

the Proclaimer

February 2017

Volume 30 Issue 2



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*February 17
12:00 noon*

All are invited to attend this "Friendship" luncheon as we gather to enjoy each other's company. Our theme will be "Let Love Abound." Lunch will be provided with an opportunity to give a free-will offering.

Sign up in the patio.



Friday, February 17, 7:00 p.m.



Laura Story

All ladies are invited to attend this event at Mariner's Church in Irvine.

We will carpool there, leaving the church at 5 p.m. If you want to take advantage of dinner being served there from 4-7 p.m. for \$10, you may want to arrange a carpool and go earlier.

Sign up in the patio.



Josh Wilson

*Cupcakes Needed for
Sunday, February 5*

Sign up in the patio or call the church office if you can bring some cupcakes to help celebrate January and February birthdays in the patio during fellowship time.



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

From the Pastor's Heart



As we continued to travel through 2017, I want to reflect on our beginnings in the book of Acts. Have you ever noticed the incredible change that occurs in the followers of Jesus after their filling of the Holy Spirit? It is amazing!

Before they were a doubting, confused group with very little

faith. But afterwards they shared their faith wherever they went, genuinely developed a humble servant's heart, sacrificed the comforts of life, stayed bold in the midst of persecution, and stayed focused on God's mission.

Like those first followers, we too can be greatly changed and empowered. Our joy and excitement for walking with and serving our Lord, our boldness, and our encouragement of others is the direct result of the ministry of the Holy Spirit. That is why Jesus said it is only after you have the Holy Spirit in your life that you can effectively fulfill His mission.

Paul writes in Ephesians for us to keep on being filled with the

spirit. The result is each of us "...singing and making music in [our] heart[s] to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 5:19-20). That is a description of the abundant life that Jesus came to give us.

What we all need and what I pray for each of us is that in 2017, we will live more and more filled with the Holy Spirit, we will experience the joy of the Lord, make music in our hearts and boldly serve our Lord. That is the best life of all.

Serving Christ together,
Pastor Charlie

Reflections by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

What a privilege it is for us to have a personal relationship with Almighty God through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ. To receive the forgiveness of sins by His grace and to be filled with His peace are beyond our comprehension, but it's true. And to be indwelt by His Spirit which gives to us His wisdom, strength, and correction is a blessing which we should rejoice in every day. But, with privilege also comes **responsibility**—the responsibility to live in such a way that people might see Christ in us as we move among them and interact with them. In thinking of this, my heart directed me to read Psalm 15. Would you please read it now? It's only five verses.

This short psalm speaks of the character those who belong to God

should possess. Of all people, we should live differently from those who don't personally know the Lord Jesus as Savior and Lord. Well then, what does Psalm 15 tell us about this character God has forged into our lives by the Holy Spirit? In short, it tells us that we should reflect the very character of God who redeemed us by His grace.

Many times we hear people asking "What is church?" Is it people, buildings, singing, preaching, small groups, or a big group?" Actually it is all of the above. Christians are a group of people who are exiles on earth who possess citizenship in heaven. Heaven is to be our eternal home. But we as the CHURCH should so live down here on earth that we reflect the



very character of our Father in heaven. But merely "going to church" where we gather together to be encouraged and strengthened through the Word, Christian fellowship, prayer and worship isn't enough to make our witness for Christ real to the world. **No, we need to be the Church.** But how do we do this? Psalm 15 helps us here. The foundation of this psalm deals with **worshipping** our Lord. And true worship of our Lord will be reflected in how we treat each other within the family of God and those who are

Continued on p. 9



New Nursery Toys Wanted

Have you seen our new nursery? Matthew Martin and his co-worker, Marcelo, have worked long and hard to refurbish and revitalize it, and it looks great!

Now, we just need some new toys. Many of our toys in the TFB nursery have been so well-loved over the years that they are in desperate need of replacement. Please consider donating to the TFB Nursery so the staff can replace these toys, or you can go to **Toys R Us** (in store or on the website) and shop from the Wish List called Tammy Hurtado's "Other Wish List."



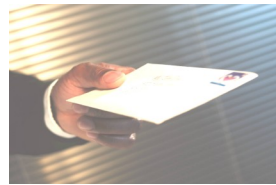
for making us feel so special!!

Dear Church Family,

We were so blessed by your generosity and your love. Thank you very much for the Christmas gift that you gave to us! It was more than we could ever think or ask.

We pray that God will bless you abundantly in this new year.

With humble gratitude,
Charlie, Rog, Karla,
Daniel, and Jay



We Get Mail

Thanks to all who helped me celebrate my 90th birthday. I am very blessed to have so many friends.

Love,
Carol [Hubert]

Dear Friends,

I am so thankful for the support of my church family during the illness and home-going of my sister, Marie. She was a strong believer and a prayer partner, and I will miss her greatly. Marie knew many of you, having spent three months with us years ago. She appreciated all your prayers during her illness. I would like to thank you all for your love, prayers, plants, flowers, cards and calls which have been much appreciated. Knowing Marie is with the Lord is a great comfort to me, and I am thankful she was able to witness to her family during the last weeks of her life.

Blessings,
Irene Hardy

Dear Church Family,

My family and I want to thank you for your many loving kindnesses, prayers, well wishes, flowers, delicious baked goods, phone calls and visits during the last year. I miss you all so much and keep you in my prayers always. God is the Great Healer and He is not through with me yet. I hope that I will be able to join you again in the coming months. I pray that all of you are seeking His will in your lives and recognizing and praising Him for the challenges, the blessings and His abundant grace.

In Christ's love,
Dutchess Gattis and Family

Dear TFB Family,

We want to thank you so much for the plant and all the cards and prayers that you sent on behalf of our family in the loss of our son and brother, Rick.

Love,
Vivian and Barbara Jean Sisco
and Tammy Hurtado & Family

High School (Revive) News



Saturday, February 25

We will have a picnic and enjoy the beauty of God's outdoors. More information coming later.

I'm writing this just a few days removed from our High School Winter Retreat at Lake Arrowhead.

For a few of them, it was the first time they ever had seen it snow. Even though there wasn't much snow, the 14 of us managed to get a little snow play in before it melted. The white stuff was just an added benefit to our weekend, but our primary focus was on spending time with each other, with Jesus and in God's Word.

Our theme for this retreat was "Set Free," as we studied the entire book of Galatians. We learned that Paul wrote this important letter to a group of Christians who were being enticed by some to obey the Law of Moses as a condition of being made right with God. Paul reminds the Galatians that we should not worry about what others think but instead focus on pleasing God (v. 1:10), and that we are made right, not by anything we do, but only by what Christ has done on the cross. Our response to His finished work is to trust in its sufficiency and to walk in His Spirit by faith. When we live in step with the Holy Spirit, we live in God's freedom, and His fruit is produced in our lives.

In a culture in which we are judged by what we do and how well we do it, this message of being set free from the demands of performance in order to experience God's love is truly liberating—it's Good News!

The students are excited about this Good News, and we are making plans for them to share it with their friends. Please be in prayer as we schedule some evangelistic events on Tuesday nights in the coming weeks and as they apply what they learned in the Fall about sharing Christ with others. We also begin our first High School Rooted group in February – more on that later.

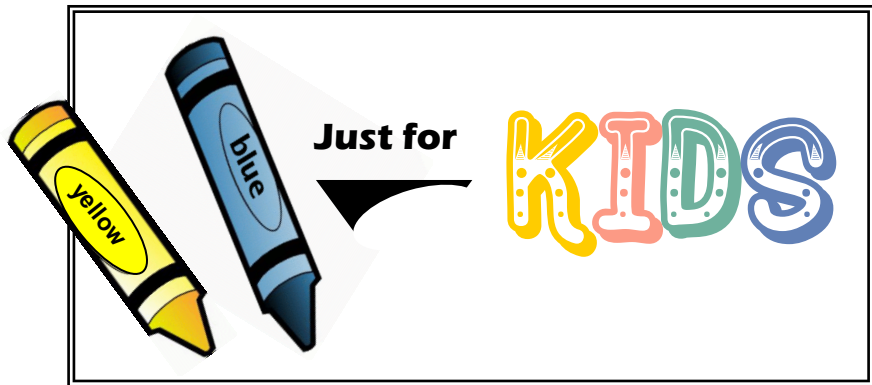
Ann



*February 3-5
at Thousand Pines*

Thousand Pines Winter Camps treat your students to a high-energy weekend filled with fun, games, challenging speakers, and a chance to reconnect with the Lord. We work closely with our guest speakers and worship leaders to provide a seamless flow from chapel times to small group devotions so your students receive the biggest impact.

Cost: \$175



Mark 12:30-31

Change some of the letters below to find the words in these important verses.

Change: C's to L J's to A K's to O Z's to H
 Q's to T P's to R X's to E

(The other letters stay the same.)

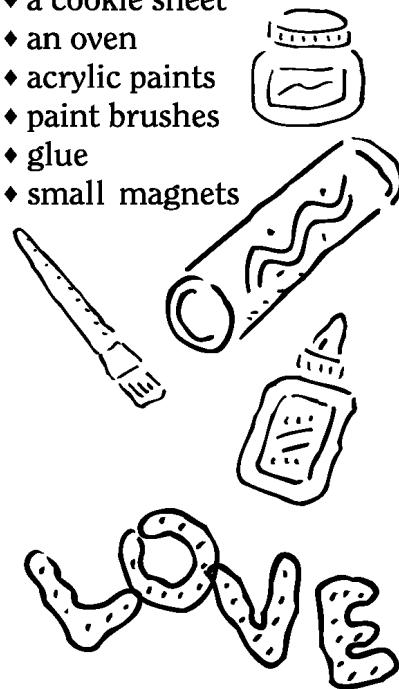
“ L
 C K V X Q Z X C K P D Y K U P
 G K D W I Q Z J C C Y K U P
 Z X J P Q J N D W I Q Z J C C
 Y K U P S K U C J N D W I Q Z
 J C C Y K U P M I N D J N D
 W I Q Z J C C Y K U P
 S Q P X N G Q Z . . . C K V X
 Y K U P N X I G Z B K P
 ”
 A S Y K U P S X C F .

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength ... Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Make Some Magnets

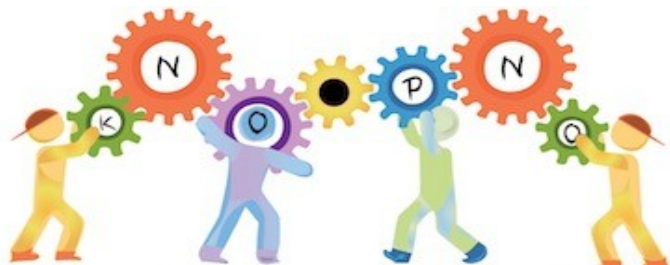
You will need:

- ◆ a tube of refrigerated breadstick dough
- ◆ a cookie sheet
- ◆ an oven
- ◆ acrylic paints
- ◆ paint brushes
- ◆ glue
- ◆ small magnets



How to make:

Stretch out the dough. Shape pieces into letters or shapes. Spell “LOVE” or make heart shapes for Valentine’s Day. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 300° for 30 minutes. Cool. Paint. Glue magnet on back.



Kids Night out - Parents Night off

*Friday, February 24
 6-9 p.m.*



Leave the kids (infants through 5th grade) to have dinner and a movie with us, while you enjoy a night out with your Valentine.

We are asking for a \$3 donation per child.

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

Tuesday

Classical Conversations, 8 a.m.
 High School Revive, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Family Dinner, 6 p.m.
 Colossians Kids, 6:45 p.m.
 Jr. High QUEST, 6:45 p.m.
 "Crazy Love" Bible Study, 6:45 p.m.
 Choir Practice, 7 p.m.

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

Thursday

Ladies' Bible Study, 2 p.m.

Friday

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

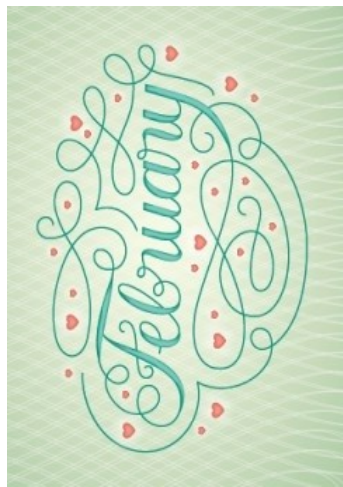
Saturday

Men's BSF Leaders 6 a.m.
 New Covenant (Korean) Prayer, 6 a.m.
 H.S. Girls' Bible Study, 2p

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 2p Sing @ Royalwood Jr. High back from Winter Camp	6	7	8	9 7p Beacon Light Mission	10	11 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out
12 5:20p Prayer Gathering	13	14	15	16	17	18 7p Share & Care
19	20 President's Day Office closed 7p Finance & FacMan Teams	21 6p Ministry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach, Worship, & Disc. Dev. 7p Deacon/ess	22	23	24 6p Kids' Night Out 7p Young Marrieds	25 6:30p Singles' Game Night
26 5:20p Prayer Gathering	27	28				

Upcoming March Events

- 3/2 ~ Men's Bowling
- 3/4 ~ Loaves & Fishes, 11 a.m.
- 3/11 ~ Singles' Dinner Out. 6:30 p.m.
- 3/17 ~ Kids' Night Out (Date Night), 6 p.m.
- 3/18 ~ Ladies' St. Patrick's Day Bingo, 2-4 p.m.
- 3/19 ~ Sunday Brunch, 10:30 a.m.
- 3/25 ~ Singles' Game Night, 6:30 p.m.





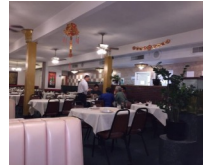
Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

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.



Dinner Out ~ Saturday, February 11, at 6:30 p.m. Meet at Golden Pheasant Chinese Restaurant, 1077 W. Carson Street (across from Harbor/UCLA Medical Center).

Game Night ~ Saturday, February 25, 6:30 p.m. Meet at Gloria Pedersen's home, 817 Amapola Avenue in Old Town Torrance. Bring games and snacks to share. Call Gloria, 562/505-4495, if you have any questions.



TFB Academy

"He is Jesus, the Christ"

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

What are we willing to commit to out loud and in public? In the relative safety of Sunday morning worship, this is a simple question. Monday morning in the company of those who do not trust Jesus, our answer may be different. But let us go deeper: How well do we understand the one to whom we are committing ourselves?

He is Jesus (Luke 1:26-33). The angel announced to Mary, "You shall call his name Jesus" (v. 31). The name "Jesus" is the Aramaic translation of the Hebrew name "Joshua," which means "Yahweh is salvation." This one who came to earth as an infant who cried and

needed his diaper changed is the Savior for whom Israel waited. The angel declared this and more. He is great (v. 32). He is called "Son of the Most High" (v. 32), and he will receive the "throne of his father David" (v. 32). His kingdom has no end (v. 33). He grew into a man and began his ministry. He gathered followers and selected twelve from among them whom he would teach. These twelve slowly, haltingly realized who he was.

"What are we willing to commit to out loud and in public?"

Jesus is the Christ (Matthew 16:13-20). One day while walking from town to town, Jesus asked his disciples who the people thought he was (v. 13). The answers varied: "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets" (v. 14). Then Jesus asked, "But who do you say that I am?" (v. 15). Peter, prompted by God the Father, proclaimed "You are the Christ..." (v. 16). The title "Christ" is the Greek translation of the Hebrew title "Messiah," which means "Anointed One." This man Jesus is the one foretold in the Law and the Prophets. He is God in flesh, come as the Anointed One to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:9-10).

What are we willing to commit to out loud and in public? We ought to proclaim this Jesus. He fully understands what life is like here on earth. He knows temptation to its very end, for he was tempted and never gave in. He understands the depths of humility, for he is God, yet humbled himself, became human, and gave his life to save us. He created, and he rules. He is the Savior who sits on the throne of God's Eternal Kingdom. He is ever able to seek and save those who are lost.

*TFB Global Outreach
News*

Meyers' Ministry on Campus
from Kraig & Susan Meyer with
Crossover Communications International

Kraig is working on two campuses of the University of Colorado, the Denver Campus and the Boulder Campus. Tuesday evening we have English Conversation class for international students in Boulder. Wednesday noon we have a free student lunch and Bible discussion on the Denver campus. About 15-20 students attend. Thursday evening is our home Bible study. We even have had international students come to this study. Friday evenings we have Food and Fun Night for students in Boulder. Our home church is also getting involved in the ministry in Boulder, providing dinners and making contacts with students. Kraig has been writing a small handbook for the people in our church who want to get involved with international students. If you would like to have a copy of this booklet, send me your email address, and I will send it to you.

Besides all these activities, Susan is active in teaching ESL classes at our church. About 240 students learn English each week. She has been teaching there for over eight years. Then we have our individual ministry to international students. We often go hiking or make picnics in the mountains with these students. That's one of the great benefits of living in Colorado. We are also involved in helping students get settled in the USA, transporting furniture, and taking them shopping.

Recently, we helped a ministry outreach in Washington Park in Denver for about 185 students. It was a Lamb Roast for mostly Muslim students. This was a great way to meet new students and to make friends. Kraig met a student from Saudi Arabia who was a student in Boulder. He invited him to come to the Friday night dinner (which consists of about 50-60 students) at the Horizons House. The Saudi student came and had a great time. At the end, he told Kraig, "Please, don't forget about me. I want to keep our friendship." The Saudi student seemed lonely and wanted to have an American friend.

We still have contact with some of the Iranian students from last year. In fact, we have one Iranian student living in our home with us. We were able to find homes for several other Iranians to live with Christian families.

I'm not giving you the names of all the students I've mentioned, because they don't want it known about their contact with Christians, but I do want you to pray for each one. Thank you for your faithfulness in praying for our ministry.

We also want to share with you the joy of our 50th Wedding Anniversary, which [was] celebrated at our church on October 15 [of 2016].

Your friends and servants for Christ,
Kraig & Susan
Kraig.Meyer@ymail.com



Reflections Continued from p. 2

not believers. Worship of our Lord should be a **way of life**. For instance, we are called to **walk** in a way which is blameless. This does not mean to be perfect but upright (vs. 2). We are to **show love** to others through our speech and actions (vs. 3). We are to **guard our relationships** so that they honor God and keep our word (vs. 9). And we are to be **generous in helping others**, keeping in mind what the Lord has given to us (vs. 5).

As I reflect on this Psalm, the Holy Spirit is directing me to take an **inventory** of my walk with Him. In other words, is my **worship** of Him truly honoring to Him and would others with whom I meet and interact come into contact with His love and grace, or would it be “business as usual”?

Yes, it is wonderful to go to church, but more importantly, we need to **BE THE CHURCH** reflecting Him to others. May this be our desire today.

Looking only to Him,
Pastor Rog



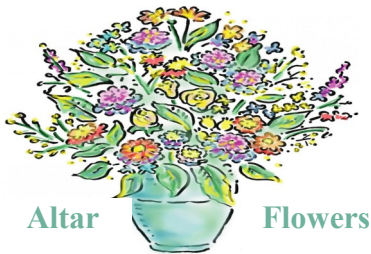
The following families have recently lost a loved one:

Karen Davis, our TFB Bookkeeper, lost her mother, Seletia, on December 29;

Rick Sisco, son of Vivian and brother of Barbara Jean Sisco and Tammy Hurtado, passed away on January 1; Irene Hardy lost her sister, Marie Smith, who lived in England, on January 3;

and former TFB missionary nurse in Haiti, Joanna Hodges, is now with the Lord.

Please pray for each family.



2017 Flower Calendar

Altar Flowers

The following dates are still available for 2017: February 26; March 12 & 19; April 9, 16, & 30; May 7, 14, & 21; July 2, August 20; September 3, 17 & 24; October 1 & 29; November 19 & 26; and December 31.

If you'd like to pay for our standing order of flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special person or occasion on one of the above dates, please call the office. The cost is \$50.



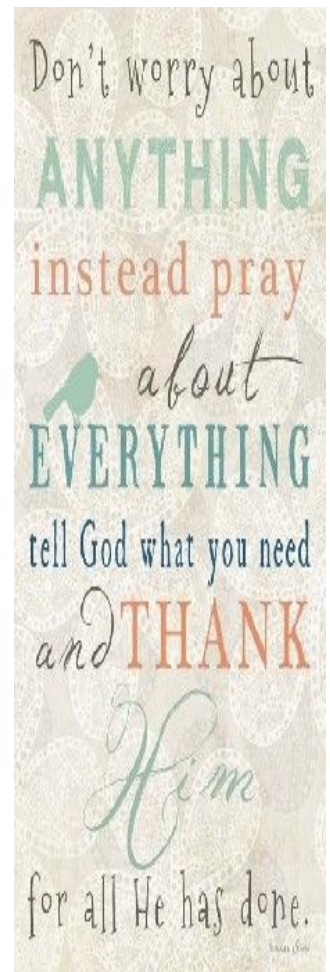
TFB Tithes and Offerings

Thank you for giving approximately \$56,093 in the month of December.

Prayer Requests

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

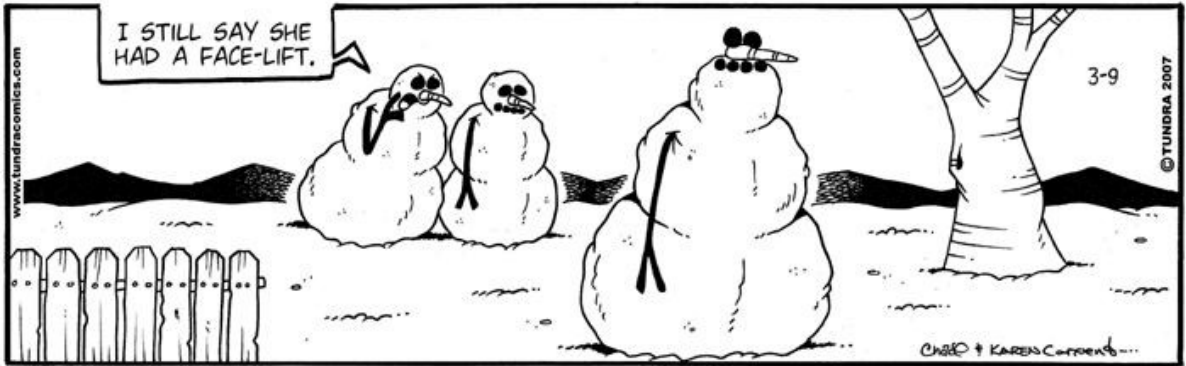
Michael Banfield, Loretta Barnett, Reba Belcher, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Gloria Deering, Leah Douglas, Virgie Fletcher, Earl & Jean Forman, Dutchess Gattis, Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Helen Kessenich, Joan Kindt, Mary Larsen, Doug Luden, Joy Moore, Bill Morgan, Ralph Norsworthy, Joy Pierson,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



More Snowman Humor



Smile
While



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