

Torrance First Baptist Church

# the Proclaimer

May 2011

Volume 24 Issue 5

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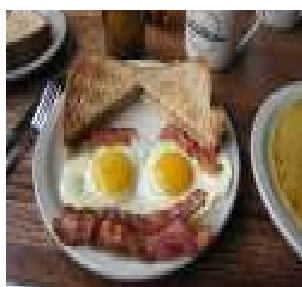


*May 14 (Saturday)*

Torrance First Baptist will be participating in the SHAREFEST Work Day, which is on Saturday, May 14, this year. ShareFest Community Development, Inc., is a non-profit charitable organization with the vision of creating a lasting imprint of positive change in the South Bay and Harbor areas.

This is TFB's 3rd year in joining more than 100 organizations which have partnered in completing hundreds of service projects with thousands of other volunteers. To date, Sharefest has facilitated 7 annual workdays completing over 1,150 different projects to mobilize over 30,000 community volunteers to complete over 6 million dollars worth of work for our community. That is effective! Please join us this year as we roll up our sleeves and put love into action by giving a day of our time to help our community. We will be working once again at Torrance High School on the following projects: General clean-up, strip and paint basketball backboards and rims; pressure-wash walkways, exterior painting, trash pick-up, gardening, etc. TFB will also be providing lunch for all the workers including those from Lighthouse Church that will also be helping with this project. We will meet at Torrance High at 8 a.m. Call the office or Mark Grindle, 310/532-5137, for more information.

*Men's Breakfast*  
*May 21, 9 a.m.*



All men, Jr. High age and older, are invited to join us for our next breakfast get-together

We will meet in the gym and enjoy a delicious breakfast. Scott Sealey will be the speaker. His topic will be: "Quit Trying to Be So Good—A Personal Witness." Suggested donation: \$5 per person.

Sign up in the patio. If you have any questions, call Bill Harenburg, 310/619-5629.

Proclaimers are also  
available for viewing and  
printing on-line:  
[www.torrancefirstbaptist.org](http://www.torrancefirstbaptist.org)

## From the Pastor's Heart



### *Each Person Actively Expressing a Heart of Worship for Jesus Christ*

In our church family we celebrate the death of Jesus Christ once a month through Communion—a ritual established by Jesus the night before His crucifixion and practiced by His followers ever since.

I have often wondered why Jesus never established a ritual to celebrate His resurrection. But the

early church did establish a ritual of sorts to celebrate Jesus' resurrection by meeting for worship on Sundays, the day He rose from the dead. So in fact every week when we meet to worship the Triune God, we are in fact declaring and celebrating Easter – Resurrection Sunday.

There are numerous fantastic implications for the fact that Jesus conquered death. The one I want to mention is from the book of Romans where it says: "...Jesus Christ, Who died... Who was raised to life, is at the right hand of God... interceding for us" (8:34). Because Jesus rose from the dead, He is alive. Because He is alive, He can come to our aid. And the most important aid He can give is

stated in the book of Hebrews where it says: "Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them" (7:25).

The resurrection of Jesus means He has the power and authority to help us in this life and give us eternal life. Every Sunday we gather to celebrate this truth. In that way every Sunday is Resurrection Sunday.

Karen and I hope that this is true of **all** of us: that our weekly and even daily worship springs from the truth that Jesus is alive; that He conquered death and after paying for all our sins, He now sits at the right hand of God interceding for us and completely saving us.

Pastor Charlie

### *Each Person Actively Expressing a Heart of Worship for Jesus Christ*

## Reflections

by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

What a joy it is to share the love of Christ with others. This not only is our responsibility as our Lord's disciples but our privilege as well. Yes, our lives are to make a difference in this world as we allow the Lord to touch others through our witness for Him.

Recently we, as a church family, had the privilege to share with others through our church's Community Baby Shower, which was sponsored by our Senior Ministries and Outreach Committee. It has always been our desire to reach out beyond our church's walls and let others

know of Christ's love for them. Expectant mothers in need have been laid on our hearts and this is why this TFB-sponsored event (our 4th) has been held.

As in past years we selected a ministry who worked with those in need to partner with, and this year we were led to the Angel Interfaith Network led by the Rev. Ann Mills. Other organizations who joined with us were the Pediatric Therapy Network Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and Options for Recovery. Also a variety of churches from the South Bay joined with us as well.



This event was partially underwritten by 9 community sponsors and we were very thankful for their willing participation in helping us supply the clothing, food items and numerous baby supplies which would be needed by those expectant moms. Also many of our TFB family and others from the community participated by bringing a wide-range of gifts to this time of sharing.

(Continued on page 11)



## *We Get Mail*

Dear Church Family,  
 Thank you for all the cards and phone calls after my recent cataract surgery. They were very much appreciated!  
 God bless you each of you,  
 Carol Hubert

Dear TFB Family,

Thank you so very much for your prayers, phone calls, thoughtful cards and the beautiful flowers that were waiting for us at our doorsteps.

All these helped us to once again remember my grandmother, who had a bright colorful personality and loved and served her Lord passionately. She went "happily" to be with Him on February 21st.

God bless,  
 Sara McKeithan and Family

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your kindness and support after the death of my grandfather, Robert Langley. Your many cards, phone calls, and the lovely flowers warmed the hearts of my family as we said goodbye.

With love,  
 Tracy Clark and Family

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so much for your thoughts, prayers, supportive comments and the beautiful flowers on the passing of my father, Bruce Mooney. He was 92 years old and suffering from Alzheimer's Dementia. It is a comfort to know he is now with the Lord.

The Dale Mooney Family

To Our TFB Family,

We are so thankful for our church friends. God has truly blessed us. Thank you so much for the many cards and expressions of love and prayer in these recent months. We are so grateful for each one of you.

Muriel & Joy Moore

Thank you to all who came out on Work Day, especially all the young people. It was very successful and a lot was accomplished!

Thank you also to all of those that helped to paint and refurbish the front office. It looks great!

Lance Mullen for the Ad Ops Committee

Thank you for the prayers, cards, calls, and flowers on behalf of my sister, Kathleen, who is now with the Lord.  
 Sincerely,  
 Ralph Norsworthy

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so very much for your kindness and prayers during the illness and homegoing of my son (Kenny's dad, and Sue's brother), Steve Veldheer. We were strengthened by the concern you all showed. Thank you for the uplifting service and the wonderful lunch served by the Bereavement Team. What a blessing you are. Steve loved the Lord and his church as well as his family. He is sorely missed.

Thank you also to Becky [for being] such a gracious person, Pam who played [the piano] so great and also to the Pastors, Charlie and Rog.

Your calls and cards were very welcomed.

Gary & Jane McKenzie, Kenny & Karen Veldheer and Family, and Sue Collins and Family





## *L.A. Ministry Trip*

Last month, eight of our HS Revive students enjoyed 3 days of their vacation in, of all places, Los Angeles. However, they saw and experienced places that most tourists to LA would not likely add to their itinerary.


From serving meals at Santa Monica's transitional center (Turning Point), to skid row's Midnight Mission, our students were moved beyond what was comfortable to a place where God was able to get their attention.

Not only were they more aware of the plight of the homeless and needy in our area, but they came away with a greater understanding of how they can be used by God to make a tangible difference in this world.

Thank you for your prayers and support, we look forward to sharing more with you at the CRUX Student Ministries fundraising dinner on May 1.



## **Spaghetti Dinner** *May 1 (12:30 pm)*

- Enjoy a great meal! 
- Help send students to Summer Camp.
- Hear testimonies from the Revive L.A. Ministry Team.

*Suggested Donation:*  
**\$8 each or \$15 per couple**  
*(Families with young kids—\$20)*



## *Butterfly Circus Appreciation Luncheon May 22 (Sunday)*



If you are a volunteer teacher in our Children's Church or Sunday School programs, please join us on Sunday, May 22, right after the second service for the Butterfly Circus Appreciation Luncheon. Please let Levana know if you will be attending by signing up in the patio at the Children's Ministries table.



*Mark Your  
Calendar:  
Next Church  
Work Day  
June 25*



*Hiking &  
Backpack  
Ministry*

*Full-Moon  
Hike  
May 14  
(Saturday)*

The May Full-Moon Hike for the "Creation Explorers" will be a hilly, meandering trail through tall grass, with a view toward the South, probably 4-5 miles of fun! We will leave TFB at 7 p.m. Please bring a flashlight, water and snacks and a heart full of joy and wonder. See you there, under God's heavens. Any questions? Call Dan Rollino,

## *KAMPER KAMP June 3-5*

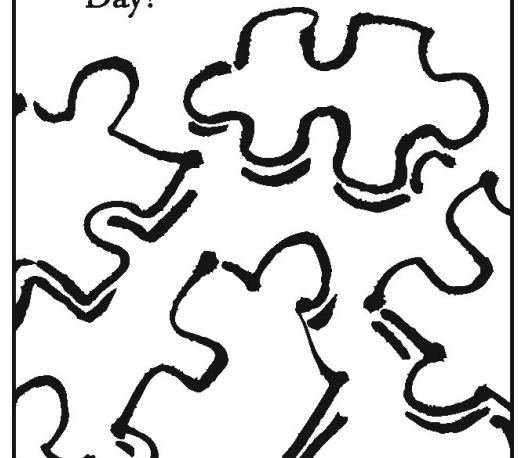
It's that time of year for "Kamper Kamp," hosted once again by Indian Hills Campgrounds in picturesque Jamul, California. We trust that you are looking forward to this weekend of camping, God's word shared by Pastor Jay and Tom Witherill; activities such as swimming, biking, horseshoes, basketball and the ever popular "Zip-Line"! We will be eating and snacking, pancake breakfasting and relaxing...enjoying God's blessings and each other's company around a campsite, RV or campfire. So mark your calendars for June 3, 4 & 5. Sign-up in the patio.



Kamper Kamp 2010

The cabins will not be available, so please consider the tremendous opportunity of camping in one of the eight old-fashioned, "Covered Wagons." They sleep 10, so share one with your favorite campers and give it a try! Centrally located in the heart of the camp, all you need are sleeping bags and, poof, you're ready for the entertainment provided by watching others setting up their tents! ☺





## Recurring Weekly Events:

**Sunday**  
 Worship Services:  
 9:15 & 11 a.m.  
 Worship & Witness: 6 p.m.  
 Adult Sunday School: 8:15  
 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.  
 New Covenant Children's S.S.: 11 a.m.  
 New Covenant (Korean) Wrshp: 12:45 p.m.  
 New Covenant (Korean) Fellowship: 2 p.m.  
 NeXus College Gathering: 6 p.m.

**Monday**  
 Ladies' Prayer: 11 a.m.  
 Open Basketball: 6:30 p.m.  
 Men's Bible Study: 7 p.m. [off-site]

**Tuesday**  
 Men's Small Group: 6:30 a.m.  
 BSF Leaders: 9:15 a.m.  
 High School Revive: 7 p.m.  
 Bible Study: 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
 BSF: 9:15 a.m.  
 BIG: 6:30 p.m.  
 Jr. High QUEST: 6:30 p.m.  
 Small Group Bible Study: 6:45 p.m.  
 Choir Practice: 7 p.m.  
 Life of Jesus Bible Study: 7 p.m.  
 New Covenant (Korean) Bible Study: 8 p.m.  
 Open Volleyball: 8:15 p.m.

**Thursday**  
 Ladies' Bible Study: 2:00 p.m.  
 Worship Band Practice: 6:30 p.m.

**Friday**  
 Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst.: 9 a.m.

**Saturday**  
 New Covenant (Korean) Prayer: 6 a.m.  
 Student Master Life: 9 a.m.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 12:30p CRUX Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser 7p Moore 50th Anniversary Party	2 9:15a BSF Seminar	3 7p Lauran Bethell Circle	4	5 10:30a Circle of Friends	6 Annx. Reserved all day for Loaves & Fishes	7 11a Loaves & Fishes
8 5p Prayer Gathering	9	10 7p Global Outreach Comm.	11	12 7p Beacon Light;	13	14 8a Sharefest 6:30p Singles' Game Night 7p Full-Moon Hike
15 1p Srs. & Frnds. to Muckenthaler Motor Car Fest. 4p C. E. Committee	16 7p Ad Ops Committee	17 6p Committes: Fellowship; Outreach; Finance; Worship 7p Deacon/ Deaconess Boards	18	19	20 12noon Sr. Potluck	21 9a Men's Breakfast
22 12:15p Children's Volunteer Teachers' Luncheon 5p Prayer Gathering	23	24	25	26	27	28 7p Share & Care [off-site] 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out
29	30	31				



May

2011

## Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship



*Please invite anyone of any age to join us.*

**Game Night ~ Saturday, May 14, 6:30 p.m.** ~ Meet at Brenda-Jean's, 5757 Ravenspur, RPV. Don't forget to bring snacks to share.



**Dinner Night ~ Saturday, May 28, 6:30 p.m.** ~ Meet at Fish Bonz Grill, 2599 Airport Drive, Torrance (next to AMC Theaters).



For questions, suggestions, or more information, call Brenda-Jean Shephard, 310/901-0816.

## Where in the world is the Church?

by Laura Springer, M.Div., Th.M.  
<http://tfbacademy.blogspot.com/>

Churches can  
nurture city unity  
by joining forces...

In April, we identified Church as the people of God who know his story and expand his Kingdom. This month, we look at location. Where in the world is the Church?

*The Church is in the world.* When the world looks at the Church, what do they see? I suspect they see division. While we cannot change their perceptions, we can change our expression. We must help one another understand that, in the midst of our cultural, theological, and linguistic diversity, we are one in Christ. Healing is needed, but this need does not change our unity. We should develop international congregation-to-congregation linkages, partnering in prayer and in service, learning what unity feels like and expressing our unity before the world.

*The Church is in a city.* Each local church is in a particular city—a city with at least a few other local churches. Learning from Paul's letters, we might consider that each city has one church, despite the multiplicity of congregations. If this is the case, then inter-congregational linkages are critical to church health. Churches can nurture city unity by joining forces to take responsibility for some of the city's needs: feeding the homeless, welcoming newcomers, reading to children, or hugging sick babies.

*The Church is in a neighborhood.* Neighborhood is the most concrete and daily location. Speaking from experience, it is probably better to say, neighborhoods, for I, like many others, live in one neighborhood, gather as church in another, and work in yet another. We can look at this at least two ways: dilution or dispersion. In some cases, this multiplicity of neighborhoods dilutes the church, stretching connections beyond recognition. In other cases, the multiplicity disperses the church for action, expanding and multiplying connections.

If we think of the Sunday gathering as Church, the multiplicity of neighborhoods will almost certainly dilute our identity, making it thin and weak. If we think of the gathering persons as Church, then our gathering and dispersing maintains and strengthens our identity in Christ.



## *Next Events for Seniors & Friends*



### **Muckenthaler Motor Car Festival in Fullerton May 15 (Sunday)**

The oldest and grandest car show in North Orange County hosts Hot Rods and a Concours D'Elegance with the true classics of the automotive industry spread out over eight acres of lawns. While enjoying the cars, feast on Heroes' Deli ribs and listen to live music. Proceeds benefit their children's art programs. We will leave the church at 12:30 p.m. and return at about 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$13 + money for lunch.



### **San Diego Wild Animal Park June 7 (Tuesday)**

Thirty-four miles north of San Diego, outside of Escondido, this "zoo of the future" will transport you in an open-air, soft-wheeled tram that runs on biodiesel. It brings you up close and personal to the animals of the African plains and other faraway landscapes. Originally a breeding facility for the San Diego Zoo, the 1,800-acre Wild Animal Park now holds 3,500 animals representing some 430 different species. What makes the park unique is that many of the animals roam freely in vast enclosures, allowing giraffes to interact with antelopes, much as they would in Africa. Although the San Diego Zoo may be "world famous," it's the Wild Animal Park that many visitors celebrate as their favorite. The tram tour is 2-½ miles long and brings guests quite near to the animals. We will leave TFB at 10 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. The cost is \$40. Bring money for lunch.

**If you want to sign up and/or want more details for any of our Senior & Friends' outings, call Terri Mullin at 310/629-0396.**



*May 20  
12 noon*

Bring your friends and a favorite dish to share!

## *Circle News*

The "Tracy Asanuma Circle" has been changed to "Circle of Friends." We continue to save:



Canceled stamps which are sold and the money used for mission projects.



Campbell labels with bar codes that are sent to an American Baptist Mission in Oklahoma. The money they get from them is used to help Indian children.



## *TFB Global Outreach*

by Dee and the G. O. Committee

Please pray for the following in our church family who will be going on mission trips this summer: Dee Gonzales, Rog & Joyce Hosier, and Ron & Debbie Fuqua\*.

### **A trip to Ecuador with Compassion International**

**Trip Date:** May 5-10, 2011

**Financial Support Needed:** \$2,500

Support includes air and land travel, room and board plus a donation to the local Compassion ministry team.

*Dear God ... I was telling a friend about you. He wants to know how old you are. This is an actual prayer from David, a little boy in Ecuador. Children in poverty have so little, but they share what little they have...like David, who shares his faith in Jesus Christ with others. What an amazing lesson the poor teach us about generosity!*

This May I will be going to Guayaquil, Ecuador with Compassion International to visit and participate in their child development centers. Each day I will have the opportunity to work with the local teachers to present educational and Bible study materials to the children in the rural areas who are part of the learning centers sponsored by Compassion.

In Guayaquil, home to approximately 5,000 residents, opportunities at a better life are hard to come by, and poverty makes everyday life difficult for many children and families.

Please pray and, as the Lord leads, give financial support. It is always great to have your prayers go ahead of me and the team as we are presented the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people and share the love of God with them. Thank you so much,

*Dee Gonzales*



Homes in Guayaquil

## *Japan Offering*

Thank you for giving a total of \$4,203.10 to help those in need in Japan because of the devastating earthquake and subsequent tsunami.

### **A Trip to Russia with e3 Partners**

**Trip Date:** July 28-August 13, 2011

**Financial Support Needed:** \$3,000

Once again, Joyce and I are traveling to Russia on behalf of e3 Partners. We leave on July 28 and return on August 13. We will be working with a local pastor in the greater Kursk region as we visit with the families in the church there regarding marriage and family living. This will enable us to have a very personal time of ministry with these families.

During our second week we will be meeting with Pastor Viktor and Dr. Vasily to prayerfully discern which home would provide the best opportunity to establish a new house church. (These are known as **Best Life Fellowships**). These two ministries: healthy families and stable house churches go hand-in-hand. Please pray for us as we begin this new phase of ministry in Russia. Also, the largest part of our support has been raised, but we are still needing \$3,000 to meet our goal.

Would you kindly pray about this with us as well. We are rejoicing for this continued opportunity to serve our Lord in Russia.

*Pastor Rog and Joyce*

**\*In addition to visiting supporters in New Jersey, the Fuqua's are hoping to go to Germany this summer for a Roma Team Orientation through their mission. However, details have not yet been finalized. Check the June "Proclaimer" for updated information.**

All donations are tax deductible and should be made out to **Torrance First Baptist Church** with the name of the missionary on the outside of the envelope **NOT** on the check.

# Reflections

(Continued from page 2)

Of the 65 who attended, we had the privilege of getting to know and share with 4 expectant mothers who were selected to join with us (3 other moms-to-be were unable to attend). Our church's fellowship room was beautifully decorated with colors of blue, pink and yellow, and gifts of all sizes (upwards of 700) lined the receiving tables. We are so thankful for all of you who made this possible (too many to name) who served on the organizing committee and volunteered to put everything together. Your love, planning, and hard work made this outreach event a blessing to others.

Once again, it is our desire to take to heart what the Lord Jesus said in Matthew 5:16:  
*"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."*

By God's grace, we believe this was accomplished through this very special event. We deeply appreciate all of you who prayed with us that this baby shower would indeed touch the lives of others with His love, and from all we've seen and heard, this is what took place. Praise the Lord!

Rejoicing in Him,  
**Pastor Rog**



John Large lost his nephew;  
 Betty Dehn, wife of deceased former TFB Pastor,  
 Bob Dehn, is now with the Lord;  
 Former member, Vi Sandowich Bailey,  
 Has graduated to glory;  
 TFB member Hal Hudson, husband of Shirley,  
 is now with Jesus;  
 Ralph Norsworthy lost his sister, Kathleen Rose;  
 Jo Standifer lost her sister; and  
 Des Birmingham lost his uncle, Bob Hicks.

Please pray for the above families that they will feel God's presence and peace as they mourn the death of their loved ones.



## More Mail

Dear Mari,

My heart has been full of the fellowship and fun and overflowing love of last Saturday afternoon at Torrance First Baptist. Even upon entering the room I could tell how much love and care was put into decorating and planning and making sure that everyone had a good time. The lunch was delicious, and everyone enjoyed the door prize drawings. It was a great success.

The honorarium was a big surprise, but is much appreciated, as gasoline is going up in price, and Ruby drinks a lot of it. Your gift will enable me to make several deliveries without thinking of the cost. Thank you.

As I mentioned after the shower, I truly appreciated the opportunity to meet a couple of people from partner organizations. I hope the new connections will help us to serve better.

And the abundance of baby things is awesome! Thanks so much to you and your helpers for all the work you did to make the day a success.

Blessings,  
 Ann Mills

Dear Mari,

I want to thank you and your faith community for the baby shower benefitting women at Harbor-UCLA. As a pediatrician at Harbor, I see the struggles our families face on a consistent basis. It is rare that they receive a show of loving support as they do from First Baptist Church of Torrance. It brings such a "lift" to their spirit as well as to us who work with these wonderful families.

With sincere thanks,  
 Lynne Smith

## Attendance & Giving



AVERAGE WEEKLY  
 ATTENDANCE  
 FOR MARCH:

= 298

Thank you for giving  
 approximately \$50,693  
 in the month of March.





*Don't forget . . .*



**IMPACT**  
C O N V E N T I O N 2 0 1 1  
*April 29-30*

This Christian conference, which will be held at the Pasadena Convention Center, is focused on equipping, training, encouraging and inspiring those who are called to work in Christian ministry.

If you are in a volunteer position here at Torrance First Baptist, we would encourage you to come along with us for a day of training in your field. For more information or to sign up, go to the Children's Table in the patio. You can also go to [www.cmtaconvention.org](http://www.cmtaconvention.org) to check out workshop tracks that are being offered.

*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: High School *Revive*; Jr. High *Quest*; and *Big* for children.

*For more information, contact the church office: 310.328.5030 or [tfbc@pacbell.net](mailto:tfbc@pacbell.net). Or visit us on the web at [www.torrancefirstbaptist.org](http://www.torrancefirstbaptist.org)*