

# the Proclaimer

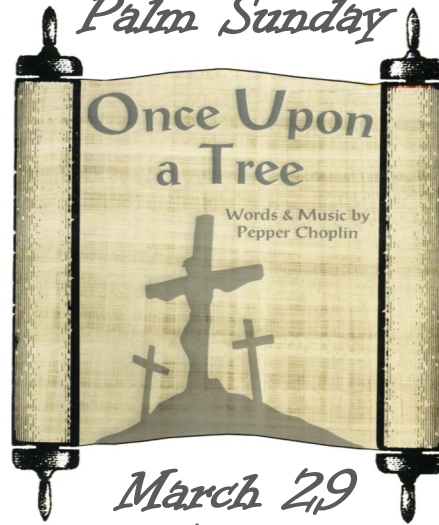
March 2015    Volume 28 Issue 3



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## *Easter Musical Palm Sunday*



*March 29  
6 p.m.*

Bring your family and friends to enjoy this beautiful, thought provoking Cantata written from the viewpoint of Dr. Luke. It will take you on a journey from Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, through the Last Supper, to His betrayal, to death on the cross, and finally to Easter Sunday when Christ rises from the tomb. You will be inspired as you listen to our Worship Choir under the direction of Randy Stager.

Women's Ministries

## *Hors d'oeuvres & Game Night March 20 6:30 p.m.*



All ladies are invited to attend this fun event. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre dish to share as we play games (Bingo or Mexican Train Dominos or bring your own game) and enjoy each other's company.

**Sign up in the patio.**

## *All Church Work Day March 21 ~ 9 a.m.*

All are invited to participate in helping the Lord's House look the best that it can. We have a lot of projects that need to be worked on. Please join us for a Continental breakfast and also for lunch, both of which will be provided. Come anytime; stay as long as you want.

## ***It's time for Spring Cleaning!***

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

# From the Pastor's Heart



Isn't God's grace incredible? The decision to give others what they often do not deserve – love, kindness, patience, encouragement, gentleness, support, a second chance – are just some of the qualities and actions that grace brings to life. One person said,

“Grace is the love of God made visible” Don't you need that love of God in your life? Don't I? You bet we do. So do our spouse, our children, our neighbor, our co-workers and fellow church members.

In John 3:17 it says, “God did not send His Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it.” And He sent us into the world and to TFB to show each other and the world the light of God's amazing saving grace.

In a grace-filled church family, there are lots of kind words, encouragement, support, people helping others succeed, people praying for each other,

people taking the initiative to meet needs, people working together, and a passionate concern for the lost.

In the book Grace Walk, the author Steve McVey talks about grace groups. The acronym he uses for grace groups certainly could be used to describe God's desire for our church. The acronym is: Giving and Receiving Affirming Christian Encouragement.

May God fill us to overflowing with His grace and may we in turn overflow with grace to each other and our community.

Pastor Charlie

# Reflections

by Pastor Rog



Dear Church Family,

We live in difficult times. The news brings report after report of man's inhumanity to man. This news saddens our hearts and if we're not careful, we can come to the conclusion that there is no help for us, but that's not true. No, we have our powerful, Almighty God on Whom to depend.

Since 2009, as part of my daily reading of God's Word, I've been “living” in the Psalms. The heart cry of David and others brings me face-to-face with the sorrows of life and God's gracious intervention to those who call out to Him. One such psalm is Psalm 20. (Please read this now). One thing we clearly need to understand is that the war we see raging today is not just political but spiritual. The Apostle Paul

speaks of this as he instructs the believers in Ephesus (Ephesians 6:10-13). Satan seeks to disrupt our walk with the Lord Jesus Christ in any way possible, and he seeks to rule the hearts and minds of mankind for he realizes his time is short. Jesus is coming again.

In the midst of all the sorrow and heartache we see taking place, we must realize that God is in control. He is not at a loss as to how to deal with these calamities. Our part is to keep our eyes on Him and entrust ourselves to His care. This leads us to Psalm 20.

Many commentators suggest that Psalm 20 is a plea for God's protection in a time of approaching trouble. In this

psalm, David is pleading with God's people to call out to Him so that He will... “answer you when you are in distress ...protect you ...send help from the sanctuary ...support you ...remember all your sacrifices ...accept your burnt offerings ...give you the desire of your heart ...and make all your plans succeed” (vv. 1-4). The context here, of course, pertains to how God's people came before Him at the Tabernacle, but the

Continued on p. 9

*March Outreach*

**FOOD DRIVE**

We are having a drive to collect canned goods and other imperishable food items which will be given to Salvation Army and New Challenge Ministries to help those who are in need. Help stamp out hunger by bringing your unexpired items to the church by the end of March.



*"No one has ever become poor by giving."*

—Ann Frank

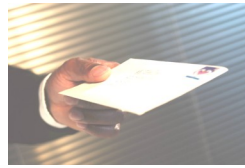


a.k.a.



*Friday, March 20, 6-9*

Kids (infants through 5th grade) will have dinner and a movie, while the parents get an evening to themselves (after viewing a brief couples' devotional video, if you'd like). We plan to have this once a month on the 3rd Friday of each month.



*We Get Mail*

The services for my Mom, Anabel [Mael], were wonderful followed by a great lunch. All of you were so helpful and kind and the family was most appreciative.

I want to thank you also for the cards sent to Mom that you were keeping her in your prayers for the past 3¾ years. I believe her friendship at the church and those prayers kept her going as long as she did. I'm so thankful she found a home at Torrance First Baptist Church! And the flowers were beautiful! I almost forgot to tell you that.

God bless,  
Joyce Jimenez

Dear Church Family,

I'm excited to tell you that I've been enjoying arranging cruises as a cruising agent for quite some time, and if any of you are interested in cruising, I would love to help you book the cruise of your dreams! There is no cost for me to help you. I pride myself at finding the best deals and am very knowledgeable with what options there are as far as cruising places, shipboard accommodations, amenities, etc. I also continue to watch your cruise prior to the time of sailing in case the price drops and have saved people thousands of dollars in price reductions and getting further amenities. I can set up trips for individuals or groups. Please feel free to contact me anytime: Cell—310-259-8333, email—debbie\_nawa@yahoo.com.

God bless, Debbie Nawa



**2015 Flower Calendar**

The following dates are still available for our 2015 Flower Calendar:

- |                   |                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| March 8           | September 27            |
| May 31            | October 18              |
| July 12           | November 8, 15, 22 & 29 |
| August 2, 16 & 30 | December 20 & 27        |

**Happy 90th to Roy!**

All are invited to attend Roy Pursche's birthday celebration luncheon on **Sunday, March 22, at 1 p.m.** You **must RSVP** to Sarah Pursche, 310/371-7777, **by March 8.** No gifts, please.





*Service Opportunities:*

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



*Rock & Worship Concert  
Saturday, March 21*

Meet at TFB at 4 p.m. to go to the concert at the Long Beach Convention Center. Cost: \$10

*Friday  
March 6  
6:30 p.m.*



Meet at the AMF Bowl-O-Drome, 21915 Western. The cost is \$10/person. We will be finished at 9 p.m., so plan for your ride to pick you up there.

**YOUTH PRAYER**

every  
3rd Saturday

**March 21, 10 a.m.**

*Girls' Retreat  
Saturday, March 28  
(Time and Event to be announced.)*



*Junior  
Winter  
Camp*



*March 6-8 at Forest Home*

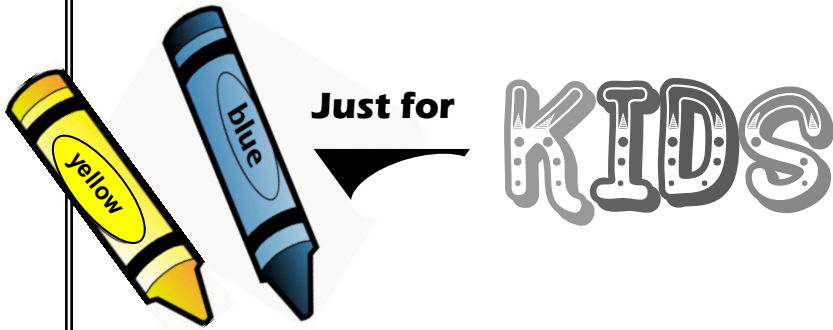
Calling all kids, 3rd-6th grades, to sign up for Winter Camp. The cost is \$160 for the weekend. You can expect: Awesome Worship, Archery, BB Guns, Gaga Ball, Sno Tubin' (weather permitting), Skytrail, Night Games, Cool Crafts, Fun & Fellowship. Sign up in the patio with a \$50 deposit.



**CAMP INFO:** In order to ensure that no child is left behind because of financial reasons, we are offering the "Colossians Kids 50 Envelope Challenge." This fundraiser is sweet and simple. We have 50 envelopes with suggested donation amounts starting with \$1 and ending with \$50. Participants choose an envelope and contribute the dollar amount marked on the envelope. The funds collected will go directly to the Children's Camp Scholarship Account. The Challenge continues until all envelopes are taken and filled. (Possible total earnings are \$1275.00.) To make it fun, can we fill these envelopes by March 1? If so, Karla (and any other volunteers) will take a pie to the face!

**Please note, you can also make a donation separately to the Jr. High/High School Camp Scholarship Fund. Please make a note on the memo line of your check.**





# POWER OF PRAYER

When life gets crazy, worry creeps in. But God tells us exactly what to do – any time and anywhere.

**Directions:** Circle the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write those words on the numbered lines below.

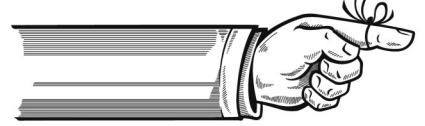
|   |                                     |                                      |  |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>1</b><br>apple<br>anxious<br>artichoke | <b>2</b><br>every<br>eagle<br>emu   | <b>3</b><br>purple<br>pink<br>prayer | <b>4</b><br>Paul<br>petition<br>Peter                    | <b>5</b><br>taste<br>touch<br>thanksgiving      |
| <b>6</b><br>rest<br>requests<br>relax     | <b>7</b><br>God<br>George<br>Greg   | <b>8</b><br>puddle<br>peace<br>pond  | <b>9</b><br>transcends<br>train<br>truck                 | <b>10</b><br>unusual<br>unique<br>understanding |
| <b>11</b><br>guard<br>giraffe<br>gorilla  | <b>12</b><br>hearts<br>hold<br>held | <b>13</b><br>many<br>minds<br>more   | <b>14</b><br>Philadelphia<br>Pennsylvania<br>Philippians |   |

“Do not be \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> about anything, but in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> situation, by \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>, with \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>, present your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>. And the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> of God, which \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> all \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>, will \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> and your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> in Christ Jesus.” \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> 4:6-7, NIV

Answers: 1. anxious, 2. every, 3. prayer, 4. petition, 5. thanksgiving, 6. requests, 7. God, 8. peace, 9. transcends, 10. understanding, 11. guard, 12. hearts, 13. minds, 14. Philippians

# PRAYER

## REMINDER



Use this fun family activity to remember to pray for other people.

### What you need:

- White index cards (at least six)
- Markers or colored pencils (red, orange, yellow, green, blue and brown)
- M&M's candies



### What you do:

1. On each card, write a group of people to pray for (family members, friends, teachers, sick people, etc.). Use a different color of writing utensil for each card.
2. While sitting at a table, divide the M&M's among family members.
3. Spread out the cards and explain that each color represents a group of people to pray for. Have each family member choose one candy and consider who they'll pray for.
4. Designate one person to start praying aloud. Go around the circle, and have the last person close.
5. At the end of that round, eat those M&M's.
6. Continue until you've prayed for all the cards. (Make more, if you'd like!)

**Recurring Weekly Events:**

| SUN   | MON  | TUE  | WED | THU                                  | FRI  | SAT  |
|---|--|--|-----|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1<br>2p Sing at Royalwood                                 | 2  | 3  | 4   | 5<br>7p Contemporary Vocal Practice  | 6<br>Anx reserved all day: Loaves/Fishes 3p Juniors leave for Winter Camp 6:30p HS Bowling | 7<br>11a Loaves & Fishes 6:30p Singles' Game Night             |
| 8<br>Juniors home from Winter Camp 5:20p Prayer Gathering | 9  | 10   | 11  | 12<br>7p Beacon Light Mission        | 13<br>7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's   | 14   |
| 15  | 16<br>7p DiscDev., Facilities, & Finance Teams | 17<br>6p Mnstry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach & Wor. 7p Deacon/ess | 18  | 19<br>7p Contemporary Vocal Practice | 20<br>6p Kids' Night Out 6:30p Women's Hors d'oeuvres/ Game Night                          | 21<br>9a Work Day 4p HS Rock & Worship Concert 7p Share & Care |
| 22<br>12n Roy Pursche 90th Birthday                       | 23   | 24   | 25  | 26                                   | 27<br>7p Young Marrieds @ Duvall's   | 28<br>HS Girls' Retreat 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out              |
| 29<br>5:20p Prayer Gathering                              | 30   | 31   |     |                                      |  |  |

**Sunday**  
**Worship Services:**  
 9:15 a.m., 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
 Adult Sunday School, 9:15 & 11 a.m.  
 Children's Church, 9:15 a.m.  
 Patio Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.  
 Children & Youth S.S., 11 a.m.  
 New Covenant Children's S.S., 11 a.m.  
 New Covenant (Korean) Worship, 12:45 p.m.  
 New Covenant (Korean) Fellowship, 2 p.m.

**Monday**  
 Ladies' Prayer, 10:30 a.m.  
 Men's BSF, 6:55 p.m.

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

**Wednesday**  
 Women's BSF, 9:15 a.m.  
 Dinner & Colossians Kids, 6 p.m.  
 Jr. High QUEST, 6:45 p.m.  
 Small Group Bible Study, 6:45 p.m.  
 Choir Practice, 7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

**Upcoming April Events:**

- 4/5 ~ Easter Sunday
- 4/10 ~ HS to Safari Park, 8 a.m.
- 4/17 ~ Kids' Night Out, 6 p.m.
- 4/24 ~ HS Lock in at TFB, 7 p.m.





## *Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship*

*Please remember that game night and dinner night are great opportunities to invite friends, whether they attend TFB, go to another church, or don't go to church at all.*



**Game Night ~ Saturday, March 7, at 6:30 p.m.** at Emma Powell's house, 17316 Haas Avenue in Torrance. Bring games and snacks to share. Call Jude, 424/800-1910, if you have any questions.



**Dinner Out ~ Saturday, March 28, 6:30 p.m.** ~ Meet at Paddy-O's Irish Pub, 20320 S. Western Avenue at Del Amo Blvd.



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

## *It's not about us: Worship as Proclamation*

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

“It's not about you.” So begins Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life*, and so should our worship begin. While we certainly receive benefits from our participation in worship, it is not for us. Indeed, if our benefit is the focus of our worship, then we are the object of worship. Siblings, may it never be. While we recognize and plan space for the benefits, worship itself must remain a Christ-centered proclamation of our love for God.

Worship is an expression from who we are, declaring to God and before our community who God is and what he has done. It is individual and communal expression, so the mode of expression may differ across cultures and persons. This is a good thing. However, God's character and work determine its core content. Worship proclaims to God, in the presence of community, “You are worthy.” These words of worship speak truth beyond me and you and us. Each time we proclaim his worth we join generations of God's people and myriads of angels who never cease to proclaim God's glory before his throne.

As you read the biblical words of worship below, consider these questions.

- What is the content of these biblical words of worship?
- How does our individual and communal worship vocabulary compare?
- How might we go about building our worship vocabulary as individuals and as a community?

*Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.*

*Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!*

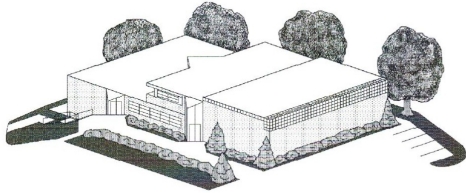
*To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!  
Amen!*

Revelation 5:8-14 ESV

Come, let us worship and bow down.



*TFB Global Outreach  
News*



Drawing of the first Tyrannus Hall in Tokyo, Japan.

The following includes excerpts of a recent message that our missionary Chuck Corwin of Tyrannus Halls wrote to the SATHA Conclave in New Delhi. Currently, Chuck acts as Executive Secretary and communicates with all of the Halls. Chuck along with wife Elouise have published a book, From the Halls of Tyrannus, which is full of interesting stories from their 54 years of service.

“...You have chosen a difficult, unrewarding task—discipling university students. You have come to this conclave for encouragement and new ideas. But I caution you, Uchimura Kanzo, Japan’s most famous Christian in the 19th century, worked with university students during Japan’s enlightenment. There were few pastors and fewer churches. Uchimura founded the Non-church Movement in which converts disciple one another, often in university dorms. But even Uchimura had moments of doubt. He wrote, ‘There is no one more irresponsible than a university student.’

Tokyo Tyrannus Hall is located right next to Waseda University’s Athletic fields. We purposely chose that area to attract students; wrong. Hardly ever do we attract athletes. Waseda provides dormitories for them on the other side of the fields.

But go see those dorms: students in unwashed gear, leaning out windows, puffing on cigarettes, tossing out beer bottles, partying into the night. If nothing else, Tyrannus Hall must be a lighthouse where there is darkness. Today, when pastors visit the Tokyo Hall, some ask, ‘Who cleans this place?’ the answer is always the same, ‘We do.’ If Hall cleanliness falters, its light flickers. Frown at culture; if you don’t like chasing dirt, you are in the wrong business.

A well-kept Hall gets unexpected rewards. In the early 1990’s Tokyo Metropolitan drew up plans to widen the water channel running by our Hall. That meant demolishing the three-floored concrete structure. First words of their spokesman were, ‘Don’t worry. This student work will continue.’ Tokyo Metropolitan kept its word. At their expense a new Hall was built in wood, like homes of the students, the land area was expanded and a Lydia Hall built. This would not have happened without courteous students living in clean rooms . . . .

Tim Medo visited Tokyo Tyrannus Hall in 1978 and returned to replicate it in Shillong [India]. Resources were thin. For finance, Tim began carting cattle to the plains. For leadership he groomed four graduate students and brought them on his trip to the U.S. in 1981. . . . [One of those students was Bonny Resu.] Since then, the presence of Bonny throughout South Asia has stimulated the growth of new halls; take for example the Cambodian Halls. This amazing story of street children finding make-shift quarters, then homes for their Halls, should be told at this conclave. We can all learn how to start Halls for the destitute.

Before beginning ministry among Shillong college students, Tim upped his theological knowledge at Bristol Bible College in England. Now he suggested that Bonny stay behind in America for a theological upgrade after the rest of the team returned to India, He would commute to Fuller from the nearest Tyrannus Halls board member’s home. Ever wonder where the theological study-pillar came from?

Tim Medo was physically fit. He climbed Half Dome barefoot. Voyager Sunday School children sat transfixed as Tim made a gigantic leap into the air and across the room. THI Board member Andy Peck was one of those children. He has not forgotten that leap. Tim seemed to have no fear of the unknown. While staying with us, he took walks at night. Elouise offered a flashlight to find his way back. ‘No thanks. At home we find our way by the stars.’ Outreach into the unknown has become another pillar of Tyrannus Hall life . . . .”

Dear Torrance Friends,

Thank you for all 1st Baptist has done for us and the Halls (23) in 2014.

Chuck [and Elouise] Corwin



# Reflections

Continued from p. 2

application reaches out to us today who worship Him through faith in Jesus Christ. The point is: God heard the heart-felt cries of His people then, and He hears our cries today.

David knew that the first step to receiving what *God could do* was renouncing what *he himself could do!* In other words, when we are facing the testings and sorrows of life rather than trying to do our best to deal with these problems, we, at the very beginning, must entrust ourselves to His will and keeping. In David's day, some were trusting in the "weapons" of man as seen in v. 7.

Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the Name of the Lord our God. We need to remember that *the Name of the Lord our God* refers to His character, reputation, and nature. David gained confidence as he meditated on the Lord, His God.

The same is true for us. Rather than worrying, becoming fearful and defeated, let's remember to Whom we belong. We belong to Almighty God, the Sovereign Lord of the universe. We may face great difficulties in the future, but we will never face them alone. He is right there with us.

Looking only to Him,  
Pastor Rog



## Sincere Sympathy

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

Laura Montgomery's grandfather passed away; and Yolanda Ayala lost her son, Angel, Jr.

## TFB Tithes and Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately \$44,916 in the month of January.



## Prayer Requests

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

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



## Ladies' Retreat at Thousand Pines

Ladies, it's time to think about our upcoming retreat which will be held May 1-3. We need a \$50 non-refundable deposit to hold your place. This is extremely important if you want standard housing. Costs: Standard Housing - \$164; Rustic Housing - \$149. Final payment will be due on Sunday, April 15.

**Sign up in the patio.**

Christian Community  
Credit Union  
Awarding \$50,000  
in Multi-Year Scholarships



The scholarship program (\$1000/year) is open to members of Christian Community Credit Union with a Checking/Debit Card Account (newly-opened or existing). To apply, students need to be attending a college, university, or seminary for the 2015-2016 year. Undergraduate students need to be enrolling with 12 units or more per semester/quarter; 6 units or more for graduate students. Application deadline is March 31; scholarships awarded by mid-May. For more info, visit: [myCCCU.com/scholarship](http://myCCCU.com/scholarship) or call: 800-347-2228.



*Smile Awhile*



### Not in a partying ‘MOOD’

A Sunday school teacher shared the parable of the prodigal son with his class, pointing out how resentful the older son was when the father welcomed the wayward brother home with open arms and a party.

Amid the celebration, the teacher emphasized, someone in that story failed to share in the joy. “Can you tell me who that was?” the teacher asked.

Eagerly, a little girl raised her hand. “I know, I know!” she exclaimed. “The fatted calf!”

### *St. Patrick’s Day Trivia*

You may know that St. Patrick used shamrocks to teach about the Trinity, but did you know these other facts about him?

- St. Patrick wasn’t Irish. (His parents were Roman citizens living in either Scotland or Wales.)
- He was kidnapped and sold as a slave at age 16. After escaping six years later, he joined a monastery in England.
- March 17 is the date of St. Patrick’s death, not his birth. He died in 461 A.D.
- The color originally associated with St. Patrick is blue, not green.
- The harp, not the shamrock, is the national symbol of Ireland.



*The Proclaimer* is a monthly publication of the First Baptist Church of Torrance, California, located at 2118 West Carson Street (6 blocks east of Crenshaw). Sunday services: 9:15 a.m. Worship Gathering (Contemporary Service); 11:00 a.m. Blended Service (with Sunday School for all ages); and 6:00 p.m. Evening Service. Mid-week events for children and students: High School *Revive*; Jr. High *Quest*; and *TFBKidz* for children.

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