

# the Proclaimer

February 2018

Volume 31 Issue 2



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Women's Ministries Present



*Friday, February 9  
6:30 p.m.*

Ladies, come to our Valentine-themed FREE BINGO fun night! Bring snacks to share. If you are planning to attend, please sign up in the patio.

**Seniors & Friends**

we would ♥ to see you  
at our

**FEBRUARY  
LUNCHEON**

**Friday, February 16, 12 noon**

All are invited to attend this "Friendship" luncheon as we gather to enjoy each other's company. Lunch will be provided with an opportunity to give a free-will offering. Sign up in the patio.



*Pregnancy Help Center  
Baby Bottles Due Back  
on February 11*

If you picked up a baby bottle for the Pregnancy Help Center Fundraiser, please bring your bottles back on Sunday, February 11, filled with coins, bills or a check to help provide free services.

The Pregnancy Help Center is a licensed medical clinic and pregnancy helpline offering confidential, free, accurate, early pregnancy testing; options consultations; ultrasound exams; and other free services that will help people make the best decision for their future. The Center offers evidence-based education, abortion options and alternatives, a trustworthy person to talk to, compassion, respect, and, most of all, hope.

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

## From the Pastor's Heart



On behalf of myself, Pastor Rog, Karla and Matt, let me say thank you so very much to our church family for your generous Christmas gift. It was such an encouragement to us!

Back in 1855, J. Hudson Taylor did a radical thing—he adopted traditional Chinese dress as he ministered in China. Few had taken such a bold step prior to this time. Hudson Taylor knew that he

had to break down all the walls he possibly could between him and the Chinese in order to gain a hearing and reach them with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

In God’s infinite love and mercy, He knew that to redeem people, He had to set aside His glory and take the form of humanity. He gave up the luxuries of heaven for a season in order to reach us—the lost. Not only did He take on human form but He also humbled Himself, allowing His creation to put Him to death on the cross. Jesus explains His mission in Mark 10:45: “For even I, the Son of Man, came here not to be served but to serve others, and to give My life a ransom for many.”

Clearly people matter to God; you matter to God. You matter so much that God was willing to do

something very radical, like Hudson Taylor, in order to reach you with His love and grace.

We who strive to serve Jesus Christ and minister in His name are wise to follow His example, as Hudson Taylor did. We need to be willing to set aside a tradition or social protocol in order to help us break down walls that block us from effectively sharing the Good News of Christ with the lost. This requires a surrender to God on our part, putting aside our preferences and rights, and staying focused on God’s priorities.

May we care enough for the lost to tear down any walls that are keeping us from expressing the Good News of His amazing love and grace.

Serving together like Jesus with grace and truth,  
Pastor Charlie

## Reflections by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

How wonderful to have a personal relationship with Almighty God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and how wonderful it is to be one family in Him. May the joy of His salvation encourage your hearts as you live and deal with the difficulties which life brings your way.

One of the privileges and joys we rejoice in is this privilege of praying for one another. None of us is on an island! We need each other more than we probably realize, and the prayers which are sent heavenward in Jesus’ Name bring encouragement and strength to everyone of us. I believe the Apostle Paul had these thoughts on his mind as the Holy Spirit led him to write...

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every*

*situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*

(Philippians 4:6-7 NIV).

Now, what happens when we take our prayer concerns—our anxiety to God in prayer? We find that He grants us His peace. This peace which can only come from our Heavenly Father brings with it the knowledge, yes, the reality of His presence, comfort, encouragement, and protection. And the knowledge that we are praying for one another makes these wonderful spiritual blessings even richer. What a joy it is to hear our family say to each other, “I’ll be praying for you,” and then hear later on how these prayers brought



strength and encouragement to us in our time of need. Praise Him!

As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ we are to be a loving people...a forgiving people...a helping people...and a praying people. May we never minimize the power of prayer. You see, prayer is God-ordained.

As we go through this new year may we be a PRAYING people and when we hear how He has worked on our behalf, may we be a REJOICING people. Together, these two spiritual practices energized, by the Holy

# New Directory Coming Soon

*Verify & Update your Information*

Starting on February 4, please check the pages in the foyer to make sure all of your information is correct. **Legibly** make any corrections next to your name. If your name is not there and you want to be in the church directory, write as much of your info that you want in the directory: name, address, home phone, cell(s), and email(s) on the page that alphabetically corresponds to your last name.



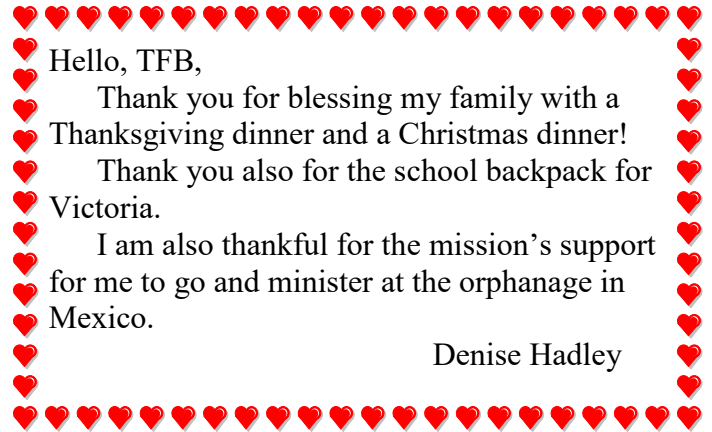
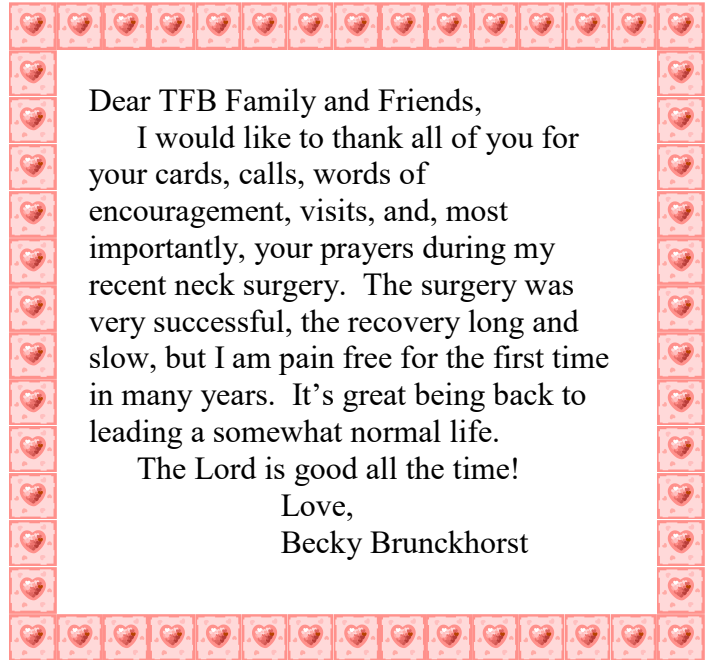
## We Get Mail

Dear TFB Family and Friends,

I would like to thank all of you for your cards, calls, words of encouragement, visits, and, most importantly, your prayers during my recent neck surgery. The surgery was very successful, the recovery long and slow, but I am pain free for the first time in many years. It's great being back to leading a somewhat normal life.

The Lord is good all the time!

Love,  
Becky Brunckhorst



Hello, TFB,

Thank you for blessing my family with a Thanksgiving dinner and a Christmas dinner!

Thank you also for the school backpack for Victoria.

I am also thankful for the mission's support for me to go and minister at the orphanage in Mexico.

Denise Hadley



*February 11, 10:30 a.m.*

Join us between the morning services as the Fellowship Committee serves a delicious Brunch for your enjoyment.

## Loaves & Fishes Update



Hi Everyone,

Thank you for all of your support to the Loaves & Fishes ministry. God and you have blessed this ministry continually month after month.

We are in need of more volunteers to help with the meals on the first Saturday of the month. It could be for one hour or the whole time. We need helpers to make the lunch sandwiches, cut up desserts, set the tables, wash dishes, and clean up afterwards.

If the Lord is leading you to help in this ministry, you can call Linda Stratton or Gale Lee. We would love to have you join our team.

Thank you again for all of your support,  
Linda and Team



**Pregnancy Help Center**

*Forgiven & Set Free*

The Pregnancy Help Center in Torrance will be hosting a 10-week Post-Abortion Bible Study called "Forgiven and Set Free" starting on

**Wednesday, February 7, at 7 p.m.**

It will be held at the Center, 1311 Crenshaw Boulevard, Suite A, in Torrance. Please contact Susan Lofy at slofy@phtorrance.org or call 310/320-8976.

# 4 MINISTRIES & Youth Events



*Sunday, February, 11  
6:00 p.m.*

**Pizza, drinks, and snacks provided.**

## WINTER CAMPS



**Jr. High ~ February 9-11 at Camp Edwards in Angelus Oaks ~ \$100**

**High School ~ February 16-19 at Camp Edwards in Angelus Oaks ~ \$100**

**College ~ February 23-25 at Camp Edwards in Angelus Oaks ~ \$100**

**Juniors (3rd-6th grades) ~ February 23-25 at Forest Home ~ \$175**

Sign up now with a \$50 deposit.

If you'd like to help a youngster go to camp, who could not otherwise afford it, please write "*Camp Scholarship Fund*" on your envelope.



*a.k.a. Parent's Date Night*

*3rd Friday of each month*

*February 16 ~ 6-9 p.m.*



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 donation of \$3/child.

# Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

*Please remember that Dinner Night (2nd Saturday of the month) and Game Night (4th Saturday of the month) are great opportunities to invite friends, whether they attend TFB, go to another church, or don't go to church at all.*



**Dinner Night ~ Saturday, February 10, 6:30 p.m.** ~ Meet at Taishi Hainan Chicken, 1000 Torrance Blvd. (Corner of Torrance and Prospect).

**Game Night ~ Saturday, February 24, at 6:30 p.m.** ~ Meet at Gloria Pedersen's, 817 Amapola Avenue, Old Towne Torrance. Bring drinks and snacks to share.



For additional questions, suggestions, or more information, call Gloria, 562/505-4495.

## TFB Academy

### *"Revelation--God Unveiled"*

By Laura Springer, M.Div., Th.M., Ph.D

The revelation of God's power and divinity surrounds us, for nature reveals these (Romans 1:20). We watch waves crashing upon the shore and tides flowing in and out, giving us glimpses of God's power. We learn math that echoes God's orderliness and beauty. We gaze upon a newborn infant, and our hearts leap at the reflection of God's divinity in this tiny human form. The revelation of God is all around us, but this general

revelation, given by nature, does not tell us everything God wants us to know. His power and divinity are crucial, but he also wants us to know who he is and what he desires for us. God gave us special revelation, namely Scripture and the incarnation of Christ, to communicate this truth. Last year we studied the doctrine of Christ; this year we focus on Scripture.

- **Scripture reveals God's nature.** It shows us that God is self-existent, eternal, steadfast, all-knowing, unique and pure, correct, good, love, in charge, all-powerful, and always present.
- **Scripture reveals God's will.** From the laws and prophets of the Old Testament to the commands and instructions of the New, Scripture tells us what God expects and requires of his people.
- **Scripture reveals the good news of salvation.** In it we see God telling his people Israel that they will be his people and he will be their God. We see him declare himself as the God who delivered his people from slavery and oppression in Egypt. We see the Savior foreshadowed as the Prophet, Priest, and coming King. We see the life, teaching, and people of this Savior, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

*The revelation of God is all around us, but this general revelation, given by nature, does not tell us everything God wants us to know.*

So, what is our proper response to the revelation of God, both general and special? Let's return to Romans 1 for some insight. The foolish see nature's revelation, but do not give God honor. But we shall. The foolish do not give thanks to the Creator. But we shall. The foolish become futile in their minds. But we shall become fruitful. The foolish trust their own minds and hearts. But we shall seek and trust the Spirit and his illumination of God's revelation. The foolish choose to worship nature. But we choose to worship God and God alone.

This is what Scripture reveals.

**Recurring Weekly Events:**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2:30p Sing at Royalwood				6:30p Ladies' Bingo 7p Beacon Light	6:30p Ladies' Bingo Jr. High leaves for Camp Edwards	6:30p Singles' Dinner Out
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:30a Brunch Baby bottles due Jr. High home 5:20p Prayer Gathering 6p H.S. Movie		12n Shut-in Meeting			12n Sr. Luncheon HS leaves for Camp 6p Kids' Night Out 7p Married Couples (any age)	7p Share & Care
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	<b>Presidents' Day</b> Office Closed HS Home from Camp 7p Finance & FacMan Teams	6p Ministry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach, Worship, & Disc. Dev. 7p Deacon/ess Mtngs			College leaves for Camp Edwards Juniors leave for Forest Home	6:30p Singles' Game Night
25	26	27	28			
College & Juniors home from Camp 5:20p Prayer Gathering						

**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.  
Handbell Practice, 4p

**Monday**

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

**Tuesday**

C4 High School Leadership, 5:30 p.m.  
C4 High School, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday**

Men's Lunch @ Sizzler, 12:30p  
Family Dinner, 6 p.m.  
Colossians Kids, 6:30 p.m.  
Jr. High QUEST, 6:30 p.m.  
"Crazy Love" Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.  
Parenting Fellowship Group, 6:30 p.m.  
Choir Practice, 7 p.m.  
Open Volleyball, 8:15 p.m.

**Thursday**

Ladies' Bible Study, 2 p.m.  
C4 College Group, 7 p.m.  
7th Day Adventist Bible Study, 7 p.m.

**Friday**

Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m.  
Bible Study @ Greteman's, 6:15 p.m.

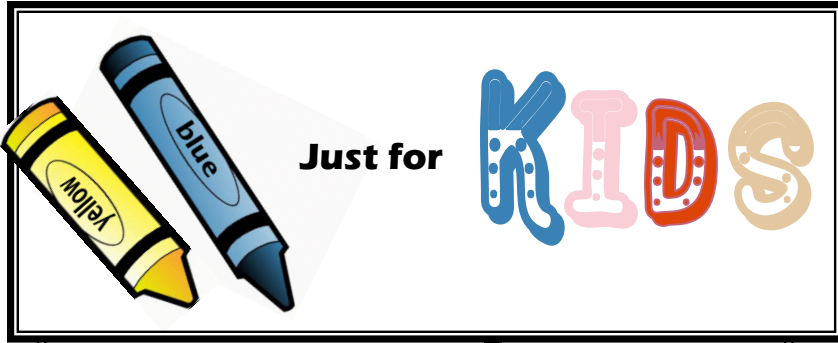
**Saturday**

Men's BSF Leaders, 6 a.m.  
7th Day Adventist Baptists, 9 a.m.

**Upcoming March Events**

- 3/3 ~ Loaves & Fishes, 11a
- 3/4 ~ Women's Ministry Kick-Off Luncheon; 12:30p
- 3/10 ~ All-Church Work Day, 9a-4p
- 3/10 ~ Singles' Dinner Out, 6:30p
- 3/16 ~ Kids' Night Out, 6p
- 3/18 ~ High School Movie Night
- 3/24 ~ Singles' Game Night, 6:30p
- 3/30 ~ Office Closed - Good Friday





**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.)

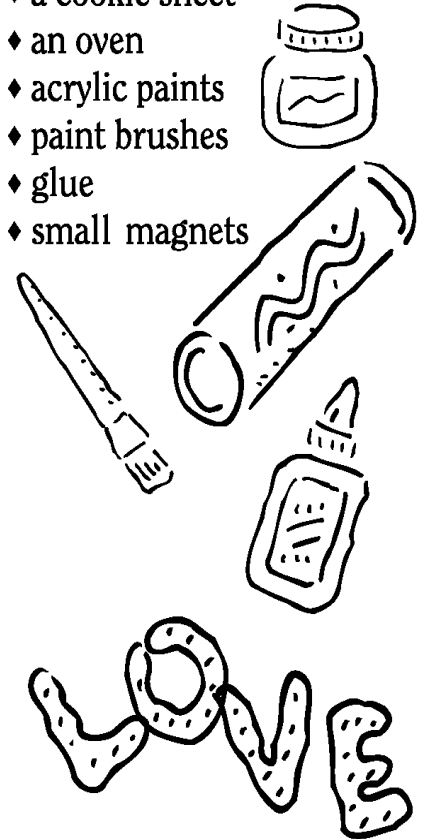
" L  
 C K V X    Q Z X    C K P D    Y K U P  
 G K D    W I Q Z    J C C    Y K U P  
 Z X J P Q    J N D    W I Q Z    J C C  
 Y K U P    S K U C    J N D    W I Q Z  
 J C C    Y K U P    M I N D    J N D  
 W I Q Z    J C C    Y K U P  
 S Q P X N G Q Z . . . C K V X  
 Y K U P    N X I G Z B K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

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul 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.



## *From Tim Hardy with Frontiers*



Over the past month I have been asked the same question quite a few times, "Tim, do you like what you do?" As I have responded to the direct question and to the underlying questions that this presupposes, it has caused me to process the work of mobilization and the role in which I play.

I love the opportunity to challenge people with the mission of God, understanding His story, viewing all people through the beautiful reality that all men are created in God's image, loving people by seeking to know their story, and the continued role of casting vision to be active participants in His Mission.

### *Do I like what I do?*

*Yes!*

....but it's really hard. Many days that is a huge understatement.

In this ministry, I am inviting people to build relationships with Muslims, to extend Christ's love to them, to cast a larger vision for the countless Muslims in the world that do not have access to the truth. Simple enough, right? But the reality is much deeper, much more complex. I am asking people to reach out, to love, to extend themselves to build something, to be available. But the direction is towards a people we don't understand, a people who are different: a seen enemy, a violent foe, someone to oppose, not someone to create with. Moving beyond fear is much easier said than done.

It is so easy to love people who are like us. But why is it so difficult for us to love people who are different?

Islam is one of the fastest growing religions in the world. 1.6+ billion strong, its followers span the world (and even across the street) and comprise close to 25% of the world's population. For centuries there has been conflict between Christianity and Islam. This ongoing conflict has fueled negative perceptions, fears, and emotionally charged interactions between Muslims and Christians today. Adding to this, our ever-present news and social media platforms continue to set the stage for a wide variety of feelings, promoting fear, hatred, and misunderstanding.

Muslims live in our communities, work with us, attend our schools, and capture the headlines every day. In the midst of this, nearly half of Americans say they do not know a Muslim personally. How should Christians respond to Muslims and adherents of other religions in America? How are we, as followers of Jesus, supposed to relate to Muslims? What attitudes should we have for people who are different from us? How do we respond to people we don't understand? How do we reach out and build relationships with people we might fear?

We read in Scripture "perfect love casts out fear," but why do so many of us live out "perfect fear casts out love"?

I am praying that in 2018 we will see some more breakthroughs.

As 2018 begins, I want to say thank you for coming alongside our ministry. Your support and encouragement is the fuel that we need to continue to be able to witness to and love the Muslim people.



We had the opportunity to participate with friends (some old and some new) in Peace Training provided by Two Faiths One Friendship. This was a great opportunity to learn and understand, explore our similarities and differences, and to develop a foundation for friendship. We are hoping to continue to grow in this in 2018.



# Reflections

Continued from p. 2

Spirit, not only strengthen our ministry amongst us, but they send a message to others who, as of yet, don't believe in Jesus that He is real and that He desires to work in their lives as He has done in ours.

May the Lord bless you abundantly in the days ahead as you humble yourselves before Him. Please know this: the Lord is mindful of your needs and is delighted when you come into His presence to spend time alone with Him. Hallelujah...what a Savior!

I'm rejoicing in Him,  
Pastor Rog

## Altar Flowers

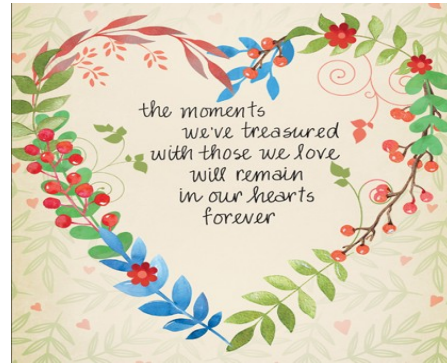


## Flower Calendar

If you would like to celebrate a special event in your life or honor a loved one in 2018, please sign up to reserve your preferred date on the calendar in the foyer. Some of the dates still available are as follows: 2/4, 18, & 25; 3/4 & 18; 5/6 & 13; and 6/3. Choose one date per family until all have had an opportunity to sign up and only one sign-up per date. You may make your **tax deductible** payment of \$70 anytime before your chosen date. Mark your envelope "*TFB Flower Donation*" to get credit for your gift.



Tom Nordstrom announces the birth of a Great-Grandson, Owen James. He was born on December 30, weighing in at 6 lbs. 10 oz. and was 19½" long. Congratulations to Mom and Dad: Brianna and Tim, and to Grandpa, Brian.



## Sincere Sympathy

Please pray for the families of the following who are now with the Lord:

Sandy Scheidemental, Sue Collins' sister; former TFB member, Dan Christen (grandfather to the Norris children); Phil Jones, Barbara Rudé's brother; and TFB members:



Mary Larsen, Reba Belcher,

and Rachel Valles



Barbara Ashcraft, Michael Banfield, Nancy Christensen, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Mary Crutchfield, Gloria Deering, Leah Douglas, Ruth Easley, Virgie Fletcher, Earl & Jean Forman, Dutchess Gattis, Patricia Hollomon, Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Bill Johnson, Helen Kessenich, Joan Kindt, Joy Moore, Bill Morgan, Joy Pierson, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Jean Rayner, Connie Reimer, Barbara Rudé, Edna Hazel Ruth, Claudine Schultz, Mary Schultz, Bill & Gerri Stoodley, Norma Vinsonhaler, Tammie Wakefield, Gertie Wissinger, and Art Zeller.

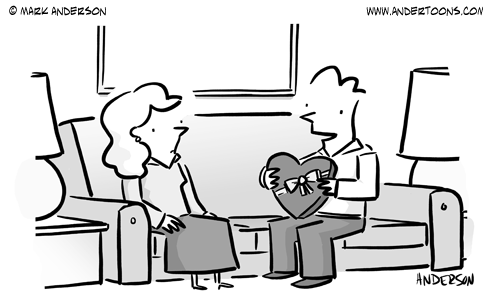
## TFB Tithes & Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately \$81,946 in the month of December.



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"Now I know you're allergic to chocolate,  
so I ate them first."



One Sunday a pastor told his congregation that the church needed some extra money and asked the people prayerfully to consider giving a little extra in the offering plate. He said that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns.

After the offering plates were passed, the pastor noticed that someone had placed a \$1,000 bill in the offering. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd personally like to thank the person who placed the money in the plate.

Widow Rose shyly raised her hand. The pastor asked her to come to the front. Slowly she made her way to the pastor. He told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and in thanksgiving asked her to pick out three hymns.

Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation, pointed to the three most handsome men in the building, and said, "I'll take him and him and him!"

*"A merry heart does good, like medicine"* (Proverbs 17:22, NKJV).

*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 C4; Jr. High *Quest*; and *Colossians Kids* for children.

For more information, contact the church office: 310.328.5030 or [tfbc@pacbell.net](mailto:tfbc@pacbell.net). Or visit us on the web at [www.tfbc.org](http://www.tfbc.org)