

Torrance First Baptist Church  
**the Proclaimer**

November 2014      Volume 27 Issue 11



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*Men (and Women's) Breakfast  
 November 8, 9 a.m.*

The men would like to invite all women to join them for breakfast here at the church on **Saturday, November 8, from 9-11:30 a.m.**

The program will include a speaker from Big Brothers/Big Sisters telling about their organization and how the community can help. Breakfast will consist of scrambled eggs, bacon/sausage, pancakes, coffee, etc. for a donation of \$5 each. Sign up in the patio.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 6 P.M.**

Ranging in age from 18 to 60, the singers represent a wide diversity of backgrounds and occupations. Audiences respond enthusiastically to the 60-voice ensemble's full range of choral music and unique style which emphasizes communication and relationship with the audience. Dr. Gary Bonner has what is described as an "intangible magic" when it comes to creating choral music. It is a sound and experience that is related to the connection between the conductor, performers, and audience, creating an elusive, yet identifiable quality which makes a performance come alive. You won't want to miss this awe-inspiring performance. A freewill offering will be taken.

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

## From the Pastor's Heart



### *Turning Our Hearts To God*

There is a very insightful and comforting truth expressed in the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes. It says, “*There is nothing new under the sun.*” The context is King Solomon searching for meaning in life apart from God. Since he is a king and has a great deal of power and resources at his disposal, he tries everything. He discovers that all

those “new” things are not really new, just a twist on the same old stuff. All the things of this world bring only short-term pleasure but no deep satisfaction or meaning to life. They all take you to the same place — a place of dissatisfaction, frustration, and emptiness.

So why is this insight comforting to me? Because it helps me look past all that the world has to offer and find true meaning in God. If I am willing to learn from Solomon, it keeps me from going down some paths that lead to hopelessness and emptiness.

Jesus said that He came to give abundant life — life with true meaning, purpose, value, and significance. He also said the key to such an abundant life is a love relationship with God. True worship plays a key role in this love relationship. When we bow

before God, when we praise Him, adore Him, thank Him, we are expressing our love for Him. And the more we actively express our love for Him, the more we will experience the abundant life He came to give.

We all know that life on this planet can be hard and painful. But as Paul said in 2 Corinthians 4:16, “*We do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.*” Worship renews our soul, our spirit, even when our bodies are struggling — even though our circumstances may be hard.

Is your spirit being renewed every day? If not, then worship God and allow Him to renew your spirit.

Pastor Charlie

*Turning Our Hearts To God*

## Reflections

by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

Let’s be honest with each other — life can be brutal at times. Sorrows touch our lives in many ways and at times when we are the least prepared to deal with them. Most of us have experienced this kind of sorrow. In reading through the Psalms, which I do on a regular basis, Psalm 102:1-2 has spoken to me in a significant way. Here, the psalmist pours out his heart before the Lord, saying:

*“Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry for help come to You. Do not hide Your face from me when I am in distress...”* (Psalm 102:1-2).

Now, we are not sure who the author of this psalm is, but we

certainly have no problem understanding his heart. He is experiencing great internal pain and he desires the Lord to hear him and help him. Every one of us has probably faced times of loneliness, despair or depression. Though some people may chide us for feelings such as these, they are a part of the fabric of life. What we don’t want is for those emotional attitudes to become a pattern in our lives. “*But how can we change them?*” we ask.

I believe there are at least three things which could help us here.

First, we must understand that we can’t deal with these



emotional attitudes in our own strength. The psalmist certainly understood this truth, for in his time of deep need, he cried out “*Hear my prayer, O Lord*” (vs. 1). This man realized that his need far surpassed his ability to deal with it. We too must come to this realization.

Second, we need to understand that though we do not comprehend what is happening to us, God does!

Continued on p. 11



## We Get Mail

(more on page 11)

Dear TFB Family,

Thanks to all who worked so diligently to help make the 100th Anniversary such a great success. It was a great event celebrating what God has done in our church and community during the past century. I know that the LORD used it to touch the lives of many. Thanks especially to those who donated their time to set-up, cook, clean, tear down, and escort visitors around. I'm also grateful for those who helped make the Sunday free to all by their financial gifts. We could not have done any of this without you.

Looking forward to the next 100 years of serving Christ,  
Ann Pursche, 100th Anniversary Chair

On Monday night, September 29, 2014, 58 needy people were served a hot meal at the Beacon Light Mission. On this night, it was hamburgers provided by Torrance First Baptist Church along with salads and accessories.

We at the Beacon Light Mission and Doors of Hope Women's Shelter want to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU for your thoughtfulness for sending the leftovers from your 100th Anniversary Celebration to us.

May the Lord continue to bless you for your kindness.

In His service,

Kent Meyer

Board President, Beacon Light Mission



**SAVE THIS DATE:**  
**December 14, 2014 ~ 1:00 p.m.**  
for  
**Randy Rudé's 90th Birthday Party**  
here at TFB



## LOAVES & FISHES

The holidays are just around the corner! We are planning for our holiday meals and give-aways to the needy. We will be doing the traditional meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas except that our **Thanksgiving meal** (on **November 1**) will not be turkey but rather ham and chicken as well as mashed potatoes and gravy, stove top stuffing, green bean casserole, cranberry sauce, yams, salads, rolls and desserts. We generally serve about 115 guests plus volunteers.

Our **Christmas meal** will be served on **December 6**. We want to give hygiene bags to our guests which include large sizes of shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, hand cream, toothpaste/toothbrush and socks for both men and women. We also want to give toys (\$15 value) and/or \$15 Target gift cards to children and teens. If you are able to provide any of the above, we need them before the end of November.

Your prayers and support have been keeping Loaves & Fishes going for 25 years. We started with the financial support of the Deacon Fund, then church members gave enough every month to support it. Church members donate casseroles, salads and desserts and volunteer their time to help serve. But now we are very much in need of more workers and financial support. God's Word says, "You have not because you ask not." So we are now asking for your help. If you can help in any way, we would greatly appreciate it! Please contact Linda Stratton, 310/328-5371, with any questions and/or to volunteer.



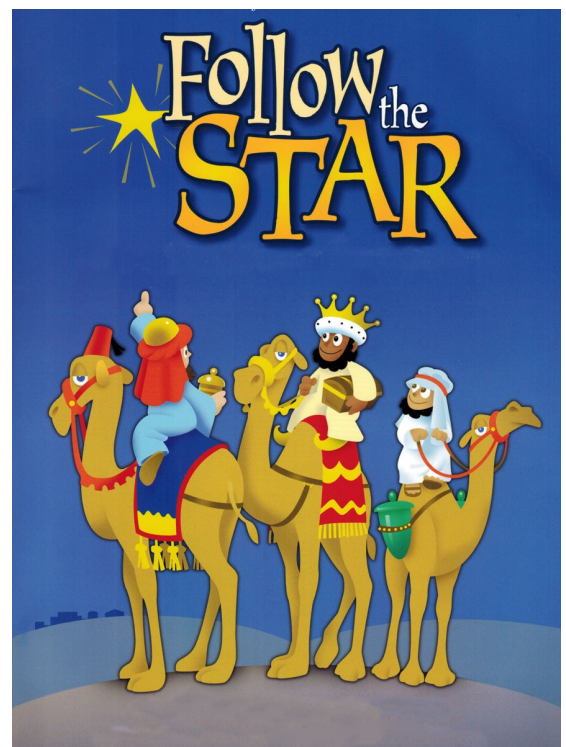




*Shoebox Shopping  
November 5  
6:45 pm—8:15 p.m.*

Join us as TFB Kidz and Jr. High Quest will do some shopping for this year's Operation Christmas Child. Bring \$5-\$10 to help buy some special gifts for children around the world. Once back at TFB, we will enjoy some snacks as we fill our shoeboxes together. Parents are welcome to be a part of this fun evening setting the stage for a great Christmas season.

**TFB Kidz Choir presents...**



**Sunday, December 7**  
(Details to follow next month)



**TFB Kidz and JH Quest will not be meeting Thanksgiving Week (Wednesday, November 26)**

**Save the date...**

**7:00 P.M.**

**CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

Members are encouraged to attend  
(non-members welcome)

Pick up one of the beautiful 2015 calendars for yourself or as a gift or both. The cost is \$8 each or 2 for \$15.

2015 *God's Creation*

*Seniors & Friends  
Holiday Luncheon  
November 21, 12 noon*

Be sure to sign up for our annual Thanksgiving/Christmas get-together. Everything is FREE, but we will take a free-will offering which will go to benefit Senior Ministries.




## *Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Ministry*

A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' Name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child.

**HOW TO PACK A SHOEBOX:** Use an empty cardboard or plastic shoebox (average size). You can wrap the box, lid separately, but wrapping is not required. For your convenience, you can pick up wrapped empty shoeboxes in the patio.

**BOY OR GIRL:** Decide whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the age category: 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Boy/Girl labels are also in the patio. Mark the correct age category and tape the label to the top of your box.

**FILL WITH GIFTS:** Fill the box with a variety of gifts that will bring delight to a child (pick up a pamphlet in the patio for gift suggestions.)

**INCLUDE \$7 DONATION PER BOX:** Help cover shipping and other costs related to delivering your shoeboxes to children overseas by donating \$7 for each gift you prepare. **You can give online:** [www.samaritanspurserg.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/](http://www.samaritanspurserg.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/) to discover the destination of your box. Or, you can write a check to Samaritan's Purse (note "OCC" on the memo line) and place it in an envelope on top of the items inside your shoebox. If you are preparing multiple gifts, please make one combined donation. Note: Follow Your Box is only available through online giving.

**Remember to Pray** for the children who will receive your shoebox gifts.

**FILLED BOXES ARE DUE NOVEMBER 2.**





SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Recurring Weekly Events:
2 2p Sing @ Royalwood	3 7p Private Wedding	4	5	6 6:30p Ladies Sewing Night	7	8 9a Men's Breakfast w/Women 6:30p Singles' Game Night	<b>Sunday</b> 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) Wship, 12:45 p.m. New Covenant (Korean) Fellowship, 2 p.m.
9 6p Bonner Singers	10	11	12	13 7p Beacon Light Mission	14 7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's	15 7p Share & Care	<b>Monday</b> Ladies' Prayer, 10:30 a.m. Men's BSF, 6:55 p.m.
16	17 7p Facilities Team; Finance Team; & DiscDev Team	18 6p Mnstry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach & Wor. 7p Deacon/ess	19	20	21 12n Seniors & Friends Luncheon	22 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out	<b>Tuesday</b> Women's BSF Leaders, 9:15 a.m. High School Revive, 7 p.m.
23 5:20p Prayer Gathering	24	25	26	27 Happy Thanksgiving	28 7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's	29 9a Journeyment's Study	<b>Wednesday</b> Women's BSF, 9:15 a.m. TFB Kidz,* 6:45 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 11/26] [**except 11/19]
30 7p Business Meeting	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Upcoming November Events:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12/1 ~ WM Craft/Cookie Exchange, 6:45 p.m.</li> <li>• 12/7 ~ Kidz Choir, "Follow the Star", Time TBA</li> <li>• 12/12 ~ Widows' Tea, 11:30 a.m.</li> <li>• 12/14 ~ Randy Rudé's 90th Birthday Party, 1 p.m.</li> <li>• 12/14 ~ Choir Christmas Cantata, 6 p.m.</li> <li>• 12/24 ~ Christmas Eve Service, 6:30 p.m.</li> </ul> </div>						<b>Thursday [except 11/27]</b> Ladies' Bible Study, 2 p.m. Worship Band Practice, 6:30 p.m.
							<b>Friday</b> Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m.
							<b>Saturday</b> Men's BSF Leaders, 6 a.m. New Covenant (Korean) Prayer, 6 a.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:** Meet at Al & Teresa Bundoc's home, 23146 Audrey Avenue, Torrance, on **Saturday, November 8**, at **6:30 p.m.** Bring games and snacks to share. Contact Jude Mussari, [j\\_mussari@yahoo.com](mailto:j_mussari@yahoo.com), if you have any questions.



**Dinner Out ~ Saturday, November 22, 6:30 p.m. ~** Meet at Chicken Maison, 3901 Pacific Coast Highway, Suite D, in Torrance.



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

## "Remaining and Rest"

1 John 2:26-3:3

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

"...remain in him..." 1 John 2:27, 28

There are times when God takes away the consolations, the pleasures and comfort we feel in his presence. Other times—maybe most times—we take them away ourselves. We hurry too much. We fill our lives with things urgent and necessary. We surround ourselves with noise and tasks. We willfully neglect the rest commanded for our own good.

**Place ourselves in his care.**

The command to remain in him is not one that requires struggle. Rather, it is a command that requires we give up struggling. To remain is to trust that our life really is in him and to act accordingly. The results—the consolations—are left in his hands. We simply place ourselves in his care.

From this place of remaining, we have the courage and boldness to stand and speak the truth so that the church and the world may hear. We are safe. We can stand and speak, knowing it is **impossible** for any ultimate harm to come to us.

*God, give me the grace to continually put myself back in the place of remaining, to stop struggling and rest, so that I may stand and speak without fear.*



## *Sewing Night ~ November 6*

Anyone interested in a sewing night is invited to come to TFB on Thursday, November 6, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. We will meet in the Annex. Bring an unfinished project or start a simple one. There will be limited space so you must sign up! Please call Irene Hardy, 328-7363, for details and to RSVP.



## *Daylight Savings Time Ends November 2*

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night November 1 before you go to bed (or you can get up at 2 a.m. on Sunday and



## *Smile Awhile*

### *Beautiful One-Liners*

- The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.
- Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.
- If you don't have a sense of humor, you probably don't have any sense at all.
- Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.
- The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.



## *Makin' a list*

In Daniel Defoe's classic *Robinson Crusoe*, the shipwrecked protagonist begins keeping a tally of his life. He lists his problems as well as a corresponding inventory of things for which to give thanks.

Crusoe's pros and cons surprise him. For every evil, a good is present to even it out. For example, the castaway doesn't have any clothes — but the weather's so warm he doesn't need any. He lost all his provisions at sea — but has access to water and fresh fruit.

Under the "evil" category, Crusoe writes: "I am singled out and separated, as it were, from all the world to be miserable." Yet the corresponding "good" puts things into perspective: "But I am singled out too from all the ship's crew to be spared from death; and he that miraculously saved me from death can deliver me from this condition."

When you're tempted to hold a pity party, step back and thank God, your Rescuer, for all the blessings He provides.



David Family

(Dan & Paula *David* are “sent ones” from TFB who have served in the Middle East and now work to raise up workers for the harvest fields. Luke 10:2)

Dear TFB,

We entered the home of a Syrian refugee family in Amman, Jordan on the holiday following Ramadan (the month of Islamic fasting) at the end of July. The lady cried as she explained that this was the first holiday she was to experience without her son as he was killed in the civil war in Syria. We visited, listened to her story, loved on her and prayed for her. We visited with others who actually showed us the bullet holes in their bodies. We found that *everyone* had a story. Many were crowded together in tight little apartments, trying to survive the high cost of living with very little money.

Our very first visit was to a hospital to see a family with a baby that was seriously ill. On the way, we received news that the baby had died. We drove the family home, went in the house, prayed for them and left. The baby died because of negligence and lack of attention due to an overloaded system. We felt so helpless.

The team we worked with carried on with faith, hope, love as well as fatigue and difficulties. That team is still there and working hard! As a family, along with Eileen’s 16-year-old friend and my older sister, we were able to visit many Syrian refugee families and distribute aid and pray for these people in Jesus’ name. We also loved on this long-term team. **Thank you, people of God at TFB, for making this**

**possible through your generosity! Thank you for praying for us!**

During our time in the Middle East, we learned of ISIS attacks and the war of Israel/Gaza. A plane was shot down over Ukraine. We always felt safe, but we were concerned with so many who were suffering all around us.

**Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done...**

Have you ever pondered the fact that the God we worship is in the habit of bringing good out of evil? Do you know that in answer to our prayers (and you should be praying and asking for this) God is going to use the situation with ISIS to bring many, many Muslims to Himself as they see that their systems and beliefs are failing. Some will become atheists to be sure, but some also will find and turn to Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Would you pray Luke 10:2 *and ask God to use us* to raise up workers for His Harvest in the Muslim world? It is a difficult place, which only makes it more worthy of God’s glory. Do not despair, God is not surprised by the scary news headlines we read today. Jesus told us that all this was going to happen: “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” Obey Jesus and take heart!

With Love,  
Dan & Paula

# Reflections

Continued from p. 2

Thankfully, our God is sovereign and is in control of all things. Nothing is allowed into our lives that hasn't first been filtered through His Hands. This dear man needed to understand this truth and so do we.

Third, this man sincerely desired to hear back from the Lord as he prayed, for he said, *“Turn your ear to me when I call, answer me quickly”* (vs. 2). You can hear the desperation in his plea as he calls out to the Lord. When we call out to the Lord, we need to do so with FAITH—believing that He hears us and understands our needs (Hebrews 11:6). Doubt is a crippler and does nothing spiritually positive for us. But as we turn our lives and situations over to Him, we must allow His will to be done...not ours. When we do this, we can relax knowing that He will do what is best for us and honoring to Him. This will result in us experiencing His peace (Philippians 4:6-7).

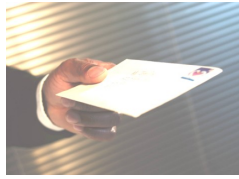
In your walk with the Lord Jesus, please remember that He is there for you no matter what you are facing. He is absolutely faithful; therefore, He can be trusted. Praise His Name.

I'm so thankful for Jesus,  
Pastor Rog



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

Irva Smith lost her mother, Betty Warnholz. She was 100 years old;  
Kathy Hills' mother passed away at age 102; and  
Sue Miller is now with her Lord and Savior.



## More Mail

To My Church Family,  
A special thanks to my church family for the wonderful celebration that was made possible because of a loving, giving group of people who did such a good job. Thank you for the special remembrance of my 75 years as a member of this wonderful Christ-centered church. Also thank you for the beautiful roses.

*“How great is our God!”  
“Blessed be the Name of the Lord!”*

Sincerely,  
Claudine Schultz



## It's a boy!



Denise Hadley announces the birth of her first grandchild, Nathaniel Jayce, born on October 6.



He weighed in at 7 lbs. 11 ozs.

Pray for his parents, Bethany and Nathan Koerner, and also that little Nathaniel will come to know the Lord (the prayer of every Christian parent and grandparent).

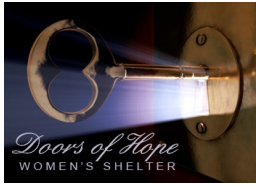
Congratulations to Aunts Victoria & Kathleen and Uncle Joshua as well as Great-grandparents, Wayne & Eleanor Musser!



## TFB Tithes and Offerings

Thank you for giving approximately \$45,975 in the month of September.





**Thanksgiving  
Food Items Needed for  
Beacon Light Mission  
& Doors of Hope  
525 N. Broad Avenue  
Wilmington 90744  
310/830-7063**

Turkeys (20 lbs. or larger), large canned hams, Mrs. Cubbison's Dressing, instant mashed potatoes (largest box), whole milk (gallon jugs), Ranch Dressing (gallon jugs), Swanson's chicken broth, poultry seasoning (large jar), olives (black & green), cranberry sauce, corn starch, celery, onion, carrots, and salad mix.

Donations should be there at least 7 days prior to Thanksgiving. Anything you can give will be greatly appreciated (including money).

*Operation Bake & Take*  
**Ministry Opportunity  
to our Shut-ins**

The holiday season, which is so joyful to many, is actually a time of sadness for those who are shut-in and alone. "Operation Bake and Take" will give you a chance to reach out to others. You may bake cookies (frozen cookie dough will be available at the church for your convenience) and take them to a shut-in. Can't bake — no problem. The visit is the most important part of this gift. Please consider spreading holiday cheer by visiting one of our shut-ins during November and December. If this is something that the Lord would have you do, please stop by the Outreach Table in the patio and sign up, pick up cookie dough (if needed) and get helpful instructions.

*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@tfcblife.org or visit us on the web at www.tfcblife.org*