

Torrance First Baptist Church  
**the Proclaimer**

September 2016      Volume 29 Issue 9



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*Church Family  
 Dinners Resume on  
 Wednesday  
 September 21*

Dinners will be served from 6-6:30 p.m. The Jr. High and Colossians Kids groups will begin at 6:45 p.m.

We will let you know in the bulletin each week what will be served so that you can sign up the whole family to eat together for only \$3 per person or \$10 per family.



Wanna get away? Thousand Pines Men's Retreat is the place for you **September 16-18!** 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! Make plans now to attend this Conference at 1000 Pines. Cost is \$169.

- Things to do:
- Paintball- \$5
  - BB Guns
  - Mountain Bikes
  - Ping Pong
  - Archery
  - Confidence Course
  - Frisbee Golf
  - Dirt Bike Ride (bring your own gear)
  - Rec Equipment
  - Motorcycle Ride to Big Bear (bring own gear)
  - Malt Shop
  - Foosball
  - Big Oak Café
  - Arte Shoppe
  - Air Hockey
  - Swimming Pool
  - Basketball, etc.

**Sign up and get more info at the Men's Ministry table in the patio.**

*Proclaimers* are also available for viewing and printing on-line: [www.tfbclife.org](http://www.tfbclife.org)

## From the Pastor's Heart



It seems to me that this summer has gone by faster than previous ones. I can't believe it is already September. Well, you know it will be in a few days. Anyway, my family and I had a great time on vacation with Karen's extended family. About one hundred of us camped out for a week on the Oregon Coast at Honeyman Memorial State Park.

It was a little windy and cold at times but otherwise a great camp ground and experience.

You know, taking a break from the routines of life can be very helpful and refreshing. Such is not the case when taking a break from God. As we have seen with Jonah, it can be very stressful and harmful. So a vacation from the stuff of this world can be great, but a vacation from God—not so much. I would suggest that if you feel the need to take a break from God, you have lost some of your connection with His amazing grace and His love for you. That can happen from time to time. Remember that a life full of God is a life full of love, peace, joy and much more.

In Colossians, chapter two, we read, *"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness"* (v. 6-7). My prayer for you and me is that we experience this in our lives this fall.

Serving and worshipping  
Jesus Christ our Lord  
together,  
Pastor Charlie

P.S. Please pay special attention to the info in this *Proclaimer* (p. 3) regarding the Adam's Road group that is coming to us on Friday, October 7. You won't want to miss this, so put it on your calendar today.

## Reflections by Pastor Rog

Dear Family,

Friendships...this thought brings joy to our hearts and yet many have asked, "If my friends **really knew me**, would they like me?" That's an honest question.

In my quiet time with the Lord, I read in many places of God's Word, but invariably my reading takes me back to the Psalms. One of my favorite psalms is the 139th. This is a very personal psalm in which David expresses God's full knowledge of him. (Please read Psalm 139 now.) What we understand from this psalm, as David did, is that God knows us perfectly and completely—and **He loves us anyway**. I wonder to myself, "How can that be?" He knows **everything** about me and yet **He loves me!** David also had a

hard time understanding this. He said, "This is too glorious, too wonderful to believe" (vs. 6, TLB).

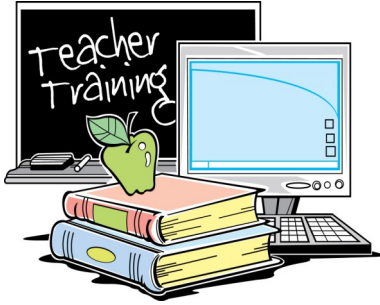
Think of it, **no one knows us better than God**. He knows when we go to sleep and when we wake up. He knows all of our thoughts. He sees everywhere we go and everything we do. He knows every intention of our hearts. Yes, our Heavenly knows everything about us and yet, He loves us completely.

Did you also notice that we cannot hide from Him (v. 7). There is no place where we can hide from God. One man has correctly stated, "There is nothing around the corner which is beyond God's view." Yes, He sees it all! Hebrews 4:13 reminds us that



"Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to Whom we must give account" (NIV). **And yet, He still loves us**. Thank you, Lord Jesus.

As we go through our daily lives, may we remember that we are never out of His sight or out of His thoughts. He is always with us and rather than being fearful of this, He desires that we take joy at always being in His presence. Everything we learn from this psalm leads us to this conclusion:



## Attention Teachers and Children's Workers

You are invited to attend a Children's Ministries half-day training event on **Saturday, October 1, from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.**

This event will give our team a chance not only to refresh and refocus on the heart of ministry, but also a chance to network with other children's ministry leaders. The hottest topics will be covered, and we will also learn what is happening in our churches today—and how that impacts our ministry to children. Myths that keep kids from growing will be exposed, and effective methods that can be used immediately will be explored. We want to move from a ministry that merely teaches kids about Jesus to an environment that introduces kids to a living, loving relationship with Him. We will get dozens of practical ideas to bring back and use.

The training will be held at Grace Korean Church, 1645 W. Valencia Drive, in Fullerton.

Call Karla Gaines to register.

## Adam's Road Friday, October 7, 7:00 p.m.



Make plans now to come to TFB to hear Adam's Road, a non-profit ministry dedicated

to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through song and testimony. Adam's Road is made up of four individuals whom God rescued out of Mormonism and brought into a personal and saving relationship with Jesus. Through the transforming power of the Gospel, those who once were blind, lost, and dead are now trophies of God's amazing grace. Come hear their stories.

A freewill offering will be taken.

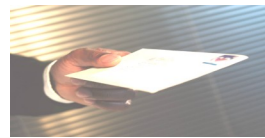
## Bible Study Fellowship Resumes



TFB will once again host Men's Bible Study Fellowship classes beginning on **Monday, September 12, at 6:55 p.m.** This is an intense weekly study that requires homework and faithful attendance, but the probing questions enable the student to learn and understand deep biblical truths that can be applied to his life. This year the study is the book of **John**. Men can call Terry Hind for more info, 310/374-5543.

For women who are interested in attending BSF, classes begin on **Wednesday, September 14, at 9:15 a.m.** They meet at South Bay Community Church, 2549 W. 190th Street in Torrance. There are also classes for children, ages 2-5, for moms or grandmas who attend classes. You must register first before attending classes or bringing children. Call Marcia, 310/370-9526, for more information.

Classes are FREE but a freewill offering is optional following each class.



## We Get Mail

TFB Prayer Warriors!

Thank you one and all for your prayers, caring, concern and support while I was in Oregon these past four months. I know that it was your steadfast and faithful prayers that carried me through two major surgeries in 6 weeks, 2 months of physical therapy and an extremely speedy healing recovery for both surgeries.

God Bless you all!  
Gloria Pedersen

To My TFB Family,

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,  
Or sat quietly in a chair.  
Perhaps you sent a funeral spray  
If so, we saw it there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words  
As any friend could say.

Perhaps you said a little prayer  
And thought of us today.

Whatever you did to console our hearts  
We thank you so much whatever the part.  
—The Family of James Daniel Pedersen

More mail on page 9



*Event*



*Saturday, September 10  
9:30 a.m.*

Men from the High School and young adult groups are invited to go on a bicycle ride to Santa Monica and back. This is open to male friends and fathers too. Meet at Manhattan Beach Pier at 9:30 a.m.

**Just for ...**



*Back to School  
Sleepover  
Friday  
September 23*



High School students can invite their friends to come to church for a sleepover and an evening full of movies, games, and fellowship. The fun begins at 7 p.m. and ends at 9 a.m. Saturday morning.



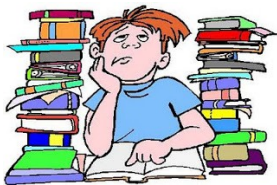
### **Worship Music: The Five-year Plan**

By Daniel Marion

Let's imagine that a person came to church every Sunday for five years, but was only present for the music and praise part of the service. What would that person's theology look like? If only upbeat songs about our eternally secure salvation were sung, this person might miss the reverence and awe that God is due. Or, if only songs about God's attributes were sung, this person might not understand that He is a relational God Who wants to meet us and provide for us where we are.

It's not a far-fetched situation. Some nursery workers or children's volunteers end up in this position, as do some church musicians, and some parents whose children/newborns can't sit through a sermon. While these people should, of course, be studying the Word of God on their own and with fellowship groups, it is important to have a balanced music and worship time when the Church is gathered together.

At every service, we at TFB aim to make sure the Gospel message is laid out in song or teaching (Acts 5:42) that God's attributes are declared with thanksgiving (Psalm 100:4) and that we submit our prayers and requests with supplication through song and offering (Philippians 4:6). We don't just approach God the way WE want to because that would be self-serving. We approach Him, united as a congregation, in the balanced way that HE says we should.



*Every Tuesday  
Afternoon  
4-6 p.m.*

Every Tuesday afternoon before Youth Group, the church will be open for homework and Pokemon catching.

*Every Tuesday  
Night  
7:00 p.m.*



We are studying the book of Acts, chapter by chapter, looking at how God grew the early church through persecution, fellowship and evangelism.



## Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

Please invite anyone of any age to join us.



**Dinner Night ~ Saturday, September 10\*, 6:30 p.m. ~**

Meet at Tantalice Thai and American Diner located at the south end of The Skating Edge Ice Rink, 23770 Western Avenue in Harbor City.



**Game Night ~ Meet at Gloria Pedersen's, 817 Amapola Avenue in Torrance, on Saturday, September 24\*, at 6:30 p.m. Bring games and snacks to share.**



\*Please note that we will now meet on the **2nd Saturday** of the month for Dinner Night and the **4th Saturday** of the month for Game Night.

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

### "God Is in Charge (Sovereignty)"

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

The world seems to be out of control. Terrorism rages around the world. Protests fill the streets with pent-up pain. Politicians sling mud rather than speak wisdom. Natural disasters scar the landscape and take lives. If we try to understand the meaning of these events from a purely human perspective, we may sit down, fold our hands, and conclude there is no hope. But the meaning of reality is not determined by our human perspective. It is determined by the decree of the Sovereign Creator and Lord of all. God's decree is his "comprehensive plan for the world and its history that God sovereignly established in eternity" [1]. He guides us to live

within his decree by giving us his precepts, which are "the commands and laws that God sets for his creatures, commands which call for obedience but which are often transgressed" [2].

**God is free** (Psalm 135:6). By decree, he determines and accomplishes his will. To thrive, we must trust his decree and obey his precepts. But duty should not drive this trust and obedience. Praise, which flows from our love for God, drives it.

**God is good** (Psalm 135:13-14). His name is pleasant. We do not suffer under the harsh hand of a task master. We willingly serve God from within his loving hand. He has chosen us to be in an eternal relationship of love and trust in him. Our service to him flows from our deepest joy.

**God is great** (Psalm 135:5, 7-12). His decree is free. Nothing can keep him from accomplishing what he pleases. Providence, God's guiding care for his creation, and retribution, his just distribution of punishments, are under his sovereign control. And his sovereign will is not bound, for it extends through space and time and to the very foundations of reality.

As out of control as things may sometimes appear, God is always in control. He is Sovereign over all. Compassion shapes all his dealings with his servants, and he will clear away all the accusations against us. Our only sensible response is worship, echoing back upon him the blessings that he has lavished upon us (Psalm 135:1-4, 19-21).

[1] Decree, *The International Dictionary of Theology*.

[2] Precept, *The International Dictionary of Theology*.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Anx. reserved all day: Loaves/Fishes 7p Young Marrieds	3 11a Loaves & Fishes
4 2p Sing @ Royalwood	5 <b>Labor Day</b> Office Closed	6	7	8 7p Contemporary Vocal Practice 7p Beacon Light Mission	9 College NeXus/Young Adults, 7:00 p.m.	10 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out
11 5:20p Prayer Gathering	12	13	14 7p Choir practice resumes	15	16 Men leave for Conference 6p Kids' Night Out 7p Young Marrieds	17 7pm Share & Care
18 Men return from Conference	19 7p Finance & FacMan Teams	20 6p Ministry Teams: GO, Fellowship, Outreach, Worship, & Disc. Dev. 7p Deacon/ess	21 6p Family Dinners resume 6:30p Colossians Kids resumes	22 12n Ladies' Bible Study resumes w/ luncheon 7p Contemporary Vocal Practice	23 College NeXus/Young Adults, 7:00 p.m.	24 6:30p Singles' Game Night
25 5:20p Prayer Gathering	26	27	28	29	30	

**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 [except 9/5]

**Tuesday**

High School Revive, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday**

Family Dinner, 6 p.m.  
**[Resumes 9/21]**  
 Colossian Kids, 6:30p  
**[Resumes 9/21]**  
 Jr. High Quest, 630 p.m.  
 Small Group Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.  
 Choir Practice, 7 p.m.

**[Resumes 9/14]**

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

**Thursday**

Ladies' Bible Study, 2p  
**[Resumes 9/22 w/luncheon at 12 noon]**  
 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 October Events:**

- 10/1 ~ Loaves & Fishes, 11a
- 10/7 ~ Adam's Road performance, 7p
- 10/14-15 ~ Women's Bunco/Slumber Party, 7p
- 10/21 ~ Kids' Night Out, 6p
- 10/22 ~ All Church Work Day
- 10/31 ~ Harvest Festival



**2016**



### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

The books and subjects that we study in school prepare us for our futures and our lives. Studying the Bible is important also. Find what Paul wrote to his young helper, Timothy.

First write a word to fit each definition. Then transfer the letters to the lines below.

Printed and bound sheets of paper	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>							
They form the alphabet	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>				
One who is learning	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>				
A small test	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>							
A group of relatives	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>					
To offer something	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>32</u>							
Glad	<u>33</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>37</u>						
Group who works together	<u>38</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>41</u>							

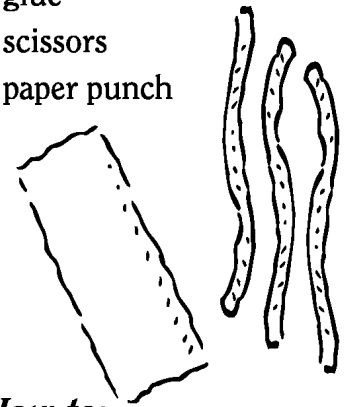
“ 24 5 27 11 38 10 26 35 7 14 10 6 21 11 29 2 15  
1 10 9 24 18 33 6 15 24 17 15 21 12  
20 11 40 23 14 27 23 3 10 13 16 24 38 33 21 17 29’  
39 9 1 14 4 21 17 29’ 38 2 10 10 40 38 8 21 17 29  
34 17 15 7 10 24 21 17 21 17 29 26 17  
39 30 29 33 8 9 3 14 11 17 32 12 11”

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”

## Make a bookmark to mark your favorite Bible verse

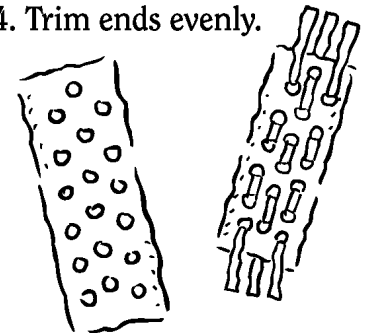
### You will need:

- a 2" x 5" strip of construction paper
- 3 pieces of ribbon or rug yarn, each 8" long
- glue
- scissors
- paper punch



### How to:

1. Punch 3 rows of 6 holes each as shown.
2. Weave a piece of yarn/ribbon through each. Let the ribbon hang over each end.
3. Put a bit of glue at each end to hold.
4. Trim ends evenly.



*Friday, September 16, 6-9*

Parents, leave the kids (infants through 5th grade) to have dinner and a movie with us while you enjoy a night out together. We are asking for a \$3 donation per child. This will be a “Crazy Hat” night.



*TFB Global Outreach*

## From the Felton's with Go Ye Fellowship



They write in part:

Greetings from Anchorage, Alaska!

It's hard to believe that the end of summer is upon us, at least in Alaska. This summer has felt much longer than usual, probably because of so many new experiences that have come with the move. It has been very good, however, and I do have much to report....

**Church:** We have found a wonderful church, Cornerstone Church. We have been attending for a little over a month and are slowly meeting people. ...Ryder and Faith are enjoying Youth Group. ...We are very thankful for this as finding a new church can be very daunting....

**Ministry:** I have been teaching weekly Bible studies since the middle of July.... *Pray for salvations and the Words of the Lord to spread rapidly and be honored.* I also continue to stay in touch with people...in California.... ...so thankful for the modern ability to communicate regardless of distance (phoning & texting). *Pray specifically for a job provision for our friend B.*

**Other News:** We have purposed...to make our home a haven of hospitality, so we have been hosting as many dinners and BBQ's as we can. ....In this digital age it is increasingly rare and special to have people over to your house to just eat and talk. Now that school has started, we are aiming to host a Saturday dinner every weekend in addition to the Thursday night Bible study. *Please keep these times in your prayers as we seek to practically share the love of Jesus through hospitality, good food and study of the Word!*

**Surfing:** I have been able to surf a few times...and have met ex-pro snowboarder Jason Borgstede, who now owns the local snow/skate/surf shop in town. I am enjoying rekindling old relationships and building new ones as well. *Pray for more opportunities to share the Gospel with surfers, skiers and snowboarders here in Anchorage. Pray that the light of Jesus Christ in us shines brightly through us, that people can clearly see not us but the Savior we serve.*

**Parents' Update:** My father had hip replacement surgery on August 12. ...The surgery went very well and Dad is now doing physical therapy and recuperating. After all the planning, interviewing, moving, money, lost sleep, etc., etc. that had gone into simply being able to be here for my parents, it was somewhat emotionally overwhelming to just simply sit by the bed and spend time with them. I felt very blessed and thankful to the Lord for making it possible. *Please continue to pray for Dad's recuperation and my parents' health in general.*

To all of you who make this outreach possible, thank you! Please note that I start everything on dependence in prayer...and every day I spend around 2 hours...praying for a long list of people for salvation; praying for YOU; praying for family, friends, etc.; and praying for God to move, knowing that...everything begins with His power. ...I would love to keep your needs in prayer... I still maintain a prayer text chain with around 30 people that participate. We would love to pray for you (907/947-2373).

May God bless you richly and deeply as you pursue His never-ending goodness and justice,  
The Felton Family [Daniel, Allison, Ryder, Faith and Quinn]

*P.S. Pray also for Allison to get rid of a cough that won't go away.*

## *Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes*



This ministry sends shoeboxes filled with gifts to needy children around the world. You can help by filling a shoebox with small **new** toys, hard candy in zip-lock bag (this is the last year candy will be allowed), hygiene items (toothpaste/brush), **low-scent** soap in separate zip-lock bag or candy will taste like soap, school supplies, etc. You may pick up an empty, wrapped shoebox in the patio or you may wrap it yourself. You can also pick up a brochure giving details about what to put in your box and what not to put in. Samaritan's Purse is asking for \$7 per box to cover shipping costs. Filled shoeboxes need to be here at the church by **November 6**.



# Reflections

Continued from p. 2

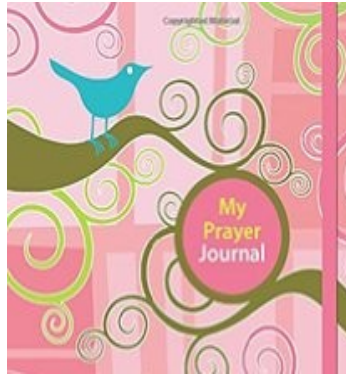
our Lord is worthy of our love and worship—worship which leads us to be transparent before Him; worship which leads us to confession of our sins and restoration to His holy fellowship; worship which leads us to cry out to Him. “Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting” (vv. 23-24, NIV).

Yes, our Lord desires that we have fellowship with Him at all times, and as we come before Him in loving worship, we will realize that there is no one like our wonderful Lord. Yes, it’s like the old hymn says, “What a FRIEND we have in JESUS.”

I’m praising You, dear Lord Jesus,  
*Pastor Rog*

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

Michael Banfield, Loretta Barnett, Reba Belcher, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Gloria Deering, Leah Douglas, Virgie Fletcher, Earl & Jean Forman, Dutchess Gattis, Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Helen Kessenich, Joan Kindt, Mary Larsen, Doug Luden, Joy Moore, Bill Morgan, Ralph Norsworthy, Joy Pierson, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Jean Rayner, Nellie Rizzi, Barbara Rudé, Claudine Schultz, Mary Schultz, Bill & Gerri Stoodley, Norma Vinsonhaler, Tammie Wakefield, and Gertie Wissinger.



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

Jim Boyer lost his sister, Maude.

## TFB Tithes & Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately \$49,306 in the month of July.



## More Mail

(continued from p. 3)

Through the prayers and cards of encouragement from my church family, I have felt the Lord’s healing presence. My thanks to you all.

Each day I am feeling a little bit stronger. My back has been where most of the pain is. Please continue praying that my back heals completely. Miss you and love you all,

Claudine Schultz

A few months ago, the sewing group that meets here at TFB made slippers and donated them to Doors of Hope. The DOH women sent a thank you card with some handwritten comments and a picture.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity to us.  
—Sydney

These slippers are a blessing. The colors are beautiful. Thanks so much for your labor of love. —Miriam

God bless you all! Thank you so much for the lovely slippers. —Michelle (black/gold)

I am so grateful for the slippers you took out of your precious time to make for me. God bless you. —Virginia

Thank you sooooo much! Slippers are a blessing. —JWJ

Your thoughtful gift warmed my ♥ and my feet too! —Marian



Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for coming out to share our celebration of Harry “Randy” Rudé’s life! Your love and support has been a blessing for me and my family throughout this very difficult time. Thank you for all of your prayers.

Barbara Ann Rudé & Family



## Smile Awhile



I dialed a number and got the following recording:  
“I am not available right now, but thank you for caring enough to call. I am making some changes in my life. Please leave a message after the beep. If I do not return your call, you are one of the changes.”



Aspire to inspire before you expire.



My wife and I had words. But I didn't get to use mine.



Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.



Frustration is trying to find your glasses without your glasses.



These are absentee notes from parents (including original spelling) collected by schools:

*My son is under a doctor's care and should not take P.E. today. Please execute him.*

*Please excuse Lisa for being absent. She was sick and I had her shot.*

*Dear School: Please excuse Shadrak being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and also 33.*

*John has been absent because he had two teeth taken out of his face.*

*Please excuse Blessing from P.E. for a few days. Yesterday he fell out of a tree and misplaced his hip.*

*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: College NeXus; High School Revive; Jr. High Quest; and Colossians Kids for children.*

*For more information, contact the church office: 310.328.5030 or tfbc@pacbell.net. Or visit us on the web at www.tfbclife.org*