

Torrance First Baptist Church

the Proclaimer

June 2011

Volume 24 Issue 6

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June 3-5

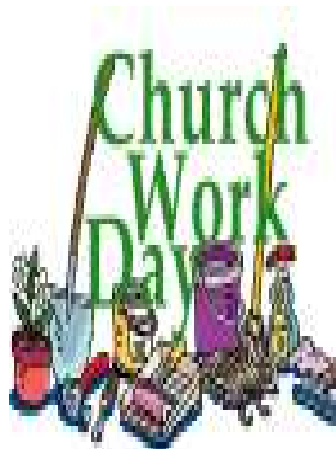
We will have one morning service here at the church at **11:00 a.m.** on **Sunday, June 5**, as many in our congregation will be away at Family Camp. Pastor Rog will be preaching that morning. There will be Children's church but no Sunday School that day.

Al Mace *Chaplain of the Year*

On May 3, 2011, our own Pastor Emeritus, Al Mace, was awarded *Chaplain of the Year* by the Healthcare Chaplain's Ministry Association and thanked for his 18 years of dedicated service. Congratulations, Al!



June 25
9 a.m.-4 p.m.



Our last work day here at the church was fantastic as many came out to help and a lot was accomplished. We are very thankful for that!

We are praying that even more would be prompted by the Holy Spirit to come and help with the upkeep of God's House on this next work day as much needs to be done. **Lunch will be provided.**

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

From the Pastor's Heart



Each Person Actively Expressing a Heart of Worship for Jesus Christ

This spring there have been reports in the news of a higher level of allergies than usual—more people in the doctor's office and more allergy products purchased in the stores. Of course they explain why but that does little to help those who are suffering with allergies.

There is a spiritual allergy that everyone suffers from: the allergy of following Jesus. One author put it this way: *People are naturally allergic to discipleship.* Another wrote: *Becoming a disciple of Jesus is the exact opposite of the way we naturally want to live.*

This started showing up right away in the Garden with Adam and Eve. They quickly demanded to live life their own way. We see it in Moses, when God asked him to fulfill God's plan and rescue the Israelites. Moses gave every excuse he could think of. Jonah simply ran the other way when God asked him to do His will. And on the night Jesus was betrayed, His disciples ran away and Peter denied he even knew Jesus.

However, in the book of Acts, we see that eventually the twelve disciples plus others display the qualities of a fully committed follower. I would like to suggest three key ingredients that transformed these disciples and can transform us.

First, they had seen the resurrected Lord of life. Our personal and daily walk with the living Lord is imperative for transformation.

Second, they had been retrained by the risen Lord. After

Jesus' resurrection, He spent time teaching them anew the truths of God's word. Like Romans 12 says: "...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." Thinking like God, seeing life from God's perspective, and adopting His values and priorities is transformational.

And thirdly, they had been filled with the Holy Spirit. Jesus specifically instructed them to not move out into ministry until they received power from on high—the presence of the Holy Spirit (see Acts 1).

Yes, becoming a fully devoted follower of Christ is not our natural inclination. But the good news is that by the power of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit, we can become fully devoted followers. As it says in First Thessalonians, chapter 5: "*Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until that day when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. God, who calls you, is faithful; He will do this*" (v.23).

This gives us hope to continue worshiping our Lord and walking with Him every day.

Reflections

by Pastor Rog

We worship a wonderful God Who not only loves us, forgives us, and guides us, but one Who also delights in hearing from us. And, as I think of this, the words of the psalmist ring in my heart:

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God...My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?" (Psalm 42:1-2)

This is a song of an exile and, moreover, of an exile among enemies who have no sympathy with his spiritual connections. And, as you continue to read this psalm, you will notice that he cries out after God with all the intensity of one who knows God and cares supremely for the honor of God's name. There is an urgency in his prayer which is often missing today in God's



family. This urgency in prayer needs to be recaptured if we, individually and collectively as God's family, are to fulfill His mission for our lives.

I cannot speak for others, but I know that this

(Continued on page 5)



We Get Mail

Thank you, dear church family, for your cards, prayers and concern in the passing of my sister, Joyce Wailes (of Texas).

Sincerely,
Ralph Norsworthy

I would like to thank everyone who prayed and supported my family and myself through this last round of medical issues. In October, I was diagnosed with breast cancer, had surgery and then chemo. With God's help, I made it through, and I know it was [because of your prayers].

Thanks again.
Rebecca Darrow

Dear Church Family,

Many thanks for all the lovely cards and phone calls. It meant a great deal to me.

Love you all,
Ruth [Easley]

Loaves & Fishes Update

At our May Loaves & Fishes luncheon, we had a short memorial for a homeless man. The family approached us a couple of months ago and asked if they could do this for their brother. It was awesome. His sister and brother shared a few things about John. They brought a picture of him and several of our "guests" knew him. John had been homeless for the last 15 years or so of his life. During this time, he had touched and changed lives. John was a Christian and was living the Gospel.

It is important to hear these stories. God uses everyone who will listen to Him. YOU can make a difference too, no matter where in life you are. All you need is a willing heart.

This ministry of Loaves & Fishes does touch and change lives. Thank you for your support and help.

God bless,
Linda Stratton (Matthew 25:40)



*You are invited to attend the
celebration of Neville & Irene Hardy's
50th Wedding Anniversary
at 1 o'clock p.m.*

*on June 18, 2011
here at Torrance First Baptist Church.*

R.S.V.P. to Becky Brunckhorst

50th

Anniversary



Sign up for Summer Camp!



Are you a match? This month Crux students are working to memorize Colossians 3 by Father's Day. Those who are able to recite the chapter in its entirety will be credited \$50 towards summer camp. The challenge for the rest of TFB is to **match** our students efforts. Join us in studying and memorizing Colossians 3 this summer. In addition, some may have the resources to **match** the \$50 credit which would be a huge blessing to our students and their families. If interested, contact Pastor Jay (tfb.crux@gmail.com) for more info.



*Fiesta
Dinner
for
Graduating
6th Graders
June 11, 5-8 p.m.*



All 5th, 6th, and 7th graders are invited to attend a Fiesta Dinner on **Saturday, June 11, from 5-8 p.m.** in honor of our graduating 6th graders who will be entering Jr. High in the Fall.

Parents of the graduating 6th graders are welcome to attend with their child and meet their new youth leader, Trev Schulte.

We will send you off with a bang and lots of fun. R.S.V.P. to Miss Levana or Trev.

*V
B
S*



June 27 ~ July 1

Our Vacation Bible School program, "Pandamania—Where God Is Wild about You!" (Psalm 139), will be held here at TFB **June 27-July 1 from 6-8:30 p.m.**

This is for all children from kindergarten through 6th grade.

If you are interested in helping with this outreach ministry, please call Levana Condon.



"LIGHTSEEKERS"

All kids going into 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades are invited to a week-long camp experience. Sign up now with a \$50 deposit.



Reflections

(continued from p. 2)

prayer urgency is needed in my life. For the “record,” I have never slept well and oftentimes sleep escapes me in the early hours of the morning. Lately, the Holy Spirit has been reminding me that I need to use this time to pray. Yes, to cry out to Him...not only for myself and my family...but for His Church that a spiritual awakening would be visited upon us—yes, even here at TFB. But spiritual awakenings don’t just happen. No, we must invite the Lord to search our hearts and reveal to us the spiritual needs in our own lives. It is at this time we are brought before His holy gaze and drawn closer to Him.

As you might have heard, more opportunities to pray are being offered here at TFB. We trust you will take advantage of these opportunities to draw closer to Him as you ask Him...from a “thirsty” heart...to bring this spiritual awakening into your own life. Know this, you won’t be alone. Others of your church family have already begun to beseech the Lord to bring this spiritual awakening (revival) into their hearts. Will the Lord hear us? Oh, yes! God’s Word assures us that:

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.” (Psalm 51:17, NIV)

I’m needing Him more than ever,
Pastor Rog

Con “grad”ulations to our 2011 Graduates

College

Sara Mooney Dillon received her
Master’s Degree

High School

Spencer Bundoc

Amy Carr

Michael Dodd

Daniel Fuqua

Bethany Hadley

Christine Hatt

Annalyse Meyer

Alaska Norris

Brian Rayner

Michael Reid

Kari Schonberg

George Zamora

8th Grade

Joshua Hadley

Katie Hanks

Nora Hanks

Nicole Martin

Robert McKenzie

Craig (CJ) McMillian, Jr.

Roger Solorzano



Get Out of the Kitchen-June 15

Love INC Promotion

You can get out of the kitchen and support Love INC at the same time! If you eat at Hof’s Hut on June 15, 10% of your bill will be donated to Love INC. Be sure and pick up a flyer which will be available in early June. The flyer is needed to present to your waitress at the time of your service.



Hiking &
Backpack
Ministry

Full-Moon Hike June 18 (Saturday)

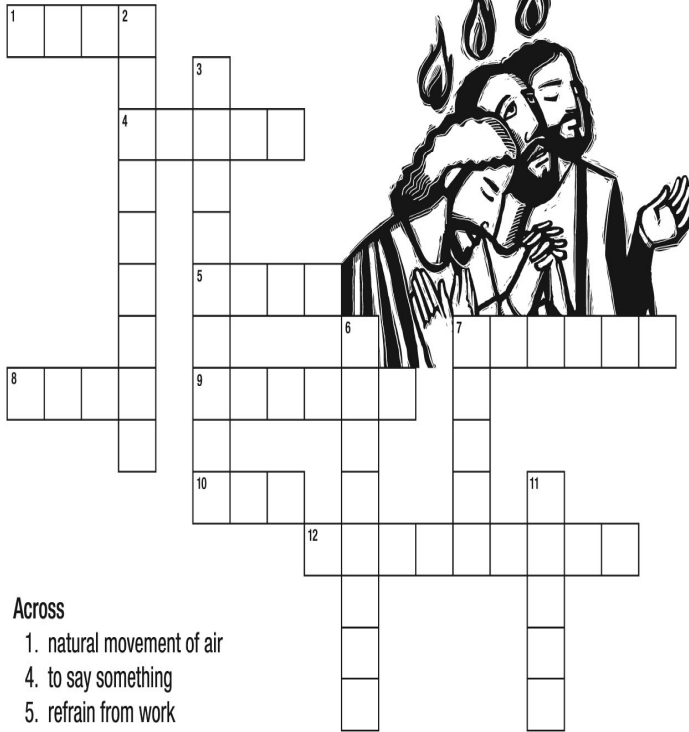
The June Full-Moon Hike for the “Creation Explorers” will be above Portuguese Bend out of Ladera Linda Park. We will leave TFB at 7 p.m. Please bring a flashlight, water and snacks and a heart full of joy and wonder, and ask yourself, “How is God going to reveal Himself to me or through me tonight?” See you there, under God’s heavens. Any questions? Call Dan Rollino, 310/328-3320.



The Spirit Comes

ACTS 2 TELLS ABOUT A SPECIAL DAY
WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME TO THE DISCIPLES.

Use the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.



Across

1. natural movement of air
4. to say something
5. refrain from work
7. place where God is
8. a combustion or burning that gives light, heat and smoke
9. part of mouth that can taste and lick
10. the time between sunrise and sunset
12. the day the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples

Down

2. followers of Christ
3. moved apart
6. quickly and unexpectedly
7. a building where people live
11. vibrations that travel through the air

PENTECOST MOBILE

Make this craft as a reminder that
God's Holy Spirit is all around you.

What you need:

- Tissue paper (red, yellow, orange), torn into squares
- Plastic transparency
- Craft glue
- Paintbrush
- Construction paper
- Black marker
- Wire hanger
- White copy paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Hole punch
- Fishing line



What you do:

1. Overlap tissue squares as "flames" on the transparency.
2. "Paint" glue (thinned with water) over the squares.
3. Fold construction paper in half. Write out Acts 2:4 at the top, by the fold.
4. Poke the hanger through the middle of the fold.
5. On the white paper, write "Holy Spirit" in English, Spanish (*Espiritu Santo*), French (*L'esprit Saint*), etc.
6. Cut out a flame pattern and trace it on the back of the transparency.
7. Cut out flames and glue the "Holy Spirit" names on them.
8. Thread fishing line through a hole atop each flame and tie flames onto the hanger.

Answers: Across 1. wind, 4. speak, 5. rest, 7. heaven, 8. fire, 9. tongue, 10. day, 12. Pentecost; Down 2. disciples, 3. separated, 6. suddenly, 7. house, 11. sound

Recurring Weekly Events:

	1	2	3	4	
	6:30p BIG (K-6th grade) last night	10:30a Circle of Friends	Annx. Reserved all day for Loaves & Fishes	11a Loaves & Fishes	
5	6	7	8	9	10
11a One morning service; no Sunday School	9a Srs & Friends <i>Wild Animal Park</i> 7p Laurant Bethell Circle	9a Beacon Light 7p	10	11	5p 6th grade Promotion Party 6:30p Singles' Game Night
12	13	14	15	16	17
5p Prayer Gathering 4p C. E. Committee	7p Global Outreach Comm.	7p	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24
	7p Ad Ops Committee	6p Committees: Fellowship; Outreach; Finance; Worship 7p Deacon/Deaconess Boards	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	
Jr. High leaves for Summer Camp 5p Prayer Gathering	6:30p VBS	6:30p VBS	6:30p VBS	6:30p VBS	



Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

Please invite anyone of any age to join us.



Game Night ~ Saturday, June 11, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meeting place: Tom Sapper's house (Walsh Moving & Storage), 1425 Plaza del Amo, Torrance. Don't forget to bring snacks to share.



Dinner Night ~ Saturday, June 26, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Hometown Buffet, 3520 Carson Street (behind Del Amo Mall).



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

The Glory of God and the Transfiguration of Christ

Ramsey, Arthur Michael;
Wipf & Stock Publishers
(June 2009); 92 pages.
Review by Laura Springer

On a given Sunday, the word 'glory' or its linguistic equivalent is likely used thousands of times in churches across the globe. We sing it with emotion. We speak it with force. But do we understand its richness?

In the scant 92 pages of *The Glory of God*, Ramsey journeys through a biblical meaning of 'glory,' from Torah through Revelation, countering what he perceives as an inadequate understanding of glory among Christians. In this short work, Ramsey seeks to inform his readers and to persuade them that the New Testament understanding of glory, founded on the Old Testament usage of *kavod* and centered on the person of Christ, functions as the unifying concept in Christian doctrine and worship. In the Old Testament, "glory" (*kavod*) communicates God's power, radiance, character, and presence, often through physical manifestations like the burning bush and the cloud at Sinai. In the New Testament (*doxa*), physical manifestations are minimized and the encounter with God is centered on and fulfilled by Christ, "the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature" (Heb 1:3 ESV). The one who trusts Christ encounters his glory in the content of faith and in direct fellowship with Christ through the Spirit, responding in the proclamation of Christ's glory in personal and communal worship.

Chapter 1: the Old Testament idea of glory (*kavod*) holds transcendence and presence in tension.

Chapter 2: the New Testament, where glory (*doxa*) expounds the ideas of character and radiance-splendor from the Old Testament usage of *kavod*, as glory founded in creation, centered in the Gospel, and moving toward the Kingdom.

Chapter 3: definition of 'glory' in terms of the person of Christ.

Chapter 4: glory in the writing of Luke (mission), Peter (suffering), and the writer of Hebrews (cross)

Chapter 5: glory in the writings of Paul, where glory is God's character and power, revealed in Christ's person and participated in by the Church.

Chapter 6 and 7: the idea of glory in the writings of John

Chapter 8 and 9: integration of the extended definition of glory into Christian doctrine and worship.

The Glory of God is a good primer on glory for Christian teachers and worship leaders who are looking for a richer understanding of glory. Ramsey provides a basis for and an example of the integration of the meaning of glory with our present understanding of doctrine and practice of worship and grounds this integration in a rich, biblically based definition of glory.

Next Events for Seniors & Friends



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.



Kimberly Crest House & Gardens, Redlands July 26 (Tuesday)

Kimberly Crest, a picturesque French chateau-style home built in 1897, is a well preserved example of the Victorian Era in California. The 7,000 square foot, three-story chateau sits on a 6¼-acre estate two miles south of downtown Redlands and is enjoyed by more than 11,000 visitors annually.

Originally built by Mrs. Cornelia A. Hill, a widow from New York State, the home was purchased by J. Alfred Kimberly (a co-founder of the Kimberly-Clark Corporation) and Helen Cheney Kimberly in 1905. Their widowed daughter, Mary Kimberly Shirk, lived in the home from 1920 until her death in 1979, and willed it to the City of Redlands.

The house's unique features include a French revival parlor complete with gilt furniture and silk damask wall coverings. Terraced Italian gardens, orange groves and ponds surround this historic landmark home. The lily ponds feature radiant Koi; vivid red, pink and yellow lilies against deep green majestic lotus blossoms; and papyrus.

We will leave the church at 10 a.m. The cost is \$9 for the tour which is 90 minutes long and involves stairs. 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.



TFB Global Outreach

by Dee and the G. O. Committee

U.S. Tornado Relief

TFB gave a total of \$1,687.50 to Samaritan's Purse from our Benevolent Fund for U.S. Disaster Relief to help those that sustained loss in the devastating recent tornados.

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy." Prov. 31:8-9

I have returned from my trip to Ecuador with Compassion International and want to thank you all for your prayers, as this was an amazing trip. I have only been a sponsor a couple of years with Compassion, although some in our congregation have supported children much longer, and this was an excellent opportunity to view first-hand the programs and projects our support provides.

On this tour our group was able to visit a few of the centers that Compassion supports through the local churches. We were enthusiastically welcomed by the families who participate in and are supported by the programs. We heard testimonies from moms and children how the support we provide has helped them through difficult times.

Especially touching was a young woman named Mercedes, and her new daughter Scarlett. Mercedes has 4 boys and 1 daughter. Her husband is a day laborer who works 12-hour days, 7 days a week for \$50/week. We were invited to have lunch with them at their home (the church actually made the lunch for us). Their house is smaller than a 1-car garage with a roof that is only a blue tarp. There is no running water or toilet in the house. The family purchases water twice a week from a neighbor who only receives water once a day from 10am-11am. Mercedes' two older boys (8 and 6 yrs old) are supported by a Compassion sponsor to attend school along with participation in the program at the local church, which provides after-school assistance with homework, tutoring, health development, spiritual growth and social activities. Each sponsored child receives two medical check-ups and a psychological evaluation every year.



Mercedes and Scarlett participate in the Child Survivor Program that helps mothers with prenatal care and after birth through the child's fifth birthday. Mercedes received training in child development and how to sustain that growth. Mothers in this program meet weekly with other mothers to learn more about God and raising children in a godly way.



Of course the best part of this trip was in meeting the child I sponsor, Dayanara. In addition, I was able to meet Pedro, a young man Tom Cochran has sponsored for many years. All of us met and spent the day at a local water park with a petting zoo and horseback riding. We laughed, we hugged, and, of course, cried when we said good-bye. I hope to share more of this wonderful experience with you and would especially encourage you to consider sponsoring a child if you do not already.

Thank you again for all your prayers, support and love.

Dee Gonzales
Global Outreach Committee



Update on Ron & Debbie Fuqua

We want to thank everyone at TFB for being so supportive of us and our work with Wycliffe. We continue to prepare for our assignment to work with the Roma people in Romania helping to facilitate the translation of and use of God's word. People often ask us, "How is Romanian language-learning coming along?" or, "When will you be taking a trip over there?" So here's an update.

We have been enjoying attending Bethany Romanian Baptist Church in La Habra on Sunday nights. We are learning some Romanian, but attending a Romanian speaking church is about all we are allowed to do at this point. Before Wycliffe will allow us to dive full-on into language and culture-learning, they require us to be at 100% of our monthly support.

Right now our full-time job is to find additional monthly financial and prayer partners to join us in our ministry. In April we gained 2 new supporters and received 3 one-time gifts. If you would be interested in joining our team, please talk to us and pick up our new prayer card and it will tell you what to do.

We plan to start our full-time Romanian language and culture-learning this fall, or sooner, as the Lord provides. We then hope to be leaving for Romania in the Fall of next year.

Ron & Debbie



Some of you may remember Priya Thomas, who attended TFB for 14 months two years ago.

She and her husband, Arun Eapen, are now living in Africa and would like to announce the birth of their daughter:

Arya on April 5, 2011.

She weighed in at 2.2 kg (about 4 lbs. 13 ozs.) and was 47 cm long (about 19").

All are doing well.



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

Lois Foster, one of our shut-ins,
is now with the Lord;

Bob Crutchfield lost his cousin,
Shirley Formway;

Ralph Norsworthy lost his sister, Joyce Wailes;
Virginia Sprengel is now with the Lord; and
Dorothy Morgan lost her sister, Dotti Zievehweg.



In Gratitude

In the April *Proclaimer*, Pastor Rog in his *Reflections* had two lines that really spoke to me.

More Mail

He said, "Everything is filtered through Him, so we can take encouragement in knowing that He is aware of all things before they touch our lives."

How thankful I am that the Lord is in control of my life. I am so grateful to all of those who offered prayers on my behalf during the 11 days in the hospital, the 9 units of blood, and the surgery. I know that God honored those prayers and I am here today because of each of you. Tom says this time I used up a major part of my nine lives. I truly am a miracle.

Thank you,
Candy Nordstrom

Attendance & Giving



AVERAGE WEEKLY
ATTENDANCE
FOR APRIL:

= 335

Thank you for giving
approximately \$68,715
in the month of April.



COMING IN JULY. . .



“Picnic at the Park” gathering in 2010

This year we will have a “chili cook-off,” so get out your recipes and bring the “best chili ever”!

PICNIC AT THE PARK
JULY 3
10:30 A.M.

We will have our church service at 10:30 a.m. on July 3 at Torrance Park in the Bandshell on the corner of Arlington and Santa Fe (near Sepulveda). After the service, our Fellowship Committee will be BBQing hamburgers and hot dogs and providing chips/nachos, soda/water/coffee, and dessert for the whole family for a suggested donation of \$3/person or \$15/family. [Those who attend from the community who are not regular TFB attendees will be invited to eat free of charge.] Free shuttle bus service for everyone will be available from our church parking lot starting at 9:30 a.m.

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. Or visit us on the web at www.torrancefirstbaptist.org