

the Proclaimer

April 2015 Volume 28 Issue 4



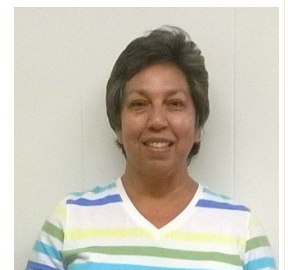
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Resurrection Sunday, April 5

Come and be blessed as we proclaim the death and celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the salvation of all who believe.

Welcome our new TFB Receptionist



Yasmin (pronounced Yasmeen) Kuba was originally born in Guyana, South America (a former British colony). She has lived in the U.S. for the past 37 years and is married to her wonderful husband, Jon. They have a son (Nathan), daughter-in-law (Heather), and Kai, the sweetest 4-year-old grandson ever. (Do you think Grandma is biased?)

Yasmin hailed originally from a family of Muslim faith, but she received the life-altering blessing of encountering Jesus and her Christian faith 36 years ago, for which she and her family are eternally grateful.

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

From the Pastor's Heart



You have heard the phrase “nothing is sure in life except death and taxes.” However, my experience tells me we could add one more thing to that phrase and that is “change.” Whether we are in school, raising a family, looking for that next promotion, being a grandparent or retired, life

always has elements of change which require from us the ability to adjust and be flexible.

We have certainly needed the ability to adjust and be flexible with all the staffing changes this past year here at TFB. I think maybe God built change into the design of life so that we would be constantly challenged to trust and depend upon Him for all areas of our life.

Awhile back I read an article that talked about how for change in our lives and our church to be God-honoring and God-directed, it needs to flow from our heart and attitude of spiritual and relational vitality. God’s number one commandment is described in two parts in Matthew 22. A

simple paraphrase would be, “to love God totally and to love others.” When we have a deep growing love relationship with God, we will be people of spiritual passion and vitality. When we reach out and care for one another in word and action, we become people of relational vitality.

Since change is a built-in part of life, our call is to handle change in a godly way by being people who are passionate and excited to love God and care for each other. In this context, we will be able to embrace the changes that God brings as we build His kingdom in this place.

Serving Christ together,
Pastor Charlie

Reflections

by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

How blessed we are to belong to our heavenly Father through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We would be absolutely lost without Him. We realize that we live in an unjust world. We experience pain in our hearts due to the actions of others. Such was the case with the psalmist, David, in Psalm 5 (please read).

In verses 4-6, he tells us of those who have left God out of their lives and of God’s righteous estimation and judgment of them. In verse 9, he tells us of the weapon they’ve chosen to use against him...their mouths. As you study the Psalms, written by David, you discover that the most frequent weapon used against him is the tongue. Yes, the tongue is a dangerous weapon, and it can

inflict great harm (see James 3:3-12). Now, how did David respond to these people who were harming him? (How do we respond?)

Did he strike back with a sharp tongue himself, or did he seek out the Lord for guidance as to what he should do? Please notice what he said in vv. 1-3:

¹Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my sighing.

²Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God.

³In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice; in the morning, I lay my requests before You and wait in expectation.

There are several wonderful applications for us as we deal with the trials and sorrows of



life. **FIRST**, rather than trying to deal with these trials in our own strength, we must give them to the Lord (vv. 1-2). He alone knows how to best deal with different situations and people.

SECOND, David seems to have made it a habit to bring his problems to the Lord in the morning (v. 3). Why? Because it was best for him to give these situations to Him at the start of his day rather than becoming weary carrying this **LOAD** on his

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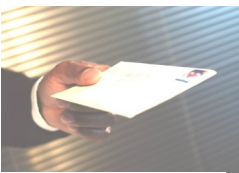


a.k.a.

PARENT'S DATE NIGHT

Friday, April 17, 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). We plan to have this once a month on the 3rd Friday of each month.



We Get Mail

Dear TFBaptist,
 Thanks so much for this special gift [Christmas Offering]! Your timing is so amazing. Setphen is in Mongolia for a month of ministry.... He will be flying out to Western Mongolia [and] this gift will help fund the ministry activities!

We are thankful for all the ways Torrance FBC has blessed us from 1991 on. Thank you for praying and supporting us.

Stephen & Cindi [Barrett]
 [with Athletes in Action]



Ladies' Retreat at Thousand Pines May 1-3

We know as Christian women of faith, that your days are filled with busy schedules, commitments and responsibilities. Take a break from the busyness and attend Thousand Pines women's retreat for a weekend where you can re-charge both spiritually and physically. Take this opportunity to hear some great teaching, to spend some time alone relaxing, listening for the Lord and reflecting amidst the beauty of the mountains. Let them pamper you with gourmet meals, professional massages, afternoon tea, and other special activities. You probably don't need one more obligation, so our goal for this retreat is not to fill you with information or make it seminar-intensive. Rather, their desire is to make it refreshing, encouraging and fun. If any of this resonates with you, we encourage you to call a friend or two and make plans to join us for a very special weekend!

Ladies, we need a \$50 non-refundable deposit to hold your place for our upcoming retreat. This is extremely important if you want standard housing. Costs: Standard Housing - \$164; Rustic Housing - \$149. Final payment will be due on **Sunday, April 12**. Sign up in the patio.



*Men's Guns 'n' Grub
 April 18, 10:30 a.m.*

Journeymen (which includes all men), meet at the church on Saturday, April 18, at 10:30 a.m. We will carpool to the Southern California Sharpshooter's Range. On the way back, we will have lunch at Rizzo's Pizza in Lomita. The cost is \$25 per person. Any questions? Contact Bill Harenburg, wharenburg@aol.com, or 310/534-4439.

Sign up in the patio.





Service Opportunities:

- Loaves & Fishes: Serving food to the needy @ TFB (1st Saturday every month)
- Children's Ministry: Volunteers always needed at Wednesday Family Dinner Nights and 3rd Friday Movie Nights
- Beacon Light Mission: Serving food and the Gospel to the homeless in Wilmington on the 2nd Thursday of each month
- Greeters: The TFB Worship Committee can use new young volunteers to greet visitors on Sunday mornings.



YOUTH PRAYER

every
3rd Saturday

April 18, 10 a.m.

LOCK-IN

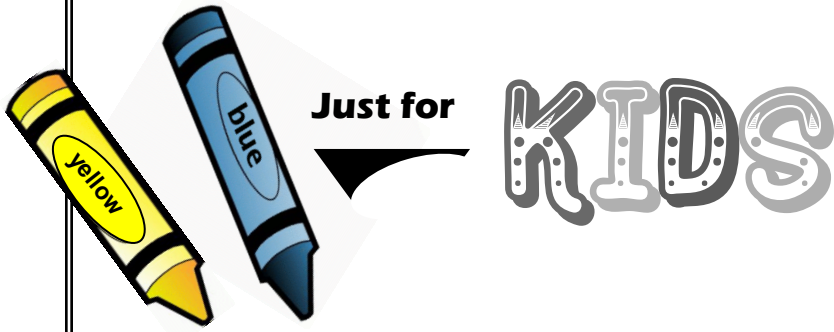
*April 24-25
7 p.m. (Friday) until
9 a.m. Saturday*

For information on the above events, see Daniel.

**Peep-a-Paloosa
Family Fun Night
Wednesday, April 1, 6-8:30 p.m.**

"Telling Peeps about Jesus"
Join us for a fun-filled night with Peeps!!
Games, relays, snacks, prizes, raffles
Dinner starting at 6 p.m.

We would love to have peep donations of any size and color for this momentous occasion. Bring them to the church office before April 1.



OUR HOPE

Romans 8:34 tells about our risen Lord, who gives us hope.

Directions: Write the phrases on the correct numbered lines below. Then, on the final row of blanks, write the bold capital letters in order from top to bottom, left to right, to spell the word that sums up this verse.

5 who was R aised	8 R ight hand	6 T o life
3 d iEd	4 m o R e than that	7 I s at the
2 J e S us who	11 i nt E rceding	9 O f God
12 f or U s	1 C hrist	10 a nd is also

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____

4 _____, 5 _____

6 _____ 7 _____

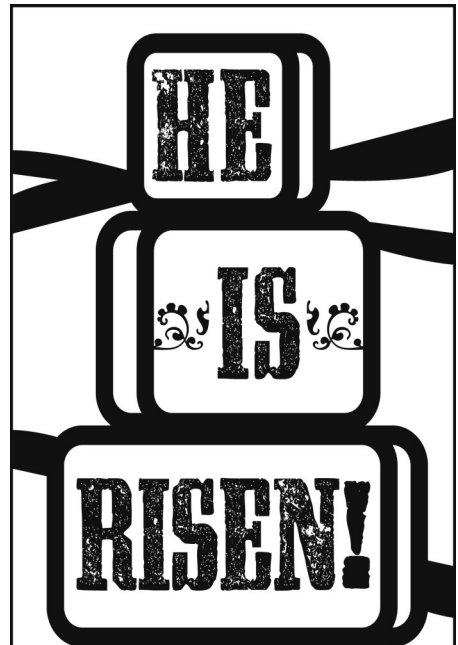
8 _____

6 _____ 10 _____

11 _____ 12 _____ . *Romans 8:34, NIV*

Answers: ... Christ Jesus who died — more than that — was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Romans 8:34, NIV

RESURRECTION



Create a simple yet powerful Easter display.

What you need:

- 3 wood blocks (small, medium, large)
- Acrylic paint (three pastel colors and white)
- Paintbrush
- Water
- Paper towels
- Letter stencils and tape (optional)

What you do:

1. Paint each block of wood a different pastel color. (You can paint the whole block or just one side.)
2. When paint is dry, use white paint to write (or stencil) “He” on the smallest block, “is” on the medium block and “risen!” on the large block.
3. When blocks are dry, stack them from largest to smallest to proclaim “He is risen!”

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.
 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.
 Men's BSF, 6:55 p.m.

Tuesday
 Women's BSF Leaders, 9:15 a.m.
 High School Revive, 7 p.m.

Wednesday
 Women's BSF, 9:15 a.m.
 Dinner & Colossians Kids, 6 p.m.
 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.
[except 4/15]

Thursday
 Ladies' Bible Study, 2 p.m.
 Worship Band Practice, 6:30 p.m.

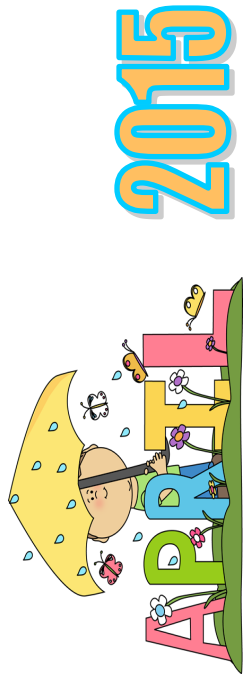
Friday
 Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m.

Saturday
 Men's BSF Leaders 6 a.m.
 New Covenant (Korean) Prayer, 6 a.m.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
5 Easter Sunday March/April B'days 2p Sing @ Royalwood	6	7	8	9 7p Beacon Light Mission	10 7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's	11 8a HS to Safari Park 6:30p Singles' Game Night
12 5:20p Prayer Gathering	13	14	15	16 7p Contemporary Vocal Practice	17 6p Kids' Night Out	18 10a Men's Guns 'n' Grub 10a HS Prayer 7p Share & Care
19	20 7p Finance Teams	21 6p Ministry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach, Worship, Disc. Dev. & FMT 7p Deacon/ess	22	23	24 7p HS Lock-in 7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's	25 9a HS Set Free 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out
26 5:20p Prayer Gathering	27	28	29	30		

Upcoming May Events:

- 5/1-3 ~ Ladies Retreat at 1000 Pines
- 5/9 ~ Men's Breakfast, 9 a.m.
- 5/9 ~ Mother/Daughter Tea, 2 p.m.
- 5/10 ~ Mother's Day
- 5/15 ~ Kids' Night Out, 6 p.m.
- 5/17 ~ Blood Donation Day, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.





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.



Game Night ~ Saturday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the church gym. Bring games and snacks to share. Call Jude, 424/800-1910, if you have any questions.



Dinner Out ~ Saturday, April 25, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Lupita's Mexican Grill, 234 S. Pacific Coast Highway in Redondo Beach



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

"Grudges or Forgiveness: Both are Remembering"

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

From the inside grudges feel justified. They feel like duty, acted out in response to an offense. In reality, grudges are an internal refusal to let the Judge of all do his work (James 4:12). Grudges do nothing to the offender, nor do they depend on the offender. Thankfully, forgiveness does not depend on the offender either. It only depends on the existence of an offense. Forgiveness first recognizes the offense, its damage, and its intentionality. By forgiveness, the forgiver decides

not to hold the offense against the offender. Forgiveness requires remembering: each time we remember the offender and the offense, we also remember our decision not to behave toward the offender in the way the offense deserves. Forgiveness is the repeating cycle of remembering our decision.

If we are honest with ourselves, we will admit forgiveness sounds impossible. Indeed, apart from God's grace, it is impossible. The grace and capacity required for forgiveness exist by God's grace and action alone. He also shows us what it looks like to forgive by forgiving us while we were his enemies. And he did this at great cost to himself. We deserved his justice: eternal separation from him as due payment for our rebellion. But he gave us his grace: eternal presence with him, paid for by his Son's blood. With such a great gift, we dare not take justice into our own hands, yet this is what grudges attempt to do. But they fail miserably. They do nothing to the offender. They harm the one holding the grudge. They harm those we most care about.

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

(Col. 3:12-13 ESV)



Good News, Great Joy: Celebrate 2014!

INTERATIONAL TOTAL - 10,440,333
UNITED STATES - 7,991,643
WEST COAST REGION - 568,277

Good Afternoon Mari and the Congregation of Torrance First Baptist,

I trust that this brief email finds you well – rested, refreshed and already advancing into the promise of a New Year.



Operation Christmas Child rests in the knowledge that our Lord, once again, brought in an amazing harvest of gospel opportunities through countless faithful partners here in the US (and overseas). As you can see from the totals above, over 10 million shoebox gifts are now on their way to the precious children He has ordained – gifts filled with love, joy and the enduring truth of the gospel. Your service throughout the year played a huge role in making this ministry

possible. I'm not sure if you were aware of the final count, but we shipped a remarkable 815,000+ gifts from the West Coast warehouse alone – one of 9 such Processing Centers across the US. While the sheer size of the numbers can seem overwhelming we must never lose sight of the fact that each gift has a child's name written on it by our Lord, that each gift is precious – with the power to change a life, a family and a community forever. Your 311 gifts went to 311 children in the Philippines, Indonesia, Nepal, Peru and Bangladesh. We praise and thank God for you, and for your partnership in this world changing ministry.

As we celebrate and debrief from the past season I'd love to hear from you. To hear your success and challenges and to see how we can best support your ongoing efforts to get the gospel out to even more children in 2015. If you have a specific burden on your heart or a practical request, please don't hesitate to contact me. I'm here to support you as we serve the King of Kings!

To wrap up, I have attached a picture that I was privileged to capture during a TGJ (The Greatest Journey) discipleship course class in Cebu, Philippines in May of last year. The children inside had all received a shoebox gift a few weeks prior and were now enrolled in OCC's 12 week discipleship course. As we were joyfully observing the lesson unfold, the noise and excitement in the room grew louder and louder. Within a few minutes every window was filled with peering faces as children from the surrounding neighborhood stuck their noses and fingers through the wired openings to get a glimpse of what was going on inside. These children proceeded to stand at the window for over an hour, through the baking heat of midday just to get a taste of the gospel. The pastor proceeded to tell us that they could have handed out 500 shoeboxes and it would have barely scratched the surface of the number of kids in the area. It's for these little ones that we seek to pack even more shoeboxes. Amen!

That more children may hear,

Nathan Bates

SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Regional Manager | WEST COAST

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

714-432-7030 ext 1701 - OFFICE | nbates@samaritan.org

714-380-1719 - MOBILE

3000 WEST MACARTHUR BLVD., SUITE 310

Santa Ana, CA 92704

www.samaritanspurse.org



Reflections

Continued from p. 2

“shoulders” all through the day. (Personally, the Lord is constantly reminding me of this truth in my walk of discipleship with Him.)

THIRD, David approached the Lord in an attitude of humility for in v. 2, he addresses his request to “my King and my God.” Though David was the divinely appointed King of Israel, he knew that the ULTIMATE King over all things was God. Our heavenly Father delights to hear the “heart cry” of the humble (James 4:6). How blessed we are that He stoops low to hear our humble cries.

And FOURTH, David placed all of these trials and people in God’s capable Hands, and in faith, seeks God’s guidance and rejoices that the Lord is going to bless him, protect him and surround him with His favor (vv. 8, 11-12).

Today, I have no idea what “dart” of affliction has touched your life, but I know Who does—our wonderful Lord. Please, don’t try to handle these situations in your own strength. Give them to Him. He alone has the strength, wisdom and grace to lead you through life, and He delights in ministering to the needs of His children. You can trust Him completely.

Looking only to Him.
Pastor Rog



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

Neville Hardy lost his brother, Eric and Sherri Jones lost her mother.

TFB Tithes and Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately \$62,208 in the month of February.



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

Della Andrew, Cecile Baker, Michael Banfield, Loretta Barnett, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Lou Davis, Gloria Deering, Robin Fisher, George Fisk, Virgie Fletcher, Dutchess Gattis, Joanne Gertz, Barbara Harvey, Eugene/ Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Helen Kessenich, Joan & Debbe Kindt, Mary Larsen, Doug Luden, Jane McKenzie, Joy Moore, Wayne & Eleanor Musser, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Austin Rayner, Jean Rayner, Margaret Rentfrow, Nellie Rizzi, Barbara/Randy Rudé, Ralph Schatz, Mary Schultz, Gerri Stoodley, Kenny Veldheer, Norma Vinsonhaler, Tammie Wakefield, Aggie Williams and Gertie Wissinger.



*Sunday, May 17
8 a.m. until 2 p.m.*

Make plans now to donate blood next month.

Remember:

- You must be in good health & weigh at least 110 Pounds;
- Bring a valid photo I.D.;
- Drink plenty of fluids;
- You can only give blood once every 56 days;
- No tattoos within the last 12 months; and
- Must be at least 17 years old (or 16 with a signed **Hospital** Parental Consent Form).

A free certificate for 1 pint of Baskin Robbins ice cream will be given to all who donate.

**Call the office, 3120/328-5030, to sign up.
Appointments preferred,
but walk-ins are welcome.**



Smile Awhile



TEN (10) THINGS I KNOW ABOUT YOU

- 1) You are reading this.
- 2) You can't say the letter "P" without separating your lips.
- 3) You just attempted to do it.
- 4) You are laughing at yourself.
- 6) You have a smile on your Face.
- 7) You just checked to see if there is a No. 5.
- 8) You laugh at this because you are a fun-loving person & everyone does it too.

Have a great day. Laugh, and then sing "It's a Beautiful Day" even when it's not.

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