

the Proclaimer

August 2015 Volume 28 Issue 8



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All men, Jr. High and older, are invited to join us for our quarterly breakfast get-together. Our speaker will be José Borges (Mari McMillian's brother), who will give his testimony and tell about his climb to Mt. Everest Base Camp. His title is "From TFB to EBC" (Everest Base Camp). Bring a friend! There is a \$5 suggested donation.

WILD ADVENTURE WEDNESDAYS

*For Kids
Kindergarten ~ 5th*



*August 5
10 a.m. ~ 4 p.m.*

The cost is \$6. Bring own lunch or \$\$ for lunch at Ruby's. Bring beachwear, a hat, water bottle, sunscreen & small backpack.

Mulligan's

Mini-Golf & More

*August 12
10 a.m. ~ 4 p.m.*

The cost is \$20 for access to all attractions. Bring extra money for lunch.



Parents, please drop off and pick up children at Seaside Lagoon and Mulligan's. Sign up in the patio.

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

From the Pastors Heart



I am writing this while struggling with a bout of the gout. I have never had gout before, and I never want to have it again. It is amazing how a little bitty tiny crystallized uric acid can cause so much pain. And how it can quietly develop without being noticed and then suddenly, “bang,” it hits. I had no warning signs and no symptoms until last Friday. I woke up and there it was—”bang.”

That same sudden “bang” can happen in our relationships

with each other. In my journey of faith, I have been the recipient of a “bang” numerous times and, unfortunately, I have also been the giver of “bangs” numerous times. These relational bangs often happen without warning and are often unintended. But nevertheless, the resulting hurt and anger is very real.

When I have been a part of such a painful, hurtful experiences, whether the giver or receiver, I have often asked God, “Why do we do this to each other? Why can’t we just get along and love one another like you have asked us to and we want to?”

Of course He immediately reminds me of the reality of living in this fallen world and the existence of a strong tendency and power in our flesh to sin. And recently, He has seemed to shout out to me this statement:

“That is why my grace flowing

through you is so vital. While living on this planet you will never completely be free of acts of greed, selfishness, and fear. You and all my children will never fully live out the fruits of my Spirit in life. The solution to experiencing a family of believers where the fruit of my Spirit thrives is for my grace to dominate your relationships with each other.”

And when it comes to the “bangs,” this means being patient and quick to forgive, because we all mess up from time to time. As a community of God’s children, our witness to the world and our effective service for our Lord hinges on God’s grace flowing through each of us toward one another.

May we all open our hearts to the grace of God flowing through us to one another.

Pastor Charlie

Reflections

by Pastor Rog



Dear Church Family,

How thankful I am for God’s Word. It declares to us the awesome glory of our Lord. It shows us our great need of Him. It makes known how our lives can bring honor to His Name. He earnestly desires that we have a personal relationship with Him. This becomes a reality when we believe Jesus to be God’s only unique Son (John 3:16) and our Savior from sin. And when we believe upon Him, our lives no longer belong to ourselves...but to Him. We

indeed are **blessed** of Him and He, in turn, desires that we be a **blessing** to others.

Matthew 5:6-8 tells us:

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled.... Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.... Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God.”

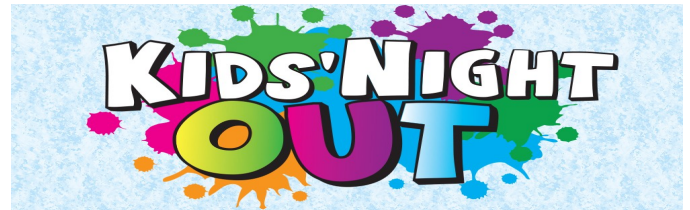
Becoming a blessing to others involves becoming more and more like the source of all

blessings—Jesus. Becoming like Jesus begins with salvation from sin. Sadly many people miss this step.

These beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-10) are inward attitudes only present in a person in whom Jesus is present. He teaches these principles, not to prompt us to be reformed, but instead to help us realize our



Bring a side dish to share and join us for food, fun, and fellowship. Sign up in the patio.



a.k.a

Parents' Date Night

Friday, August 21, 6-9 p.m.

Kids (infants through 5th grade) will have dinner and a movie, while the parents get an evening to themselves (after viewing a brief couples' devotional video, if they'd like). This is a once-a-month event on the 3rd Friday of each month. **This month is Backwards Night for a donation of \$3.**



We Get Mail

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to everyone who so generously supported my mission trip to Israel! I will be sharing photos and stories for all of you at an Open House at my home, 2713 - 183rd Street in Redondo Beach, on **Saturday, August 22, between 1 and 4 p.m.**

The next week I will be leaving for Equestrian School in West Virginia, so please stop by. I'd love to see you!



Olivia Lee



Loaves & Fishes Update

Our Loaves & Fishes Ministry takes place on the first Saturday of every month. We serve about 100 free hot meals and provide sack lunches for those who are needy in our neighborhood. Here are ways you can help:

- Bring a nutritious side dish by 10:45 a.m. on Saturday morning or before 2 p.m. on Friday to the office;
- Donate sack lunch items (fruit, individual fruit cups, chips, cookies, fruit drinks, etc.);
- Help set up tables and chairs (9-10:15 a.m.);
- Help serve the meal (10:45 a.m.-12 noon);
- Help prepare lunches on-site (9:00-10:45 a.m.);
- Help clean up (11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.).

Any and all volunteers make a significant contribution to this outreach ministry. The next Loaves & Fishes is on **August 1**. For more information, please contact Gale or Jill Lee, 310/371-1555.

College & High School News

HIGH SCHOOL Pool Party August 22 4 p.m.

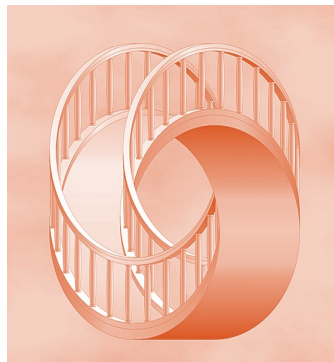
Meet at the Bundoc's
23146 Audrey
Torrance

HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE PRAYER



every 3rd Saturday

Saturday, August 15, 10~11 a.m.



College Hike at Bridge to Nowhere August 29 Meet at TFB at 7 a.m.

August Events for Jr. High

Craft Day August 5 1~3 p.m.

Meet at Peter's house, 25529 Cypress Street, in Lomita, for a fun day of crafting. Be sure and bring your creative imagination.

Bowling August 19 ~ 1-3 p.m.

Meet at P.V. Bowl. Note to Parents: If you go to www.kidsbowlfree.com and sign up your children, they will get 2 free games each week day all summer! So do it before 8/19, and save the cost of bowling.



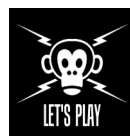
Pool Party August 12 1~4 p.m.

Meet at 1814 W. 245th Street in Torrance

IT'S TIME TO

GAME NIGHT **PLAY**

August 26 ~ 6:30-8 p.m.



We will be playing games in the gym. Come join the fun, and bring your friends. Snacks will be provided and it's all FREE!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Recurring Weekly Events:
						1 11a Loaves & Fishes	Sunday
2 2p Sing @ Rylwood 6p Worship/Witness	3	4	5 10a Wild Adventure to Seaside Lagoon 1p Jr. High Craft Day	6 7p Contemporary Vocal Practice	7 7p College/Young Adult	8 9a Men's Breakfast 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out	Worship Services: 9:15 a.m., 11 a.m. & 6 p.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. Covenant Children's S.S., 11 a.m. Covenant (Korean) Worship, 12:45 p.m. Covenant (Korean) Fellowship, 2 p.m.
9 5:20p Prayer Gathering	10	11	12 10a Wild Adventure to Mulligan's 1p Jr. High Pool Party	13 7p Beacon Light Mission	14 7p Young Marrieds	15 10a College/HS-Prayer	Monday Ladies' Prayer, 10:00 a.m. King's Family Karate, 6:30 p.m.
16	17 7p Finance Team	18 6p Ministry Teams: GO, Fellowship, Outreach, Worship, Disc. Dev. & FMT 7p Deacon/ess	19 1p Jr. High to Bowling	20 7p Contemporary Vocal Practice	21 12n Sr. Potluck 6p Kids' Night Out 7p College/Young Adult	22 4p HS Pool Party	Tuesday High School Revive, 7 p.m.
23 5:20p Prayer Gathering	24	25	26 6:30p Jr. High Game Night	27	28 7p Young Marrieds	29 6:00p Singles' Game Night	Wednesday Small Group Bible Study, 6:45 p.m. <u>No</u> Choir Practice in August Covenant (Korean) Bible Study, 8 p.m. Open Volleyball, 8:15 p.m.
							Thursday H.S. Band Practice, 7 p.m.
							Friday Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m.
							Saturday Covenant (Korean) Prayer, 6 a.m.

Upcoming September Events:

- 9/9 ~ Choir Practice Resumes, 7p
- 9/9 ~ Family Dinners Resume, 6p
- 9/9 ~ TFB Kids Resumes, 6:45p
- 9/14 ~ Men's BSF Resumes (Rev.), 6:55p
- 9/16 ~ Women's BSF Resumes (Rev.), 9:15a
- 9/18-20 ~ Men's Retreat at 1000 Pines
- 9/18 ~ Kids' Night Out, 6-9p
- 9/26 ~ Women's Ministry Bunco



2015



Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

Please invite anyone of any age to join us.

Dinner Night ~ Saturday, August 8, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Yummy Spot, 24416 Crenshaw, in Torrance.



Game Night ~ Saturday, August 29, 6:00 p.m. SHARP ~ Meet on the sand in Redondo Beach near restrooms in front of the Knob Hill Street entrance steps. Bring a chair or blanket and snacks Any questions, call Steve Gaal, 310/371-0245.



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

"We are the Body of Christ and he is the Head"

By Laura K. Springer, M.Div., Th.M.

There are many human organizations that do good work. Doctors Without Borders, Feeding America, and the American Red Cross are but a few. Many of these may be worth our time and money, but only one human organization has eternal worth: the Body of Christ, the church (Eph. 4:4).

We are members of Christ's Body and he alone is the Head. He alone gives life and meaning to the Body. He alone is sovereign over all things (Eph. 1:22-23). He alone gave himself for her and for her sanctification (Eph. 4:15; 5:25). He alone made peace, reconciling believers to God and destroying human divisions (Eph. 3:14-16).

We are members of one another. We love one another because our Head, whom we love, commands it (John 15:12). We work together, using the grace given to each by the Spirit, for the good of the Body and her Head (Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:7; 12:21-26; Eph. 4:7, 11-16). We are responsible

to Christ as head, to the church as his Body, and to one another as fellow members (Gal. 6:10; Eph. 4:15-16).

We are one and our unity consists in Christ-centeredness. He is the source of the Body's life. He weaves together a diversity of persons and congregations from every tribe, tongue, and language, forming the one Body and conformed her to his image (Rev. 7; 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 4:16).

Here's the cool thing. We are his Body wherever we are. We are his Body at work. We are his Body at home. We are his Body on the road. We are his Body when serving in good human organizations.

Gathered and dispersed, we are Christ's Body.

To learn more about the New Testament images of the church see Minear, P. S. (2004). *Images of the Church in the New Testament*. Louisville, Ky: Westminster John Knox Press.



Summer's gifts

Summer brings longer days, warmer nights and – for many people – time spent near water. Complete this puzzle to find out who's behind all those summertime joys.



Directions: Read Jeremiah 31:35 (NIV) below. Draw a around words describing God's actions. Draw an around words that describe day. Underline words that describe evening. Draw under words that describe the ocean.

He who appoints the sun to shine by day,
 who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night,
 who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar ...



Directions: Circle the capital letters. Then write them from left to right on the lines below to reveal God's name in this Bible verse.

i t T w H s p j E k e m a b L f g O h b c R d
 e D q r s t c e a t o n a h f z z v u A w y L
 a v n M q z l s k y z G u w H h m o T k j k Y

Answer: The LORD Almighty



A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. “We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods.”

The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, “I sure wish I’d gotten to know you sooner!”

Words to Live By

Gratitude gets us through the hard stuff. To reflect on your blessings is to rehearse God’s accomplishments. To rehearse God’s accomplishments is to discover His heart. To discover His heart is to discover not just good gifts but the Good Giver.

Gratitude always leaves us looking at God and away from dread. It does to anxiety what the morning sun does to valley mist. It burns it up.

—Max Lucado, *You’ll Get Through This*



Please pray for the following from our church family who have on-going needs:

- Della Andrew, Paul Ashcraft, Michael Banfield, Reba Belcher, Clara Carlson, Tom Cochran, Gloria Deering, Leah Douglas, Robin Fisher, George Fisk, Virgie Fletcher, Roger Garst, Joanne Gertz, Eugene/Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Helen Kessenich, Joan & Debbe Kindt, Mary Larsen, Doug Luden, Jane McKenzie, Joy Moore, Bill Morgan, Dave/Joy Pierson, Ralph Potter, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Austin Rayner, Jean Rayner, Margaret Rentfrow, Barbara/Randy Rudé, Edna Hazel Ruth, Ralph Schatz, Mary Schultz, Gerri Stoodley, Norma Vinsonhaler, Jerrolyn Vitali, Tammie Wakefield, and Aggie Williams.

Jon & Jerilyn Sousa with InFaith

Jon Is Now Pastoring Two Churches

No, that was not the plan. Eight years ago we helped start a new church in Salem, Oregon. Pablo Garcia was the founding pastor and Jon taught adult Sunday school for the first 1½ years. Since that time, our son-in-law Luis has been teaching adult Sunday school.

Two years ago, our church in Jefferson, Oregon, named long-time assistant pastor Miguel Velarde as the pastor.

With both churches taken care of by capable men, Jon wanted to focus on other areas of ministry. Very serious problems arose and both pastors resigned several months ago.

Therefore, two unplanned pastorates are now the reality in our lives. Our Jefferson church meets on Saturday nights and the Salem church meets on Sunday mornings.

Before the pastors resigned, both churches had dwindled in attendance quite a bit. That attendance needs to be built up. The only way to do it is by making disciples.



New Evangelistic Efforts

When Jon took over the pastorates again, he spent the first few months teaching on “Our Role in Evangelism.” In April Jon taught a seminar on how to use Bible storying in evangelistic home Bible studies. Three different couples from the two churches attended. Immediately we started looking for at least three different homes to teach in. Jon would teach the Bible studies and each one would have a couple that took the training as co-teachers, learning from Jon’s example what he taught in the seminar. The three couples are Juan and Remedios Alvarez, Baltazar and Herlinda Ortiz, and Luis and Jessie Zavala.

Within two weeks, we had five new Bible studies started—one each in Jefferson, Salem, and Lebanon, and two in Albany. Since then two more have been added—one in Halsey and another in Lebanon. Two are on hold for the summer. In all, there are over 30 people involved in these new evangelistic home Bible studies.

Building Relationships in Salem

We need more contacts with Hispanics in Salem. If the ministry is going to grow, our church needs to develop many new relationships with people who do not yet know Jesus. We are moving in two new directions.

First of all, we want to start what we call door-to-door prayer evangelism. We knock on doors, but instead of sharing Jesus, we ask for prayer requests. The visit is very short. We take down a name (we already have the address) and we promise to pray for them. We go back and visit once a month, asking how they are and asking again for prayer requests. Little by little trust is built.

Another thing we are going to do this summer is have a 5-Day Club in a park very close to apartments where many Hispanics live—the same apartments that we will be asking for prayer requests. We will be doing one 5-Day Club this summer and two next summer. Summer missionary Diana Alvarez will be helping us on this.

We have one problem—the name of our Salem church. We are a non-denominational church, but we have a denominational name. When we moved from the garage and started using a host church, we took on the name of the host church even though we are a separate entity that pays rent. We now see this as a detriment since we are working with people whose background is mostly Catholic. We need a neutral name.

We have been thinking and praying about this for several months. We have come up with a few ideas but have not found anything that we really like yet. Pray for a quick resolution to this problem, because we cannot start our door-to-door until we can say where we are from.

Thank you for supporting us and praying for each of our ministry outreaches.



Everyone tells the Bible story to everyone else in small groups after hearing the story several times in different ways. Learning the story is the most important part.

Reflections

Continued from p. 2

need to be **transformed** by His Spirit. You see, the beatitudes are the believer's internal characteristics, not external religious additions. And when we have been spiritually re-born, we will desire the thing we've never wanted before—a vibrant relationship with God.

The Matthew 5 passage says that we will hunger after Him (vs. 6) and want to see Him (vs. 8). We will desire to know Him more than anyone or anything else. Our heart's desire will be to have unbroken fellowship with Him. When this happens, we most certainly will be blessed of Him and our desire will be to share His blessing with others. The agenda of our daily lives will be changed: instead of selfish living—righteous living. Instead of compromising with what we know to be spiritual truth, we will seek to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. This kind of living can't help but be a spiritual blessing to others. The question to us is, "Are we beginning to see more clearly how being blessed of Jesus makes us a blessing to others?"

Yes, through the ministry of the indwelling Holy Spirit, the Lord is shaping and forming our hearts. May it be our earnest desire then to allow Him to have His way in our lives. For if we do, our lives will indeed be blessed and a blessing to others.

So thankful for our wonderful Savior,
Pastor Rog



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

Mark Grindle lost his brother, Michael; we received word that former member, Gertrude Haun, has passed away; and Ed Foster lost his brother, Ernie.



TFB Tithes & Offerings

Thank you for giving approximately \$53,935 in the month of June.



September 18-20

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!

- Things To Do: •Paintball — \$5
- Confidence Course •Mountain Bikes
 - Swimming Pool •Archery •BB Guns
 - Dirt Bike Ride - Bring your own gear
 - Motorcycle Ride to Big Bear - Bring your own Gear
 - Frisbee Golf •Rec Equipment
 - Malt Shop •Big Oak Café •Arte Shoppe

Cost: \$164 with a \$50 deposit due by August 9. The remaining balance is due by September 6. Sign up in the patio or call J.J., 310/324-6583.



Backpacks and School Supplies for Needy Kids in Coordination with TUSD, Love INC, Salvation Army & New Challenge Ministries Due anytime before the end of July

Please be looking for school supplies on sale to help provide filled backpacks to needy children so that they can 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
- scissors (small size, elementary; larger, grades 6-12)
- 1 pkg. lined paper (wide rule, elementary; college rule, grades 6-12)
- box of crayons
- 2 pens
- markers/colored pencils
- 1 pkg. #2 pencils
- pencil box/pouch
- pencil sharpener
- eraser(s)
- ruler
- 1 spiral notebook
- 2 glue sticks
- 3 pocket folders
- 3 highlighters

We have a few empty backpacks here at the church that you can purchase in the patio for \$10 and fill with the above items. Also, we have printed slips in the patio that you can use to attach to your backpacks to identify the age and gender that you bought for.

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 *TFBKidz* 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