise or is too hard for Him to deal with. In

saying this, His words to Joshua at this difficult time in his life brings encouragement to us. In Joshua 1: 5-6, the Lord said to him:

“No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them.”

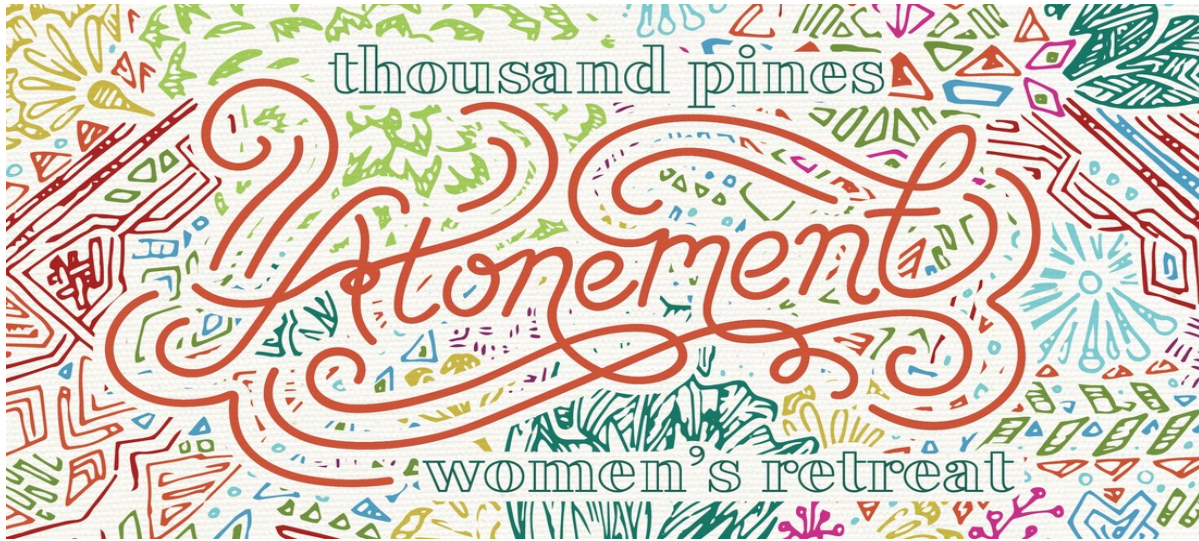
The Lord not only knew what Joshua and the Israelites would face as they entered this new land, He also knew the questions, doubts, and perhaps even the fear that was welling up inside of Joshua. How do we know this? We know this because the words *“Be strong and courageous”* are seen in vv. 6, 7, 9, and 18. In fact in verse 7, the Lord tells Joshua *“Be strong and very courageous.”* [emphasis mine]

How thankful I am that our Lord is always there for His children.

Now, some might say, “That’s good for Joshua, but how about me? Is the Lord there for me as well?” Yes, my friend, He is. Notice please how the Lord encouraged Joshua. In verse 6, the Lord assured Joshua that He would use him to divide the Promised Land among the people of Israel. Translation: **GOD ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES**. In verses 7 and 8, God implored him to know His teachings so that he would not deviate from them. And here we find the encouragement to face life’s difficulties as they would seek

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Women's Retreat, May 4-6

We know as Christian women, your days are filled with busy schedules, commitments, and responsibilities. Take a break from the busyness and come with us to Thousand Pines' Women's Retreat for a weekend to re-charge both spiritually and physically. Take this opportunity to hear some great teaching, spend time relaxing, listening for the Lord, and reflecting amidst the beauty of our mountains. Be pampered with gourmet meals, professional massages, afternoon tea, and other special activities.

We will be blessed with inspiring messages from speaker and author, Donna Jones. Donna is the author of four books, including *Seek: A Woman's Guide to Meeting God* and *Taming Your Family Zoo*. Donna is deeply involved in her home church. Her favorite role, though, is wife to JP, and mom to their three young adult kids. They make their home in southern California.



Donna Jones

Sign-ups are already being taken. Costs: Glamping ~ \$190 (4 to a room); Standard cabin ~ \$180 (26 ladies); or Rustic ~ \$165 (6 ladies). Sign up in the patio.



*Cupcakes Needed
for Sunday, April 8*

We will be celebrating March and April birthdays during Fellowship Time on, **April 8.**

[Note, we will have it on the second Sunday of the month instead of the first because of Easter.]
If you can provide cupcakes on that day, please sign up in the patio.



*Vacation Bible School Training
April 22, 12:30 p.m.*

We will meet in the basement, have lunch and learn how to help in our upcoming VBS, which is scheduled from 6-8 p.m. on July 23-27. Call Karla sign up for this time of training.

4 MINISTRIES & Youth Events

High School

MOVIE NIGHT



*Sunday, April 15
6:00 p.m.*

Pizza, drinks, and snacks provided.



KIDS' NIGHT OUT
a.k.a. Parent's Date Night
3rd Friday of each month
April 20 ~ 6-9 p.m.

Parents, leave the kids (infants through 5th grade) to have dinner and a movie with us while you enjoy a night out together. This month is "favorite toy night." We are asking for a donation of \$3/child.

Blast Off with a Bottle Rocket
Saturday, April 28, 2-5 p.m.



Colossians Kids will be building Soda Pop Bottle Rockets on April 7, April 14, and/or April 21 here at TFB from 3-5 p.m.

Then on Saturday, April 28, from 2-5 p.m., we will head over to Torrance High School and make them fly!

Bring one clean 2-liter soda bottle **including the cap** on your first day of construction.

Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

Please remember that Dinner Night (2nd Saturday of the month) and Game Night (4th Saturday of the month) are great opportunities to invite friends, whether they attend TFB, go to another church, or don't go to church at all.



Dinner Night ~ Saturday, April 14, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at La Bella Napoli, 23906 Crenshaw Blvd., (east side of Crenshaw just before Lomita Blvd.).

Game Night ~ Saturday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Gloria Pedersen's, 817 Amapola Avenue, Old Towne Torrance. Bring drinks and snacks to share.



For additional questions, suggestions, or more information, call Gloria, 562/505-4495.

TFB Academy

"Inerrancy--True Truth"

By Laura Springer, M.Div., Th.M., Ph.D

Let's say you've headed out on a driving trip across the country. You have your trusty map-app in hand, stops are all planned out, and the car is packed. All goes well for the first couple of days. On the third day, you arrive at a crossroads and take the one the app says leads to your next stop. You end up on the "shore" of a swamp. This is not on the map. The map says this is a cute bed and breakfast. The map was mostly true. But not today. Truth is important.

Inerrancy refers to the truth of the original transcripts of Scripture. It says that Scripture is true, conforming to reality and speaking the truth in everything it affirms. Scripture is not false. It conforms to reality. It is the true, written word of God. A correct understanding of the truth in Scripture requires proper interpretation, using appropriate bible study methods and assumptions. At a minimum, these tools and assumptions include considering the whole of Scripture and approaching the text with the assumption that God's Word does not contradict itself.

God always speaks truth, so his Word is truth, and he himself is a sufficient basis for the assumption of biblical inerrancy (Hebrews 6:16-18). God never lies (Titus 1:1-2). Scripture follows the same rules that it makes for prophets. The Old Testament set strict criteria for those who spoke for God. First, even if a prediction took place, the person making this prediction was not to be followed if he encouraged listeners to follow other gods (Deuteronomy 13:1-51). Second, those who spoke for God were to declare only what God himself had said. If what they declared did not occur, the declaration was not from God (Deuteronomy 18:20-22). Just as a prophet of God must always speak that which is proved true, so also Scripture always speaks that which is true. The Scripture claims this truth and authority for itself (2 Timothy 3:14-17).

"Inerrancy refers to the truth of the original transcripts of Scripture."

Our life in Christ is a journey. We have companions and spiritual leaders along the way, but Scripture is the only true and completely trustworthy map. We must put forth every effort to understand this trustworthy map and follow it alongside our brothers and sisters as we journey together to becoming like Christ.

TFB Academy Theology Brunch: What is the Bible and why should we care?

When: Sunday, April 22, 2018 at 12:30 PM

Where: TFB Academy Room (second floor, right above the Nursery)

Cost: Food to share or some recyclable cans and bottles.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Recurring Weekly Events:
1 Easter Sunday 9:15a & 11a: Special Easter presentation 2:30p Sing at Royalwood	2	3	4	5	6	7	Sunday Worship Services: 9:15 a.m. & 11 a.m. Worship & Witness, 6 p.m. [except 4/1] Adult Sunday School, 9:15 & 11 a.m. Children's Church, 9:15 a.m. Patio Fellowship, 10:30 a.m. Children & Youth S.S., 11 a.m. Handbell Practice, 4p [except 4/1]
8 10:30a Birthday cupcakes 5:20p Prayer Group	9	10 12n Shut-in Meeting	11	12 7p Beacon Light Mission	13	14 5:30p Love, INC Dinner 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out 3p Rocket Building	Monday Ladies' Prayer, 10:00 a.m. King's Karate, 6:30 p.m. Men's BSF, 6:55 p.m.
15 12n "Showers of Blessing" WM Potluck 6p H.S. Movie	16 7p Finance & FacMan Teams	17 6p Ministry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach, Worship, & Disc. Dev. 7p Deacon/ess Mtngs	18	19	20 6:30p Kids' Night Out	21 7p Share & Care 3p Rocket Building	Tuesday C4 High School Leadership, 5:30 p.m. C4 High School, 7 p.m.
22 12:30p VBS Training 12:30p TFB Academy Brunch 5:20p Prayer Group	23	24	25	26	27	28 2p Rocket Ship Rally 6:30p Singles' Game Night	Wednesday Men's Lunch @ Sizzler, 12:30p Family Dinner, 6 p.m. Colossians Kids, 6:30 p.m. "Crazy Love" Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. Parenting Fellowship Group, 6:30 p.m. Jr. High QUEST, 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice, 7 p.m. Open Volleyball, 8:15 p.m.
29	30						Thursday Ladies' Bible Study, 2 p.m. C4 College Group, 7 p.m. 7th Day Adventist Bible Study, 7 p.m.
							Friday Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m. Bible Study @ Creteman's, 6:15 p.m.
							Saturday Men's BSF Leaders, 6 a.m. 7th Day Adventist Baptists, 9 a.m.

Upcoming May Events:

- 5/4-6 ~ Ladies' Retreat @ Thousand Pines
- 5/5 ~ Loaves & Fishes, 11a
- 5/12 ~ Singles' Dinner Out, 6:30p
- 5/13 ~ Happy Mother's Day
- 5/18 ~ Kids' Night Out
- 5/20 ~ Ladies' Tea
- 5/26 ~ Singles' Game Night, 6:30p
- 5/28 ~ Office Closed for Memorial Day



2018



Isaiah 35:1-2

One sign of spring and rebirth is the appearance of flowers and plants in our yards, woods, fields and gardens.

Use the code to find this verse in Isaiah that reminds us of spring and rebirth.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
H	I	J	K	L	M	N
O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
V	W	X	Y	Z		

Isaiah 35:1-2

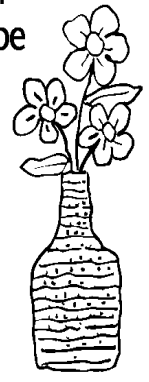
The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice and shout for joy.



Make a vase to hold some of the beautiful spring flowers that you find.

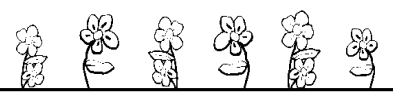
You will need:

- ✿ a bottle with an interesting shape (salad dressing, juice, ketchup)
- ✿ white glue
- ✿ paintbrush
- ✿ yarn



Directions:

Brush some glue on the bottle, starting at the bottom. Work on a small area at a time. Wind the yarn around the bottle. Hold it in place until the glue begins to dry. Continue brushing on glue and winding the yarn around until the bottle is completely covered.





On May 19, the Torrance Pregnancy Help Center will be having their 31st Walk for Life at **8:30 a.m.** at Veteran's Park in Redondo Beach. For details and to RSVP, contact Stephanie at 424/263-4855, or sturner@phtorrance.org. Your support saves lives.



Thank You!!

Way to go, TFB! Thanks to everyone who contributed to the recent Baby Bottle campaign for Pregnancy Help Center. You helped raise over **\$2,250** to help continue to provide free services, including ultrasound and help even more women make life affirming choices about pregnancy. Your support saves lives!!

Love INC  South Bay
Love In the Name of Christ

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF GOOD FOOD, GOOD LAUGHS & LOTS OF LOVE!

29TH ANNUAL LOVE INC FUNDRAISER DINNER
SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018 | 5:30 PM

YOU MUST BE JOKING



@JOURNEY OF FAITH CHURCH
1243 ARTESIA BLVD | MANHATTAN BEACH


Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

TICKET DONATION
\$55 EACH

BUY A TABLE FOR 6 OR 8
\$50 EACH

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

ENTERTAINMENT BY
MICHAEL SIELAFF & ROGUE IMPROV

SILENT AUCTION
DINNER

RSVP BY
APRIL 10
@ 310.831.5683

RESERVATIONS HELD AT THE DOOR




MICHAEL SIELAFF and the **ROGUE IMPROV TROUPE** will help us get our laughs on at this year's fundraiser. Michael is an Actor, Improviser, Laughtivist, Poet, Freelance Dancer & Teacher originally from Fridley, MN. He attended Gustavus Adolphus College where he majored in Religious Studies, minored in Theatre, co-hosted a radio show, performed/wrote with a social justice theatre troupe, and studied a semester in India. In 2009, Michael moved to LA to pursue storytelling as a career. Besides acting in over 100 TV, film, commercial, and internet productions, he performs children's theater with Story Pirates and adult-children's theater. Sielaff is the founder and an active teacher/member of Rogue Improv and Laughtivism LA. He also plays alto sax, writes spoken word poetry, and considers himself the best 6'7" freelance dancer in town.

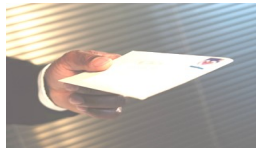
Reflections

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to overwhelm us. We must continue to fill our minds with God's Word. Why is this so important? It is important to us in that by doing so, we are able to live through these times in the light of His glorious promises to us. Our situations change and yes, even we change, but God's Word and promises never change!

Whatever might have come into your life, please know that you are not alone. Keep your eyes on Him and His promises. They are there for you as well. As He encouraged Joshua, He will encourage you. Praise Him!

Joyfully in Him,
Pastor Rog



We Get Mail

Dear Family & Friends,

We'd like to thank all of you who came to remember Mimi's (Mary Larsen) life with us. We were deeply touched by your prayers and expressions of love and support during this most difficult time. Thanks again and God bless you.

Sincerely the Ritchey family:

Suzy (daughter), Michael (son-in-law), Sara (Ganddaughter), Patrick Grandson), and Loralai (Great-Granddaughter)

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the visits, prayer, and the lovely food you brought us during my long bout with pneumonia.

It is so very nice to get a card or call when you're shut-in for a month or more.

I'm feeling a little stronger and hope to be back soon. I miss you all.

In God's care,
Jane McKenzie



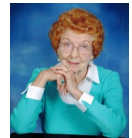
Love & Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The following have recently lost loved ones:

Our missionary with India National Inland Mission, Paul Pillai, is with the Lord;

Long time TFB member, Norma Vinsonhaler, went to be with the Lord at the age of 100;



Former TFB member, Trudy Rupe is now with the Lord;

and Steve Miller lost his mother, Delta Johnson.



Barbara Ashcraft, Michael Banfield, Nancy Christensen, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Carl Cook, Mary Crutchfield, Gloria Deering, Leah Douglas, Ruth Easley, Virgie Fletcher, Earl & Jean Forman, Dutchess Gattis, Patricia Hollomon, Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Barbara Johnson, Bill Johnson, Helen Kessenich, Joan Kindt, Joy Moore, Bill Morgan, Joy Pierson, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Jean Rayner, Connie Reimer, Barbara Rudé, Edna Hazel Ruth, Claudine Schultz, Mary Schultz, Jo Standifer, Bill & Gerri Stoodley, Tammie Wakefield, Gertie Wissinger, and Art Zeller.

TFB Tithes & Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately \$44,174 in the month of February.

10 Fun Facts



1. You can't see your ears without a mirror.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose with your tongue out.
4. You just tried #3
6. When you did #3, you realized that it is possible, only you look like a dog.
7. You are smiling right now because you were fooled.
8. You skipped #5.
9. You just checked to see if there is a #5.
10. Share this with your friends so they can have some fun too.



Church Signs

“How will you spend eternity—in ‘smoking’ or ‘non-smoking’?”

“Do not wait for the hearse to take you to church.”

“If you don't like the way you were born, try being born again.”

“*A merry heart does good, like medicine*” (Proverbs 17:22, NKJV).

The Proclaimer is a monthly publication of the First Baptist Church of Torrance, California, located at 2118 West Carson Street (6 blocks east of Crenshaw). Sunday services: 9:15 a.m. Worship Gathering (Contemporary Service); 11:00 a.m. Blended Service (with Sunday School for all ages); and 6:00 p.m. Evening Service. Mid-week events for children and students: College NeXus; High School C4; Jr. High *Quest*; and *Colossians Kids* for children.

For more information, contact the church office: 310.328.5030 or tfbc@pacbell.net. Or visit us on the web at www.tfbcilife.org