

the Proclaimer

October 2015

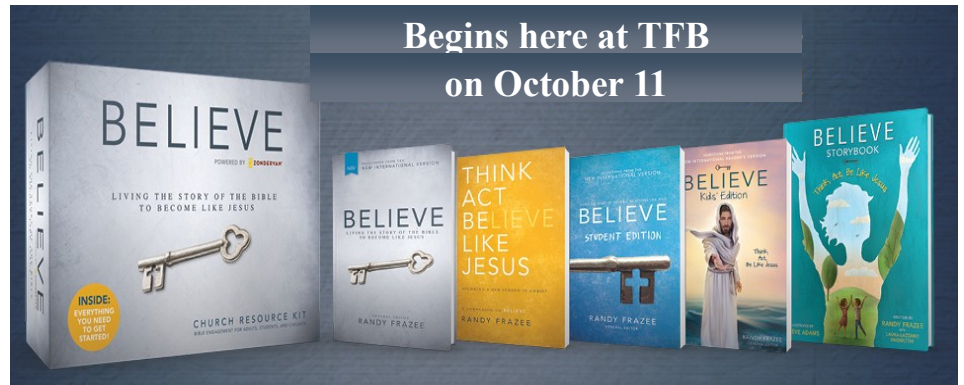
Volume 28 Issue 10



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From the Pastor's Heart



BELIEVE

An Invitation to a Spiritual Growth Experience.

You are invited to join us, beginning Sunday, October 11, as our TFB family engages in a 30-week series focused on helping us think, act and be more like

Jesus. The author, Randy Frazee describes it this way:

“The Bible is the most amazing story ever told, but it is a story that demands a response. It teaches us that the goal of the Christian life is to become like Jesus – for our own personal growth and for the sake of others. Every believer needs to ask three big questions: What do I believe? What should I do? Who am I becoming? The thirty short chapters of *Believe* unpack the ten key beliefs, ten key practices, and ten key virtues that help disciples to think, act, and be more like Jesus Christ.”

I believe (meaning I have full confidence and conviction) that Jesus Christ has called each of us to grow more and more into His likeness. This series covering ten key doctrines, ten key spiritual practices, and ten key Christ-like character traits/virtues, will pave the way for us to truly mature in our faith. Of course a key part of this is participation of heart, mind and soul from each of us. So I encourage you to open yourself up to God, engage in this series and see what God will do.

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

From the Pastor's Heart

Continued from p.1

The primary ways you can participate are:

- *Read a chapter a week from the book *Believe*, leading up to the Sunday sermon.
- *Participate in a Sunday morning service, hearing a sermon from the chapter you read.
- *Attend an adult Sunday school or small group studying the subject in more detail.
- *Memorize the Key Idea and Key Verse for each week.

Here is some organizational information:

- *The book *Believe* will be available for purchase beginning Sunday, September 27. The cost is \$10.
- *Small group signups will begin on Sunday, September 27. Small group study guide cost is \$5.
- *Listed below are additional resources you might want to consider purchasing from Zondervan publisher at www.churchsource.com:

Think, Act, Believe like Jesus – Randy Frazee
Think, Act, Be like Jesus – a devotional for ages 6-10
Believe, Coloring Book – ages 2-4
Believe, Story Book – ages 4-8
Believe, Kids Edition – grades 3-6
Believe, Student Edition – grades 6-12

LET'S GROW TOGETHER TO BE MORE LIKE JESUS

Reflections

by Pastor Rog



Dear Church Family,

It is amazing what a word of encouragement can do for a person in need. It literally can be a life-changing moment. This is also true of those words which discourage and take us down spiritually and emotionally. Allow me to present an example of this.

During the BOER War (1899-1902), a man was convicted of a very unusual crime. You see, he was found guilty of being a “discourager.” The South African town of Ladysmith was under attack, and this traitor would move up and down the lines of soldiers who

were defending the city and do everything he could to **discourage** them. He didn’t use a gun to attack these soldiers . . . He didn’t need to, his weapon of choice was the weapon of discouragement. How utterly sad!

The apostle Paul spoke of the exact opposite of this when he wrote to the church in Thessalonica. He said:

“Comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient to all”

(1 Thessalonians 5:14).

Think with me, please, at any given moment, many of our church family and friends are going through difficult times.

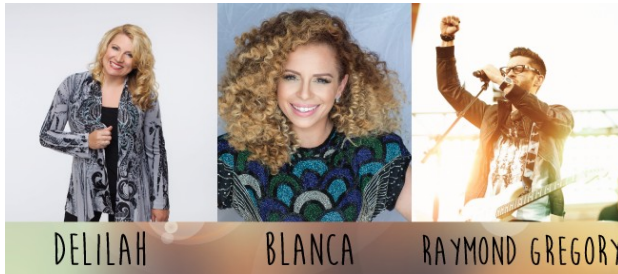
What an ENCOURAGEMENT it is to receive a word . . . a note . . . or a call sharing love and concern with one who is really hurting.

As disciples belonging to Christ Jesus, our lives are to be **patterned** after His. He certainly has ministered to us in our time of need! So please, out of love for the Lord Jesus, may we be on the “look out” to see who may be needing a loving word of encouragement. We just never

Ladies Night Out!

Mariner's Church
October 16
5:00~10:30 p.m.

This is a FREE event at Mariner's Church, 5001 Newport Coast Drive, in Irvine. There will be a musical program (with Blanca and Raymond Gregory) and speaker (Delilah from The Fish radio) beginning at 7 p.m. Following the program, from 9-10 p.m., there will be a Social Hour with a Photo Booth, Shopping, Artist/Speaker Meet & Greet, FREE coffee, desserts and snacks. We will carpool, leaving the church at 5 p.m. Sign up in the patio.



DELILAH

BLANCA

RAYMOND GREGORY



a.k.a

PARENT'S DATE NIGHT

Friday, October 16
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 will be a "Pick a Color" Night for \$3 per person.



2015 Prophecy Up Close

Understanding the Word. Discerning the Times.

THE FRIENDS OF ISRAEL'S 2015 PROPHECY UP CLOSE CONFERENCE explores tough questions we face in an uncertain world.

*Where is God in Israel's battle to survive?
 Is the Middle East turmoil a prelude to the coming battle?
 How should churches be treating Israel today?
 How does God view Israel, America, and the nations?*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2015

Torrance First Baptist Church
 2118 W. Carson Street
 Torrance, CA 90501

\$25 per person (breakfast & lunch included)
 Sessions from 9 AM - 3 PM
 Register by October 2

Visit foi.org/prophecy
 to register or call
 800-257-7843



JIM SHOWERS
 Executive Director
 The Friends of Israel



CLARENCE JOHNSON
 Director of the Institute of Jewish Studies
 The Friends of Israel

Please note deadline is October 2. The cost for TFB attendees is \$15.



&
News



*Guys' Weekend
October 9-11*

*Contact Daniel
for details.*

YOUTH PRAYER



every
3rd Saturday

Sat., October 17, 10~11 a.m.



October 8, 7 p.m.

Service opportunity to minister to the homeless.

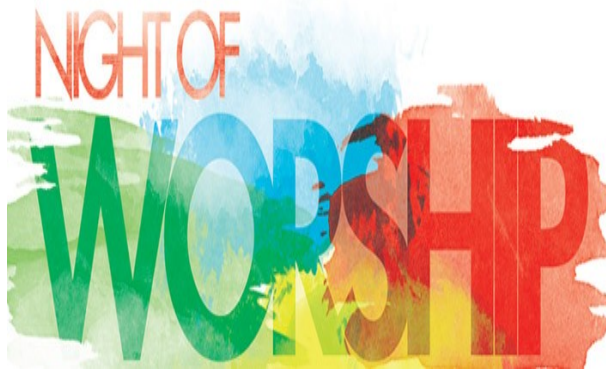
*Get Ready for the Getty
October 24 ~ 10 a.m.*

Nexus and College groups will enjoy works of art of outstanding quality and historical importance when we carpool to the Getty Museum.

Contact Daniel for more information and/or to sign up.



Jr.
High
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*Friday, October 9
6:30~8 p.m.*

Meet in the Jr. High Room and be ready to worship our Lord.

Friday
Oct. 23
6~8:30
p.m.

FREE!



Meet at Peter & Ellie's House
25529 Cypress, Lomita

**MOVIE
N I G H T**



We Get Mail

Thank you, TFB family, for your love and support for so many years. Your gifts and cards and words of encouragement overwhelmed us as we made our wild and crazy move to Tennessee. Thank you so much for everything! We love you and think of you often. You will always remain in our prayers. Lynne and Ed Foster
 P.S. Our new address is: 482 Indian Springs Circle, Manchester, TN 37355
 Phones: 310/938-2648(E's cell) 310/706-8311 (L's cell)
 Emails: tfbce@yahoo.com; bigedflyer@yahoo.com

Dear Pastor Charlie, Pastor Rog and Church Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers in remembrance of Paul!

The cards and prayers were all so very much appreciated and uplifting.

God bless each one of you.

In His love,
 Barbara Ashcraft

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the 35 backpacks. Words can't express to you how the kids were so excited.

Thank you for putting a smile on their faces.

In His Love,
 John and Russ Hernandez
 New Challenge Ministries

Dear TFB Family,

The Sisco Family would like to thank you for the prayers, love and support we received during the passing of Allen Wayne Sisco. Thank you also for the cards, beautiful plant and flowers.

Love,
 The Sisco Family



Love INC
Country Western
Fall Hoedown
Fundraiser

Saturday, October 10
6~9 p.m.

Come enjoy good grub, great raffle prizes, line dancing and a sing-a-long at Torrance First Christian Church, 2930 El Dorado Street in Torrance.

RSVP by October 7
 Donation: Adults ~ \$30
 Children 12-6 ~ \$10
 Under 6 ~ Free

Donate Diapers and get
 Free Raffle Tickets
 (Help us fill our Diaper Corral.)

To RSVP by phone or Email:
 310/831-5683 x104
 cmontijo@loveincsb.org

Reservations will be held at the door.



Gift Suggestions for Samaritan's
Purse Shoeboxes
Due between October 4
and November 1



Toys: Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoo's, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, flashlights & toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

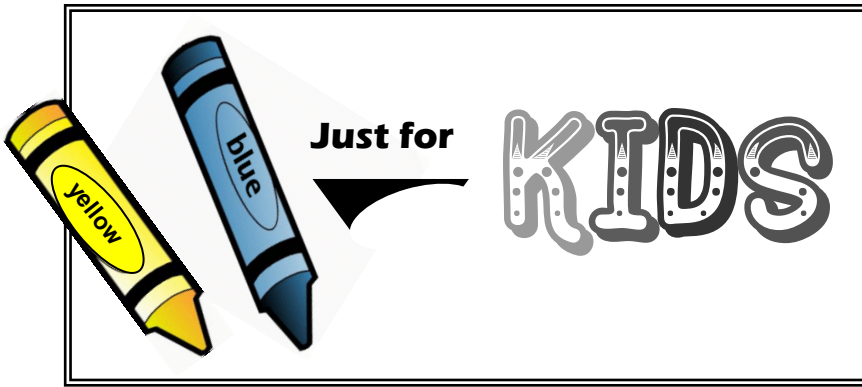
School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

Non-Liquid Hygiene Items: toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.

Accessories: t-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, lip gloss, etc.

A Personal Note: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.

Do Not Include: Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.



Meeting needs

The Bible emphasizes the importance of giving to people in need. In Matthew 6:1-4, Jesus describes the proper attitude for giving.

*Directions: Starting at the *B and going counterclockwise, write every other letter on the lines below. Continue until you've completed Matthew 6:3, NIV.*



"B _____

 _____ g."

MATTHEW 6:3, NIV

Answer: "But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." Matthew 6:3, NIV

BLESSING BAGS



Make these practical gifts to share blessings with homeless people and others in need.

What you need:

- Gallon-size zippered baggies
- Clothing (socks, mittens, scarves, rain ponchos)
- Travel-size toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, sunscreen, lip balm, lotion, tissues, bandages)
- Snacks
- Water bottles
- Paper
- Pencil

What you do:

1. Pack baggies with supplies listed above (and more, if desired).
2. Write encouraging notes (including Bible verses), and add them to the baggies.
3. Keep the gifts in your car, and give them to people who are homeless or asking for help.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
4 2p Sing @ Rylwood	5	6	7	8 7p Beacon Light Mission	9 HS Guys Weekend 7p Young Marrieds	10 8:30a Friends of Israel Conference 6p Love INC Dinner
11 5:20p Prayer Gathering	12	13	14	15 10a Transformation Ministries Conf. in Yorba Linda 7p Contemporary Vocal Practice	16 9a Trans. Minis. Conf. in Yorba Linda 5p Ladies' Night Out @ Mariner's Church 6p Kids' Night Out 7p NeXus	17 10a HS/College Prayer 6:30p Singles' Game Night 7pm Share & Care
18	19 7p Finance Team	20 6p Ministry Teams: GO, Fellowship, Outreach, Worship, Disc. Dev. & FMT 7p Deacon/ess	21	22	23 7p Young Marrieds	24 9a All Church Work Day 10a HS/College to Getty Museum
25 5:20p Prayer Gathering	26	27	28	29	30	31 5:30p Harvest Festival & Chili Cook-off

Recurring Weekly Events:

Sunday

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.

Monday

Ladies' Prayer, 10:00 a.m.
 King's Family Karate, 6:30 p.m.
 Men's BSF, 6:55 p.m.

Tuesday

Classical Conversations, 8:30 a.m.
 Women's BSF Leaders, 9:15 a.m.
 High School Revive, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Women's BSF, 9:15 am.
 Family Dinners, 6 p.m.
 Colossians Kids, 6:30 p.m.
 Jr. High QUEST, 6:30 p.m.
 Small Group Bible Study, 6:45 p.m.

Thursday

Choir Practice, 7 p.m.
 Covenant (Korean) Bible Study, 8 p.m.
 Open Volleyball, 8:15 p.m.

Friday

H.S. Band Practice, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m.
 Men's BSF Leaders, 6 a.m.
 Covenant (Korean) Prayer, 6 a.m.
 H.S. Guys/Gals Bible Study, 10 a.m.

[except 10/17]

Upcoming November Events:

- 11/8 ~ Gary Bonner Singers, 6 p.m.
- 11/13-15 ~ College Arrowhead Retreat
- 11/14 ~ Passages: Museum of the Bible
- 11/20 ~ Kids' Night Out, 6 p.m.





Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

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



Dinner Out ~ Saturday, October 3, at 6:30 p.m. Meet at Fish Bonz Grill, 2599 Airport Drive, Torrance (next to AMC Theaters). Any ?'s, call Brenda-Jean Shephard, 310/901-0816.



Game Night ~ Saturday, October 16, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Gloria Pederson's house, 817 Amapola Avenue, Torrance. Bring games and snacks to share. Contact Gloria Pedersen, 562/505-4495.



Singles, please note: Dinner Out will now be on the first Saturday of the month and Game Night will be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

TFB Academy *"Unity: We Are One"*

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

In Torrance alone, the variety of Christian expression boggles the mind. At TFB, more than 400 persons gather for worship, ministry, study, and fellowship throughout each week, and each person expresses faith just a bit differently. In Torrance, there are at least eleven Christian traditions represented by churches, and each congregation expresses their

very different tradition in a unique, local way. The worldwide variety is beyond comprehension. This staggering diversity exists alongside unity. The Christians from many cultures, languages, traditions, and personalities form the one Church. I don't know about you, but I need to sit back and let that sink in.

"Unity begins with our connection to Christ and through him to one another."

Too often, I think of unity as some form of uniformity. Maybe it's the same for you. But the biblical idea of unity is not about our similarities at all. Unity begins with our connection to Christ and through him to one another. In Christ, unity is essential to our identity (Ephesians 2:19). It is not simply a nice idea to emphasize or a goal to achieve. It is part of who we are as Church. But we still have work to do, for God calls us to be eager to maintain the unity given by the Spirit (Ephesians 4:3-4). We maintain our unity by sharing responsibility as fellow citizens of God's people and fellow members of God's household (Ephesians 2:19).

Unity is essential to the very good end that God has for us in Christ (Ephesians 2:21-22). Jesus desires us to be one just as he and the Father are one (John 17:22). What a high calling for our unity! Our sure relationship with God and with one another secures this very good end. In Christ, we are becoming God's holy temple. In him, we are being built together into a dwelling place for God.

Here on earth the Church appears to be divided into many traditions and congregations, but the heavenly reality is quite different. In the context of eternity, the Church is one People, one New Humanity, one Fellowship, one Body. In eternity, divisions will be healed and diversity will flourish alongside unity.

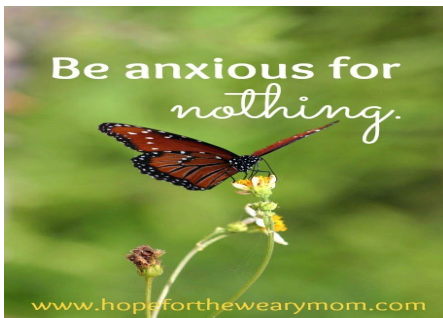


Smile Awhile



PARAPROSDOKIANS (Winston Churchill loved them) are figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected and frequently humorous:

1. I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.
2. Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.
3. Change is inevitable except from a vending machine.
4. I am neither for nor against apathy.
5. I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather, not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.
6. How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?
7. Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.
8. Always borrow money from a pessimist He won't expect it back.
9. Hospitality is making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.
10. A bus is a vehicle that runs twice as fast when you are after it as when you are in it.
11. Some cause happiness wherever they go. Others whenever they go.



- Anxiety comes with life. But anxiety needn't run your life.
- Anxiety decreases as our understanding of the Lord increases.
- The path to peace is paved with prayer.
- You can't run the world, but you can entrust it to God.
- Guilt sucks the life out of our souls. Grace restores it.
- Put the past in the past and move into the future.
- There is never a moment in which you face life without God. God is near.



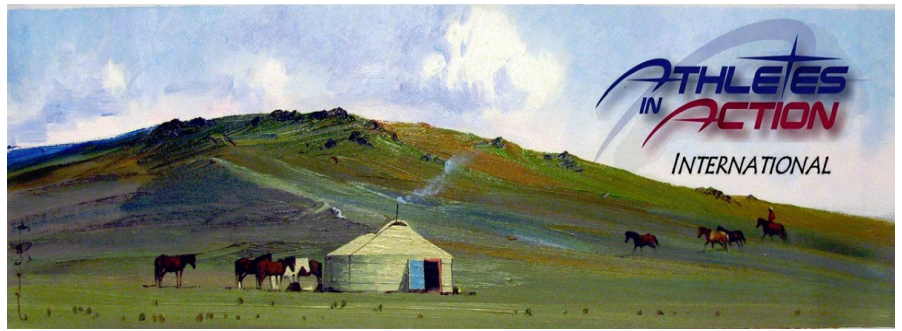
*Work Day
September 24
9 a.m. ~ 4 p.m.*

You are needed to participate as we labor to keep our church, that has been dedicated to the Lord, in good working order. Come and be blessed.

A free Continental breakfast will be available as well as lunch for everyone who helps.



Anyone who is interested in attending the Transformation Ministries Conference (TFB's umbrella organization), please go to regonline.com/2015transformingchurchesconference for more information and to register.



From Stephen and Cindi Barrett, working with Athletes in Action

Dear Friends,

After completing our Mongolia project in June, I headed for Moldova to meet a team led by John Peterson. He and his son Justin brought 6 tough Christian college wrestlers. Our goal was to help Valera Kuznetsov who is an AIA volunteer in Moldova. He is a teacher/wrestling coach who has worked for many years in the poorest region of Moldova, and Moldova is considered the poorest country in Europe.

We arrived in Moldova and spent a couple of days training with members of the junior national wrestling team in the capital of Chisinau. During our time with the team, we made friends with the Moldovan wrestlers and shared the Gospel with all of them. Next we headed for the town of Kamrat. On the way, we stopped at a local prison for an outreach and soccer game with the prisoners. They soundly beat us because we are, after all, wrestlers! In Kamrat, we held a tournament and 7-day wrestling camp for 145 coaches and wrestlers from Ukraine, Turkey, Moldova, Bulgaria and the U.S. We had tough competition, great evening programs and a lot of fun! Thanks to your partnership, many campers have now heard the Gospel.

We never know what will happen when a team of Americans mixes with local athletes in a foreign country but friendships often develop. A wrestler from the June tour to Mongolia will be hosting Idri, a Christian wrestling coach and three wrestlers in North Carolina. Other Christian families are also considering hosting them for a week or two. I met Idri 7 years ago when I took a group to Mongolia. After we visited Idri's wrestling club, he destroyed the idols he formerly worshipped and put his faith in Jesus. He is looking forward to meeting American coaches, and his wrestlers will be encouraged by the training and friends they meet in America.

Soon after I return to the U.S. in late August, I plan to meet the national Mongolian men's freestyle wrestling team and take them to California for a training camp prior to the World Championships of wrestling September 5-10. Good friends in Bakersfield and Riverside will host the team. Many details still need to be worked out before they arrive in the U.S.! *[Ed. Note: obviously this has already happened.]*

Ministry has kept us busier than ever since returning to Missouri. Doors keep opening as we walk through them, and we want to thank each of you for partnering with us. I recently told Cindi that I have a dream to take a wrestling team to Central Asia next summer as well as the other teams and camps we normally host. There just doesn't seem to be enough time for everything. Only the Lord can make this happen.

Thank you for faithfully praying and sponsoring us in the work the Lord is giving us to do.

Stephen and Cindi

Reflections

Continued from p. 2

know who enters our times of fellowship and worships with a **heavy heart**. What a blessing it is to know that someone cares enough to come “alongside” of us and speak a kind word which ministers to our needs. (Invariably this blessing will one day come back to us when our spirit is down).

Yes, words of ENCOURAGEMENT is what the Lord Jesus brings to our hearts every day. Out of LOVE for Him and others, may we follow in His footsteps.

How thankful I am for His encouragement,
Pastor Rog



Loaves & Fishes

Loaves and Fishes guest numbers have been down this year. We now have about 95 each week compared to 130 last year. But we still need food and monetary support to carry on this very important ministry. If you can help in any way, we would very much appreciate it.

We only have about 2 more months until our huge Christmas Loaves and Fishes on December 5. We have been giving hygiene bags to the adults and toys to the kids for years and would like to do it again this year with your help. Here is a list of items needed for approximately 100 hygiene bags (everything in large sizes): shampoo, conditioner, hand cream, toothpaste, razors for men and women, sox, gloves, Kleenex, lip balm and deodorants. For the kids: toys priced at \$10-15 dollars. You can bring them to the church and mark them Loaves and Fishes Christmas items.

Thank you all who support Loaves and Fishes. I love you all.

Blessings,
Linda



Sincere Sympathy

*In this hour of pain,
It's the memories
That keep you going . . .
May you
find comfort in them.*

Please pray for the following families who have recently lost loved ones who are now with the Lord:

Mary Smallwood, Gary's mother;
Wayne (Vivian Sisco's son, brother of Barbara Jean Sisco and Tammy Hurtado);
Della Andrew, beloved wife of Bob;
Paul Ashcraft, beloved husband of Barbara; and
Margaret Rentfrow, beloved wife of Ron and mother of Scott & Todd.



TFB Tithes and Offerings

Thank you for giving approximately \$50,418 in the month of August.



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

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

Michael Banfield, Loretta Barnett, Reba Belcher, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Bob Crutchfield, Gloria Deering, Leah Douglas, Robin Fisher, Virgie Fletcher, Earl & Jean Forman, Eugene & Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Helen Kessenich, Joan & Debbe Kindt, Mary Larsen, Doug Luden, Mari McMillian, Joy Moore, Dave & Joy Pierson, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Austin Rayner, Jean Rayner, Nellie Rizzi, Barbara & Randy Rudé, Mary Schultz, Bill & Gerri Stoodley, Norma Vinsonhaler, Tammie Wakefield, Aggie Williams and Gertie Wissinger.



Saturday, October 31, 2015
5:30~8:30 p.m.

Invite your friends for a great time
of family fun here at the church with:

-  Game Booths
-  Photo Booth
-  Crafts
-  Pumpkin Patch
-  Cake Walk
-  Karaoke
-  Hot Beverage Bar
-  Cotton Candy
-  Food
-  Pumpkin Carving Contest*



*Carve a pumpkin and bring it with you to be entered in our pumpkin contest. Come in costume (no witches, ghosts, or goblins, please) and have your picture taken.

Enter the **Chili Cook-off** and be the next TFB Chili King/Queen. Sign up with Karla in the patio or call or text: 310/922-5652.

This is a family event and a wholesome, fun and safe alternative to "Trick or Treating."

Attention Church Family: If you'd like to help with this outreach, we are in need of donations of candy, baked goods, snacks and \$\$. Please let Karla know at least a week ahead of time what you can bring.

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