

the Proclaimer

June 2014

Volume 27 Issue 6



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Women's Ministries presents a
Progressive Dinner
Saturday, June 7 ~ 5:00 p.m.

Ladies, please join us for a girls' night out. We will be having a progressive dinner (where we will have salad at one house, move to another house for the main dish, and then to another for dessert.) We will meet at the church for either the bus or to carpool. The cost is \$10 per person. Our hostesses will be: Karla, Casie, and LuAnn.

Sign up in the patio.

Father/Son Fishing Trip
Saturday, June 14, 6 a.m. ~ 3:30 p.m.

The Journeymen are inviting all men to attend this fishing trip at Green Valley Lake in the San Bernardino mountains. We will carpool, leaving at 6 a.m. and returning at around 3 or 4 p.m. The cost is \$30 + money for lunch. Please contact Scott Sealey, 310/212-5753 or at scoman1@aol.com, to sign up and let him know if you can be a driver.

You can also sign up in the patio.



From the Pastor's Heart



Turning our hearts to God.

Our worship of God is one of the cornerstones of our faith. Each week we gather together in what we call a worship service—a time for us to join together in focusing on God and worshipping Him. And one of the most powerful expressions of worship is music. So those who lead us into worship through music play a very important role in our together experience each Sunday.

Mark Duvall has been our Contemporary Worship Service Leader for eleven years. He has truly helped those of us in that service to connect with God, praise Him, adore Him and refresh our devotion to Him through music. So with a sad heart, I am announcing that Mark is stepping down as our Contemporary Worship Service Leader. We will truly miss his spiritual leadership and the Duvall family—wife Casie, son Gibson and daughter Haley. Their last Sunday with us will be **June 15, so we will be having a special time to say thanks to them for their ministry among us. A basket will be available for cards of appreciation.**

I ask you to pray for them as they find new opportunities to

serve their Lord. Also pray for our worship band as they continue to lead us into God's presence through music. We have two capable band members who will lead us during this time of transition, Karla Gaines and Peter Fuqua. I ask you to lift them up in prayer and encourage them as they temporarily take on this responsibility.

Also please pray for the search for our next Contemporary Service Worship Leader. God knows our needs and will provide. In the meantime we will stay faithful to worshipping Him together.

Serving Christ together,
Pastor Charlie

Reflections by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

We live in a world filled with distractions and this can present us with problems if we let it...especially in our life of discipleship with the Lord Jesus. The nation of Israel dealt with many distractions especially as they were preparing to enter the Promised Land. This is why Joshua gave the Israelites this exhortation in Numbers 14:8-9:

"If the Lord is pleased with us, He will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will swallow them up.

Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them" (NIV).

In Chapter 13, the people of Israel had just received an alarming report of the obstacles they would face as they entered the land, and they were in a state of panic. This is why Joshua told them they must stay focused on the Lord. Their God was absolutely trustworthy and He would do exactly as He had promised. How true!

You know, it is so easy for us (just like those people) to get caught up in our circumstances and lose sight of what God has for us. We, like them, must make sure our FOCUS stays on Him. But how can we do this?



Four important actions come to mind:

First, we must regularly spend time with God in His Word. So often we listen to the voices around us rather than communicating with Him. Our time in His Word will always give us the right perspective.

Second, we have to remember that He has a plan for our lives. No matter what the circumstances or distractions, He is still God and He is still in control. He is not frustrated by our circumstances.

(Continued on page 11)



We Get Mail

Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank Pastor Charlie, Pastor Rog and Joyce, and Neville and Irene Hardy for their visits during the time that Doug was hospitalized with a stroke and the other ensuing health issues. Those visits seemed to come at just the right time. We are also grateful for the cards we received from the Board of Deaconesses and other church members. We especially want to thank you for your prayers through Doug's three months of hospitalization, and now three months home with caregivers. There were days we know that we couldn't have made it through without your prayers for His Loving Arms around us.

More answers to prayer came just today. We received the call that Doug has been accepted back into rehabilitation to start the therapy to enable him to walk. We are still in need of prayer warriors for this challenging time.

Janet would also like to thank the Women's Ministries Team for the beautiful roses she was presented with during the Mother's Day service for having the longest labor. It was the second best result of that labor!

With very grateful hearts,
Doug and Janet Luden

you're invited to a

90th Birthday Luncheon



For:
Dorothy Morgan

When:
Saturday,
June 28,
1-6 p.m.

Where:
TFB Gym

RSVP to:
Becky,
310/371-5123

No gifts, please



*Church
Work
Day*

June 21 (Saturday)
9 a.m. ~ 4 p.m.

The Facilities Management Team is once again requesting your help in keeping our church facilities in tip-top condition.

A Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided for all who come to help.

Remember:

“Many hands make light work.”
Don't leave it up to the same few workers.

Kidz Ministries End of School Year Party

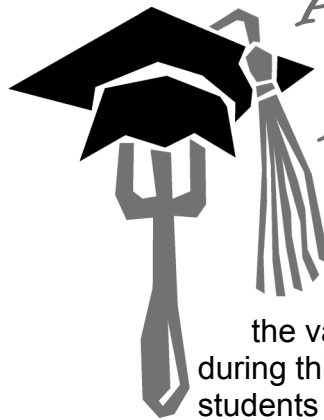
June 4 marks the end of our Wednesday night Kidz Ministry for the school year. Parents, we invite you to join us **(6:45pm-8:15pm)** for a night of games, relays and ice cream as we welcome the summer season together!



June 15

Summer is just about here and on Fathers Day, **June 15**, our students will be promoted into their NEW Sunday School classes based on the grade they will be entering this Fall.

Everyone will attend their current class, which will give our teachers the chance to celebrate briefly and honor their promoting students. Then, in a cascading event, beginning with our graduating HS Seniors, students will be taken to and introduced in their new classes.



Promotion Celebration (June 11) for 6th & 8th Grade Students

Junior High is a milestone in our lives and we want to recognize the value of partnering with our families during this important time. As our 6th grade students move up and our 8th grade students leave for High School, let us raise a glass of punch to inspire, challenge and celebrate what God is doing and will continue to do in these young lives. Look for invitations in the mail with more details.



Pacific Park®

Wednesday, July 9 (9am-6pm)

Attention **incoming 5th-8th grade students:**

Fun in the sun is on the horizon as we venture to Pacific Park at the Santa Monica Pier for a day of unlimited rides, lunch and enjoying the California sun and Pacific Ocean.

Cost is \$20, which includes lunch.

Start talking to your friends before school ends and invite them to join us for a day at the beach!

Congratulations to our Graduates!

College

Rebekah Huffman, BS in Human Services, from University of Phoenix
 Mark Kellogg, BA in Art/Multi-Media, from San Diego State
 Jeffrey Nawa, BS in Business Marketing/Management, from Cal State, Long Beach

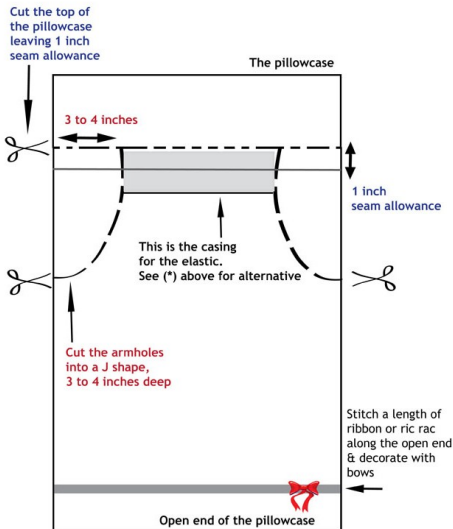
High School

Allison Cordova	Kurt Kellogg	Jonathan Norris
Gibson Duvall	Olivia Lee	Leah Perez
Kathy Hadley	Arielle Meyer	Andrew Spitzer
Cheyenne Huffman	Imari Meyer	Jason Ward

Jr. High

Hannah Arquisch	Emma Fisher	Kami Morris
Malcolm Ehlers	Katie Leyman	Emilly Ortega
Maxwell Ehlers	Josiah Montgomery	Joshua Perez

(*) Instead of having an elasticated front for the dress, you can sew one or 2 darts to make sure the front fits the child's chest.



Pillowcase Dress-Making

June 19, 2 p.m.

If you would be interested in learning how to sew pillowcase dresses, which will be sent to little orphan girls in Swaziland, Africa, please join us for a day of "sowing." We will get together on Saturday, June 19, at 2 p.m.

Please bring your own sewing machine and new or gently used cotton pillowcase(s), plus 2½ yards double fold bias tape, 12-18" of ¼" elastic, and coordinating all-purpose thread for each dress. Contact Irene Hardy, 310/328-7263, for more information and to let her know that you will be coming.



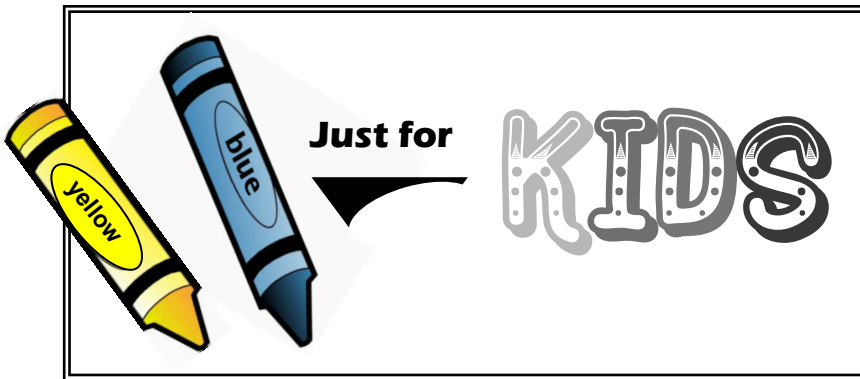
"Together we can make a difference...one little dress at a time."

TFB Tithes and Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately \$51,760 in the month of April.

ALSO: Thank you for giving \$1,368 to help those devastate by severe storms in the South & Mid-west.



A FATHER'S LOVE

Psalm 103:13 (NIV) describes what God the Father feels toward us:
 "As a father has _____ on his children, so the
 LORD has _____ on those who fear him."

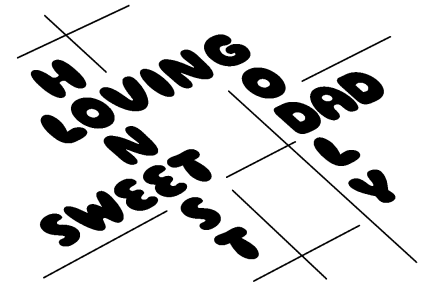
Directions: Match the biblical children to their father, using the clues by the father's name. Then write the corresponding letter on the line to complete the Bible verse above.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| • Shem, Ham and Japheth = M | • Rachel and Leah = S | • Cain, Abel and Seth = O |
| • Solomon = O | • Isaac and Ishmael = P | • Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, |
| • Jonathan = I | • John the Baptist = N | Zebulun, Joseph, Benjamin, Dan, Gad, |
| • Jesus = C | • Jacob and Esau = A | Naphtali, Asher and Dinah = S |

- God:** "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." C
- Adam:** God gave him another son because his older killed the younger. _____
- Noah:** His sons were blessed and told to multiply and replenish the earth. _____
- Abraham:** God promised he would be a father of many nations. The Jews and Arabs descended from these two sons. _____
- Isaac:** His older son sold his birthright, and his younger son tricked Isaac and received the blessings for the firstborn. _____
- Laban:** He had two daughters; the older was tender-eyed and the younger very beautiful. Both married Jacob. _____
- Jacob:** Two wives and two handmaids gave him 12 sons and a daughter. _____
- Saul:** His son was David's best friend. _____
- David:** He had many children, but one was known for his wisdom, for having many wives and for building God's temple. _____
- Zechariah:** His son, a cousin to Jesus, was born to be a messenger of repentance. _____

A WORD COLLAGE FOR Dad

Create this artwork to express your love and appreciation for your dad or another special man this Father's Day.



What you need:

- A white painting canvas, foam-core board or poster board
- Letter stickers (or foam letters and glue)

What you do:

1. Using the letters, spell out words that describe your dad's character (loving, honest, godly, etc.) and/or his titles (protector, provider, mentor, etc.).
2. Arrange words in a crossword style, both horizontally and vertically.
3. When you have a design you like, stick the words onto the blank canvas or board.
4. Present the gift to your dad or another special man on Father's Day. He'll enjoy this reminder of your love and appreciation.

Recurring Weekly Events:

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 2p Sing @ Royalwood	2	3 6p Mnsrty Teams: Fellowship, Finance, GO, Outreach & Wor. 7p Deacon/ess	4 6:45p K-6th Kidz Finale Social	5 7p Beacon Light	6 Anx reserved all day for Loaves & Fishes	7 11a Loaves & Fishes 5p Women's Progressive Dinner
8 5:20p Prayer Gathering	9 7p DiscDev	10	11 6th & 8th grades Promotion Celebration	12 7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's	13	14 6a Father/Son Fishing Trip 9a VBS Training 6:30p Singles' Game Night (?)
15 Happy Father's Day Promotion Sunday	16 7p Facilities Team	17	18	19	20	21 9a All Church Work Day
22 5:20p Prayer Gathering	23	24	25	26	27 7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's	28 8:30a Jmymen's Study 1p 90th B'day for Dorothy Morgan 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out
29 2p Jr. Highers leave for camp	30					

Upcoming June Events:

- 7/4 ~ Jr. Highers return from Summer Camp, 12n
- 7/5 ~ VBS Decorating, 2-6p
- 7/6 ~ Combined Service & BBQ, 10a
- 7/11 ~ VBS, 6:30-9p
- 7/12 ~ VBS, 9a-4p; Journeyment's Guns & Grub, 10:30a
- 7/13 ~ VBS Wrap-up
- 7/14-18 ~ Juniors to Oak Glen for Summer Camp
- 7/20 ~ Blood Drive, 8a-2p



2014

Sunday

Worship Services:
9:15 & 11 a.m.

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.
Worship & Witness, 6 p.m.
New Covenant Children's S.S., 11 a.m.
New Covenant (Korean) Worship, 12:45 p.m.
New Covenant (Korean) Fellowship, 2 p.m.

Monday

Ladies' Prayer, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

High School Revive, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

TFB (K-6th grades), 6:45 p.m.
(last one for Summer, 6/4)
Jr. High QUEST, 6:45 p.m.
Small Group Bible Study, 6:45 p.m.
Choir Practice, 7 p.m.
New Covenant (Korean) Bible Study, 8 p.m.
Open Volleyball, 8:15 p.m.

Thursday

Ladies' Bible Study, 2 p.m.
Worship Band Practice, 6:30 p.m.
Next Step Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.

Friday

Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m.

Saturday

New Covenant (Korean) Prayer, 6 a.m.



Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

Please invite anyone of any age to join us.



Game Night, which is usually scheduled for **6:30 p.m.** the second Saturday of the month (**June 17**), has not yet been scheduled because we do not have a host home. If you would like to host the Singles' Game Night in June, please call Jude, 424/800-1910.



Dinner Out ~ Saturday, June 28, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Paddy-O's Irish Pub, 20320 S. Western Avenue at Del Amo Blvd.



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

"Glory Perceived"

by Laura Springer, M.Div., Th.M

God is obvious for any who have eyes to see. God's "invisible attributes...have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world" (Romans 1:20 ESV) and "The heavens declare the glory of God" (Psalm 19:1a). For Christians, whose perception has been redeemed by Jesus' blood, though, seeing the evidence can still be tough. I don't know about you, but too many days my life is routine. My attention falters and I miss the message that creation declares, Glory!

The other day on my way to work at Biola, I pressed pause and took the road less traveled. Rather than the short, direct path, I chose to walk through the park that runs along part of our campus. Walking on the pavement, between mowed grass and the cement-lined creek, I entered the tunnel under La Mirada Blvd. As I emerged, I spotted a hummingbird hovering over the creek. It hovered in place, then up, then down, then side to side and then backwards. Hummingbird science shouted: Glory.

My attention heightened, I began to see. Green plants glowed in the morning sun. Water gurgled. A Mallard dipped its bill in the water. I was glad to have arrived early enough to slow down and enjoy the moment. This place, this beauty, this teeming life speaks. How had I not taken the time to notice its message? Glory!

As I continued on to my office, I began to realize how much I had missed, walking just to get somewhere and working just to finish something. Yes, even the work and play shout: Glory!

God is Creator and Lord of everything: algebra, knees, painting, dinner, medicine, puppies, engineering, and English class. While nothing in creation is perfect this side of heaven, even that which is desperately broken reflects glory as if by shattered glass. We only need hearts to see.

As for me, I'll be spending more mornings in Creek Park. How about you?



Smile Awhile!



To all the blondes out there who may have been offended by last month's jokes, please forgive me!
I was going to put in some brunette jokes to even the score,
but then realized that two wrongs don't make a right. (A.L., ed.)



Thoughts on Marriage (written by kids)

What is marriage?

"Marriage is when you get to keep your girl and don't have to give her back to her parents." —Eric, 6

How can a stranger tell if two people are married?

"You might have to guess, based on whether they seem to be yelling at the same kids." —Derrick, age 7

Is it better to be single or married?

"It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them." —Anita, age 9

How would the world be different if people didn't get married?

"There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there?" —Kevin, age 8

How would you make a marriage work?

"Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a dump truck." —Rickey, age 10

The child was a typical four-year-old girl -- cute, inquisitive, bright as a new penny. When she expressed difficulty in grasping the concept of marriage, her father decided to pull out his wedding photo album, thinking visual images would help. One page after another, he pointed out the bride arriving at the church, the entrance, the wedding ceremony, the recessional, the reception, etc.

"Now do you understand?" he asked.

"I think so," she said, "is that when mommy came to work for us?"

A father's helpful advice

When Virginia and José decided to get married, they planned a large wedding in their Phoenix church. That was in June 1972. They are very happily married today, 34 years later. "It's been a blessed marriage," Virginia says. "I'm truly lucky."

José agrees and knows why the marriage is blessed. It's because he follows the advice Virginia's father gave him at the time of their wedding. "Take care of her," the father said, "like Christ took care of the church."

In the New Testament, Christ is described as a Bridegroom with the church being his bride (see John 3:29 and Revelation 21:9). That union has not and cannot be broken. "The gates of hell will not prevail against it [the church]" (Matthew 16:18).

José still takes care of Virginia, and Virginia still takes care of José. Together they take care of their three sons. And Christ continues His care of the church in a blessed, strong and everlasting marriage.

Published in: Newsletter Newsletter June 2006

From Lauran Bethell in the Netherlands combating human trafficking

*TFB Global Outreach
Missionary News*

Dear Friends at Torrance First Baptist,

This year marks the 29th since my commissioning with International Ministries. And in this penultimate year leading up to a significant “anniversary-that-ends in zero,” I celebrate the “Then” and the “Now.”

THEN: when I began meeting people in prostitution on the streets of Bangkok in 1986, NO ONE even used the term “human trafficking.”

NOW: “Human trafficking” is a term widely used. Spotlights of awareness are bringing it out of the darkness and baring its evil truth so that it can be defeated.

THEN: There were very few projects—Christian or otherwise—which were offering victims help, hope and healing. NOW: the number of those feeling called to ministry with victims in those dark places continues to grow daily! THEN: those of us working with the traumatized victims didn’t know much about trauma’s effect on them—or on us as care-givers. NOW: good experience-based research helps us to understand how to lead victims/survivors through their horrific stories to a place of growth, wisdom and compassion, and—also important—how to take care of the caregiver, who takes into him/herself the trauma of the other, and can experience burn-out and dysfunction as a result. We’ve come so far! And I’m so very blessed to have the privilege over these years of witnessing such a powerful movement of God’s Spirit across this world, calling so many to offer God’s Unconditional Love to victim (and victimizer) through relationship, rescue, reintegration, protection, prosecution and preventions...

...When I’m not organizing conferences, I have the privilege of serving the Boards of two distinctly different but equally cutting-edge organizations which are powerfully impacting the lives of victims and the vulnerable:

I.) Make Way Partners (MWP) has as its motto: “With the Hope of the Gospel,” to go 1) where women and children are at highest risk; 2) to the most ‘dangerous’ and ‘remote places.’ With extensive work in S. Sudan, they serve in places where children have to flee from bombs and rapist slave-traders. MWP stares fear in the face and confronts it with the provision of food, books, health-care, dorms—huge doses of Christ’s Hope.

II.) Justice and Care, a group that 1) courageously and aggressively investigates incidences of human trafficking; 2) secures the release of victims; 3) methodically prepares evidence towards prosecution of perpetrators and criminal networks; and 4) does whatever it takes to make sure that the best after-care is provided for the victims—for however long it is needed. They are the bearers of Christ’s Care and Compassion for the most vulnerable in India.

I’m still travelling, speaking, awareness-raising, helping to develop new organizations, attending board meetings...But increasingly, I enjoy staying at home with my cat, Mischa, and hosting many wonderful people—often guiding them to discern God’s Call to minister with the most vulnerable and exploited people on our earth. Come visit!

Thank you for your very faithful and generous support of the ministry God has given me through the years! You were on the journey with me THEN and continue with me NOW. I don’t really have the words to express my thankfulness for the ways you have cared for me, and shared your resources and generosity. We’ve been on this journey together for many years. God continues to be faithful and I’m so thankful that I have the privilege of witnessing so many “new things” in the world of combating the evil of human trafficking. You have been a significant part of the journey.

Thank you for blessing my life—and for your continued prayers.

May God bless you richly,
Lauran



Lauran Bethell
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2135 KT Hoofddorp
THE NETHERLANDS
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Reflections

Continued from p. 2

Third, It is imperative that we keep our eyes on Him. It is so easy to focus on the circumstances themselves or other people, but we must not do this. We must be seeking to put Him first in our lives and allow Him to LEAD US according to His will.

Fourth, we must remember that He is the God who always keeps His promises to His children. Sadly, the people of Israel continually forgot this glorious truth. This lack of faith hindered them greatly.

Our God is faithful. He was faithful to Israel and He will be faithful to us. O, dear family, may we keep our eyes on Him no matter what may seek to distract us. Thankfully, our distractions do not distract Him.

Keeping my eyes on Jesus,
Pastor Reg

*Attention Men
Save the Following
Dates*



- July 12 ~ Guns 'N' Grub \$35 (includes ammo & lunch), 10:30 a.m.
- August 9 ~ Tour of Endeavor /Breakfast, 9 a.m.
- September 19-21 ~ Men's Conference @ 1000 Pines

Sympathy



Please pray for the following family who has lost a loved one:

Tom Nordstrom's sister-in-law, Cheryl Zuckerberg, is now with the Lord.

It's a boy!

Grandparents,
Dave and Anita Fleming,
announce the birth of
Matthew Daniel Shanks,
born on April 30.
He weighed 8 lbs.
5 oz. and
was 20½ inches long.
He joins
Mom and Dad,
Jessica and Jasen,
and big sis, Abby.



September 27-28

We will celebrate Torrance First Baptist Church's 100th Anniversary September 27-28 with lots of special activities. Former pastors and members alike have been invited to join us for the weekend, which includes a special catered dinner on Saturday (tickets, \$40/person, will go on sale later), but it is limited to 150 people.

After the dinner, there will be a program in the Worship Center (open to all) with a video looking back over the past 100 years, historical displays and words of remembrance.

Sunday morning will be a combined service followed by a BBQ and chili cook-off, popcorn, cotton candy, giant slide/jumper, games, etc. The anniversary gift (patio fountain) and time capsule will be dedicated.

We are taking donations to fund the proceedings (except for the dinner which will pay for itself). Also, if you have any old TFB photos, videos, etc. to share, drop them by the church clearly labeled with your name so we can copy and return them to you.

Don't forget:

*You are invited to
Sue Miller's 60th Birthday*

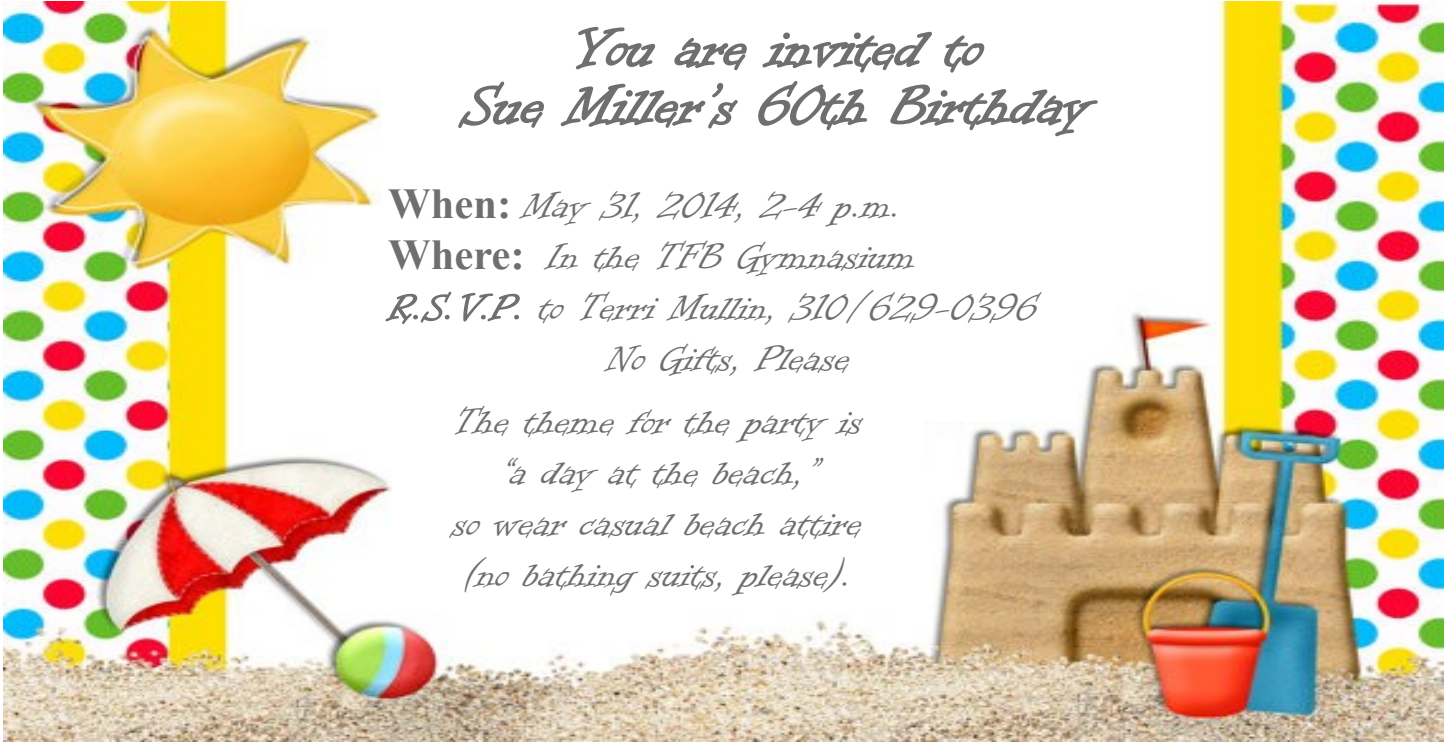
When: *May 31, 2014, 2-4 p.m.*

Where: *In the TFB Gymnasium*

R.S.V.P. *to Terri Mullin, 310/629-0396*

No Gifts, Please

*The theme for the party is
"a day at the beach,"
so wear casual beach attire
(no bathing suits, please).*



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 Task Force Bravo for children.

For more information, contact the church office: 310.328.5030 or info@fbclife.org or visit us on the web at www.fbclife.org