

Torrance First Baptist Church
the Proclaimer

August 2014 Volume 27 Issue 8



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"so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 15:6).

With a desire to encourage a "one heart and mouth" worship experience and to foster the oneness Jesus prayed for us, we will be joining TOGETHER for one blended service at **10:15 a.m.** each Sunday followed by lunch TOGETHER. The goal is to worship God and celebrate our church family TOGETHER.

Schedule:

- 9 a.m. ~ One combined adult Sunday school class
- 10:15 a.m. ~ Blended Worship Service and Children's Church (nursery-2nd)
- 11:30 a.m. ~ Lunch

- Bring your own lunch or reserve a lunch for a donation of \$5 per person or maximum of \$20 per immediate family.
- Lunch menu will be posted each week for following Sunday.
- Reservation needs to be in office no later than Wednesday noon.
- To keep costs down, please pay for any lunches you have Reserved, even if you do not use them.
- A few lunches will be available

Be a part
 of our



**PORTRAIT
 SIGN-UPS**

**begin
 August 3**

family album

by



In coordination with our 100th anniversary, we are planning to have a new pictorial directory created. Sign-ups will begin on **Sunday, August 3**, for appointments to have your picture taken **August 19-23**.

If you will be on vacation during those dates, there will be make-up times August 26-30.

Make plans to be included in the new photo directory!

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

From the Pastor's Heart



Turning our hearts to God.

In just a few weeks we will be celebrating our 100th Anniversary as the First Baptist Church of Torrance, making us the oldest church in town. This means that 100 years ago (in 1914), seven years before Torrance was officially registered as a city, some committed followers of Jesus **officially** established the first

church in Torrance that they had started in 1911 when they traveled down from Los Angeles on a mission to have a place for people to worship God and follow Christ. We have been doing that ever since, having moved to our current location in 1922.

Our biblical focus for this celebration is taken from Hebrews 12:1-2. Three phrases are our focal point:

One: *“surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses,”* referring to the past generations of the faithful who, even during persecution and tough times, continued in their faith.

Two: *“let us run with perseverance the race marked out*

for us,” referring to our God-given mission to make disciples.

Three: *“let us fix our eyes on Jesus,”* referring to our focus being placed on Jesus. He is why TFB exists. He is why we continue to gather, worship and serve. And He is our reward. We need nothing else or more to continue what those Christ followers before us started in 1914.

I look forward to our time together on Saturday and Sunday, September 27 and 28. Mark those dates on your calendar and plan to join us for a great time of thanksgiving, praise and celebration.

Pastor Charlie

Reflections by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

Have you ever used one of these phrases in reference to yourself: “A sinner saved by grace,” or “Forgiven, but not perfect”? These phrases are often found in “church language,” but they do not relate a complete understanding of our true identity according to Scripture. Please note what the Apostle Paul says in Romans 8:1-2:

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.”

Paul’s favorite phrase to refer to believers in the New Testament is “in Christ.” Think

with me — through the miracle of salvation, we have been placed in Christ. This means that when Almighty God sees us, He doesn’t just see us as a sinner saved by His grace; He sees us as righteous as the very Son of God Himself. We ask, “Is that because we are that righteous?” Absolutely not! It is because that righteousness (the righteousness of Christ) is what I have been given by the grace of God (Romans 3:21-24). That is who I am now in Christ! That is my true identity.

Ponder this staggering truth: when you and I have been in heaven for ten thousand years, we will not be any more righteous in the sight of God



than we are right now. We ask, “How is that possible?” It is only possible because we are in Christ through faith in His Name for the forgiveness of our sins (Ephesians 2:8-9). Our righteousness before God is not based on our performance for Christ, but our POSITION in Christ. Because we are in Him, there is no condemnation. When we fail Him, our enemy, Satan, rushes in to condemn us. It is at this time we are vulnerable to looking away

Continued on p. 11



We Get Mail

Dear TFB Family,

We can not thank you enough for your warm and encouraging send off. It was an incredibly sad day for us, but you made it as bearable as possible with your kind words and loving encouragement.

We very much appreciate all the cards and the extremely generous gifts. We are blessed to have been a part of such a wonderful church family for the past 11 years!

We miss you greatly already.

Sincerely,
Mark & Casie Duvall

Journeyman & Friends to California Science Center Saturday, August 9 8:30 a.m.



Everyone (not just the men) is welcome to join us for breakfast before heading for the Science Center at Exposition Park to view the space shuttle Endeavour, one of the retired orbiters of the Space Shuttle program of NASA, the space agency of the United States. Come view a little bit of our phenomenal space history.

We will meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast and then depart from the church at 9:15 a.m. We will arrive at Exposition Park at 9:45. Our tour of the Space Shuttle begins at 10:15. You are on your own to enjoy other activities at the Park. We will leave the Park at 2 p.m. and get back to the church at 3 p.m.

Costs include a \$5/person breakfast donation and \$2/person at Exposition Park. Cost to park is \$10/car. We will be taking the bus but also encourage car-pooling. Sign up in the patio or call J.J. Plock, 310/324-6583, or Bill Harenburg, 310/534-4439, for more details.

Friday, August 8 7 p.m.



All Ladies, 18+, sign up at the women's ministries table in the patio for a fun night of Bunco, a social dice game with a simple set of rules involving no skill or decisions to be made. Anyone can play, and it offers an opportunity to get together with other women of the church and enjoy a good time of fellowship. You might even win a prize. There is a donation of \$5 per person which covers the cost of snacks and prizes.



**TFB Kidz
Seaside Lagoon
August 13 (10a-3p)**

Come spend the day at Seaside Lagoon with TFB Kidz! We will enjoy a BBQ hot dog lunch as well as the cool refreshing water and warm sandy beach.



Cost is \$10 for the day.
Sign up with Pastor Jay beginning Sunday, August 3.



*High School Event
Thursday, August 7
9 a.m. ~ 9 p.m.
Cost: \$30 + food*

**Jr. High Quest
Huntington Beach Trip
August 20 (9a-6p)**

Catch a wave of fun as Quest heads south to Huntington Beach for the day.
Bring a sack lunch, sunscreen and \$5.
Join us as we enjoy the sun and surf together.

AXE
HUME LAKE CHRISTIAN CAMPS
SUMMER 2014 THEME

*High School Camp
Ponderosa @ Hume Lake
August 10-16 ~ \$480*

A \$50 deposit will hold a spot.

One of the many things we love about Hume Lake is the opportunity to get away from the busyness and distractions that young people face on a daily basis and have an incredible camp experience. When you come to "Pondy," you will hear the gospel preached, be challenged through Scripture, engage in sweet worship through music and get some time alone. Hume Lake takes pride in its high energy recreation allowing kids to be kids. That includes things like playing in the mud, running the gauntlet, doing the bike jump, and dominating in Kajabe Kan Kan. A week at Ponderosa can and will change your life forever.

See the Calendar on p. 7 for more August High School Events

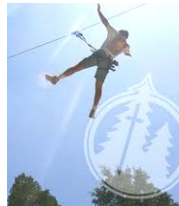


Now is the time to start looking for school supplies on sale to help supply filled backpacks to needy children. Would you like to help one, two or more children go back to school this fall with some new and fun school supplies? You can help by purchasing one or more backpacks and filling them with the following school supplies:

- 1½-2” notebook
- colored pencils (6-12)
- 1 pkg. #2 pencils
- pencil box/pouch
- 3 highlighters
- 1 pkg. lined wide ruled paper (K-5); college ruled (6-12)
- 1 spiral wide ruled notebook (K-5); college ruled (6-12)
- box of crayons
- 2 glue sticks
- pencil sharpener
- ruler
- scissors: small (K-5); large (6-12)
- set of markers (K-5)
- 2 pens
- eraser
- 3 pocket folders

Any extra of the above items will also be appreciated. We have a few extra empty backpacks here at the church that can be purchased in the patio for \$10. We will be collecting filled backpacks and extra items throughout August.

Thousand Pines Men's Conference ~ September 19-21



Wanna get away? Thousand Pines Men's Retreat is the place for you! During this weekend, we will not overload your schedule, count your calories, or ask you to mow the lawn. What we will do is provide you with gourmet meals boasting choice meats, opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship with godly men, and an open schedule to just let you be. So grab a couple friends or your whole church and we'll provide the bacon!



Vince Beresford

Our Speaker this year will be Vince Beresford. Vince was placed into the Los Angeles County foster care system at birth and later was returned to live with his birth mother. Vince lived with his birth mother in an abusive home surrounded by gangs, drugs and violence until he was 10 years old and then moved in with and was raised by his grandmother. Vince completed his Bachelors and Masters degrees at Azusa Pacific University (APU), earned his Doctorate degree at George Fox University and has been an Ordained Pastor since 1995. Vince was also a two-time National Champion pole-vaulter while attending APU. Vince has been married to his best friend Julia for over 20 years and they have three daughters.

Music will be provided by Craig Wilson who is the Children's Pastor at LifeBridge Christian Church in Colorado. He has been involved in drama and music for most of his life. Craig has a passion to see kids and adults experience God through entertainment and especially laughter. He is married to Julie Wilson and together they have their greatest productions yet...their two sons.



Craig Wilson



TFB Tithes and Offerings

Thank you for giving approximately \$72,693 in the month of June.



Just for

KIDS



BE HAPPY

In Matthew 5:3-10, Jesus begins his teaching with the Beatitudes. They give us many reasons to be happy. The Greek word for blessed, *makarios*, also means happy!

Directions: Complete the Beatitudes by matching the blanks in each "Happy" phrase on the left with the bold word(s) on the right.

1. "Happy are the POOR
IN SPIRIT  **hunger and thirst** for righteousness, for they will be filled."
2. "Happy are those who _____  **pure in heart**, for they will see God."
3. "Happy are the _____ **peacemakers**, for they will be called the children of God."
4. "Happy are those who _____ **persecuted** because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
5. "Happy are the _____ **poor in spirit**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
6. "Happy are the _____  **merciful**, for they will be shown mercy."
7. "Happy are the _____ **meek**, for they will inherit the earth."
8. "Happy are those who are _____ **mourn**, for they will be comforted."

Happy sunshine cupcakes

Psalm 144:15 says, "Blessed [or happy] are the people whose God is the LORD." Make these bright cupcakes to remember all the ways God makes you happy.



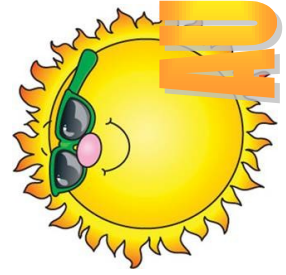
What you need:

- Adult help
- Cake mix
- Cupcake liners
- White frosting
- Yellow food coloring
- Black frosting or tube gel
- Candy corn

What you do:

1. Make cupcakes by following directions on the box. Let them cool completely.
2. Stir yellow food coloring into white frosting, making it as yellow as the sun. Frost the cupcakes.
3. Using black frosting, make a happy face on each cupcake.
4. Around each cupcake, place candy corn with points out to resemble sun rays. Enjoy!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Recurring Weekly Events:
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Sunday Worship Services: 10:15 a.m. & 6 p.m. Adult Sunday School, 9 a.m. Children's Church, 10:15 a.m. Church Family Lunch together, 11:30 a.m. New Covenant Children's S.S., 11 a.m. New Covenant (Korean) Wrship, 12:45 p.m. New Covenant (Korean) Fellowship, 2 p.m.
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Monday Ladies' Prayer, 10:30 a.m.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Tuesday High School Revive, 7 p.m. [except 8/12 & 19]
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Wednesday 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 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.



AUGUST 2014

Upcoming September Events:

- 9/7 ~ Sunday School Promotion
- 9/19 ~21 ~ Men's Conference @ 1000 Pines
- 9/27 ~ 100th Anniversary Catered Dinner; time TBA
- 9/27 ~ 100th Anniversary Special Program; time TBA
- 9/28 ~ 100th Anniversary Combined Service, BBQ, Chili Cook-off, Games, etc.; beginning at 10a

31
 4p HS Pool Party @ Bundoc's



Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

Please remember that game night and dinner night are great opportunities to invite friends, whether they attend TFB, go to another church, or don't go to church at all.



No Game Night in August ~ We will resume in September. Call Jude, 424/800-1910, if you have any questions.

Dinner Out ~ Saturday, August 26, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Vegas Seafood Buffet, 3525 W. Carson St. Torrance (Del Amo Mall across from the theaters).



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

"Making Decisions as the Body of Christ"

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

We make decisions in many different ways. We hold a finger in the air to see which way the culture is heading. We look inside and follow our hearts. We think through the costs and benefits, choosing the decision with the highest payout. We pray and seek God's will.

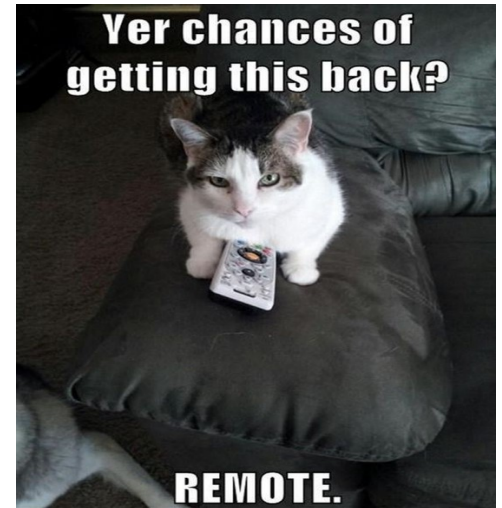
Each method has some benefit. Cultural context clarifies the relevance of decisions (John 17:14-19). Values and strengths leverage competence and commitment (Ephesians 2:10). Thinking through costs and benefits insures enough resources (Luke 14:28). Founding the entire process on prayer and worship increases the likelihood of a Christ-centered decision (Philippians 4:6). All these are good and necessary. But in the body of Christ, there is another piece.

**"Better decisions
are made with
a multitude
of counselors"**

Good decision-making considers experience, knowledge, affections, and God's will, all in the context of community. God created humanity as a people and he called the church as one body (Genesis 1:26-27; Ephesians 4:4, 16). This does not mean every decision is a committee decision; it does mean that every decision includes the community in the decision-making process. Better decisions are made with a multitude of counselors (Proverbs 15:22). We do this because we are one body, and we do this because we need the perspectives and skills of members of the body.



Smile Awhile!



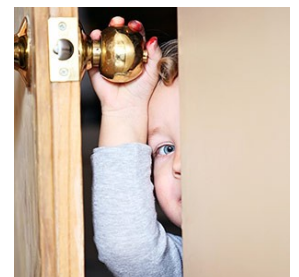
My friend has 6 locks on her door. She said her theory is to only lock 3 of them. That way if a thief tries to pick the locks, he'll always be locking 3 of them no matter how he does it.

Time to make up!

After an evening filled with vigorous sibling disagreements, three children finally turned in for the night. A few hours later, a major thunderstorm woke them all up. When their father heard the children conversing upstairs, he called to see what was happening.

A small, timid voice answered, “We’re all in the closet forgiving one another!”

Mark 11:25 ~ “*But when you are praying, first **forgive** anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will **forgive** your sins, too.*”



*TFB Global Outreach
Missionary News*



Two thousand fourteen marks the 40th Anniversary for Rainbow Acres, a mission that TFB supports through Transformation Ministries.

Rainbow Acres is a Christian Community in Camp Verde, AZ with a heart that empowers persons with developmental disabilities. It promotes an holistic approach to care that fosters a sense of self-worth through family style living in a loving and accepting community. Job skills, social standards and self-help methods are highly valued, and are taught and encouraged by employees and volunteers motivated by Christian values of love and concern. Rainbow Acres strives to provide every opportunity for residents, called Ranchers, to pursue lives of dignity, purpose and respect.



David Butler has made Rainbow Acres Ranch his home since its beginning in 1974. In the forty years since his arrival, David has grown crops, done landscaping, and cared for animals. At one time David was responsible for a four-man crew which cared for a herd of 25 goats!

Reader's Digest published a story in 1986, featuring David and his journey from a lonely and moody teenager to a life of purpose and dignity with the help of Rainbow Acres and the dreams of founder Ralph Showers.

Today David's duties include monitoring the local weather and ensuring that the lawns around the administration building and the basketball court are watered as needed.

Like every Rancher at Rainbow, David also has chores to do in his home at Hoover House, where he lives with nine other men and a dedicated team of Caregivers. Although the Ranch property has changed and may look more like a suburban neighborhood or a small community college campus nowadays, there are still animals that need tending. David enjoys doing what he can with the six rabbits that live in the barn area along with horses and dogs.

Two new houses for Ranchers are scheduled for completion this Fall! Aria House is named to honor the love of music shared by the sponsoring Van Dyck family. Its modern décor and artwork will reflect the theme. An unexpected bequest allows the building of a second house at the same time, which saves on construction costs, and the Board of Trustees chose to name it Wagner House, in honor of longtime President and CEO Gary Wagner. A more traditional theme will be seen throughout this home.



Wagner House



Aria House

Each of the modern houses at Rainbow includes a Great Room which encompasses a dining area and an entertainment center with comfortable seating for residents. Individual bedrooms offer privacy for ten Ranchers, and a suite is also set aside for the Caregivers who rotate in the house.

Aria House will join Koinania, Hoover and Patrick Houses by adding a two-bedroom apartment that may be used by staff members, consultants, Rancher families and volunteers. These two homes will bring the total living quarters to eleven houses and eight apartments!

Rainbow Acres is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year on Friday and Saturday, October 24 and 25. The weekend will be chock full of wonderful events to commemorate Rainbow Acres' lifetime of service. There will be a Rancher Craft Show and Sale, Fine Arts Show, Rancher Choir Concert and an Equestrian program. For more information, you can go to info@rainbowacres.com

Reflections

Continued from p. 2

from Him, and when we do, guilt and condemnation overwhelm us. We must keep our eyes on our wonderful Lord, for as we do, we remember to WHOM we belong, and that His righteousness is our righteousness. He will never let go of us (John 6:37). Praise His Name!

Child of God, rejoice that because of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, your sins have been forgiven forever, and you have become a member of His forever family (John 1:12-13). That is your true identity.

I'm forever looking to Him,
Pastor Rog



bringing
 cheer

Shut-in Ministry

Some of you may not be aware that TFB has an outreach ministry to our shut-ins. There are several people affiliated with our church that are ill and unable to get out and about. If you'd like to be a part of this ministry, it would involve meeting once-a-month for lunch at the church the second or third Tuesday of the month to get the latest updated list of those in need and a visit to one or more before the next meeting. Please contact Pastor Rog if you would like to join with us in this very rewarding ministry.

"I was
sick and
you visited
 me..."
 —Matthew 25:36 NKJV

<p><i>Senior Luncheon</i> <i>Friday</i> <i>August 22</i> <i>12:00 noon</i></p>	
	<p>it's a POTLUCK</p>
<p>Bring something to share!</p>	



Please pray for the following families who have lost a loved one:

The Cordova Family as Teresa's father, Ron Barrett, is now with the Lord; former member Bassam Juzdan passed away; and Laura Walleman lost her mother, Margaret.



Coming soon:

*Get ready to Celebrate
September 27-28*



JOIN US FOR A BBQ



Invite everyone you know, including past members and attendees, to join in as Torrance First Baptist Church celebrates our 100th Anniversary in September 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.



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@tfbclife.org or visit us on the web at www.tfbclife.org