



SBA Weekly News

February 24, 2016

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Good afternoon to all of you!!

I hope this finds you all in great spirits and ready to do service for Him.

This next week is Flyer week in the mail out. Do you have something that the other churches might like to take part in with you?

Please have it to me no later than Tuesday of next week.

While I'm on the subject of the Newsletter...perhaps you have an idea that would be good to include in it as a weekly or monthly posting. This is for your information so from time to time I like to change things up a bit. Starting next week I will be putting the full prayer request list at the beginning of the month. The other weeks will be only updates and new requests. We'll see how that works for awhile.

February 26-27 (this week end!) is the Youth Retreat at Fir Point. Flyer is on the SBA Web page. Let Brandie Woody know how many are coming from your church.

So watch for more information on all of the below calendared events and trainings! Note: June World Changers!

Have a great day!!

Nancy

February 2016

February Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please remember to pray for these on their special days.

Stan and Rhonda Smith, 1st; Sean Sullivan, 6th; Ron and Carol Lloyd (ret), 6th; Bev McKinney, 16th; Ron and Jeanette Allen, 16th; Susan Sloan, 20th

2/ 26-27 – Youth Retreat Fir Point, Glendale check for flyer on line.

March 2016

March Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please remember to pray for these on their special days.

Kaye Craig, 3rd; Linda Darr, 6th; Abigale Gates, 13th; Josué Delgado, 15th; Jim McKinney, 16th; Larry Brons, 17; Addie and Nate Allen, 24th; Peighton Allen, 29th

3/ 6-13 – Week of Prayer for North American Missions/Annie Armstrong Missions Offering

3/13-16 – Revival – College Heights

3/11-12 – MAPs Conference, Vancouver, WA - Ministry Assistants – 541-659-7261 We have 4 going please send your Ministry Assistants (Secretary or office helpers). It is an encouraging and beneficial event.

3/13 - Daylight Savings Time – Forward

3/15 – Story Witnessing Workshop (Margaret Slusher) Medford, I'll get more information soon.

3/19 – Elevate Summit – Redding, CA – Church Health conference.

3/20 – Palm Sunday

3/27 – Easter Sunday

3/27 – Living Hope Church Launch will be this day!!

April 2016

April Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please remember to pray for these on their special days.

Bruce Sloan, 22nd; Carol Lloyd (Ret), 23rd; Betty Batte, 25th; Tabitha Badley, 25th

4/1-3 – Women’s Retreat – Galice Resort – “Garden Getaway” Flyers will be in the mail with next weeks News Letter -

Brandie Woody 541-787-0792

4/9 – 52andOne Children’s/VBS Training – Eugene Have you registered for this one?

4/9 – Region 4 Leadership Summit - Eugene

4/10–Co-op Program Sunday

4/15-16 – NW Women’s Summit—Vancouver, WA

4/18 – Executive Board Mtg – Living Hope Church - 541-659-7261 - 7:00 PM

4/29 - 30 – Disaster Relief Roundtable

4/29 – 30 Student Conference 4 PM - Vancouver, WA

June 2016

6/20-25 – World Changers Rogue River. Contact is Jill Stickler 541-531-6703 or E-mail jillstickler@msn.com

Coming up sooner than we are probably expecting. Jill has indicated that they are taking donations of lunch bags, sandwich bags (zip type), and bottled water. If you as an individual or a church would like to help in this way please contact her as soon as possible. An other way to assist is in the making of the lunches. She will need teams to help with this on a daily basis. Would your church be interested? Give her a call. What is World Changers? This Web page will help you <http://www.lifeway.com/worldchangers/about/>

• **Prayer Needs and Praises:**

- **Let me know if your church has a prayer concern it will be posted here.**
- **Updates are a great thing.**

Home:

Health/travel issues for those in our churches: **Trinity-A Loving church:** [Linda Darr’s](#) Sister in Law and daughter. Pray for God’s will in both of their lives. [Kevin Darr’s](#) father is not doing well right now.

SBA:

- **Our churches special needs:**
 - **Nueva Vida** for Jaime and Claudia Pantojas as they reach into the community to encourage encounters with Jesus.
 - **Living Hope Church** for Shawn and Tina Snyder as they lead out for their launch on Easter Sunday!!
 - **Sixth Street Baptist** as they search for a new pastor.
 - **Grace Baptist Church** as the Granade’s settle in and the church and they begin to minister together.
- **Pray for these SBA Pastor’s and Wives:**
 - William and Brandi Woody, College Heights
 - Stan and Rhonda Smith, Dayspring
- Intercede for your pastor and church staff/leaders. Pray their passion for spreading the gospel beyond the church walls and to the nations would spread throughout the congregation
- **Pray for our school children and young adults as they live their faith out before peers and teachers.**
- **For the Admin Team, Fellowship Team, Missions Team, Children & Youth Team as we work to accomplish the task that you have assigned us to do, that we would be unified in what God would have us to do.**
- **SBA teams to be energized with new participants and helpers** – Pray about how you can be serving our churches in our association.
- **For the planning and execution of plans made here in and through SBA and our churches.** That He will be glorified in all that happens and that many would come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.
- **For ministries and outreaches throughout our SBA area that are reaching out to their greater community.** (U-Turn, Lampman Rd; River Valley New Hope Church; Southern Oregon Truck Stop Ministry and others) Want to join them give them a call!
- **For Youth Ministries in our churches:** College Heights, First Baptist, Grace, Lozier Lane, Living Hope, New Horizon, Prospect, Sixth Street, Trinity, River Valley New Hope Church. Those working to encourage Youth attendance in their churches.
- **For our churches that are struggling with both much and lack of growth and financial issues.**

Region 4

- Pastor Tim Foster, First Baptist Myrtle Creek – Continue to pray for his recovery. He is hoping to be home soon. For his family and church as they help him through. See below for information on how to send financial assistance.
- Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary - Jeff Iorg - The next six months will be unlike anything ever experienced by any of us before. We are moving the primary campus of one of the ten largest seminaries in the United States more than 400 miles, while remaining fully operational. Classes are full for the upcoming semester, graduation is scheduled for May, and then the actual move will happen. These will be intense days – emotionally and physically – for all of us. How can you help? First, pray for us.
- Pray that the rural area of region 4 will experience vibrancy and ability to spread the gospel message to every person around them through ministry endeavors.
- Pray for churches in urban areas to experience the Spirit’s leading in reaching people from all backgrounds with the message of the gospel.

- Pray for all the churches in region 4 as they share the love of Jesus Christ in word and deed. Ask God for specific direction on being the churches He desires. Pray that your own church will be a community where people find hope and healing in the Lord. (from NWBC Prayer Guide)
- Pray that there would be the funds to train our folks who are coming to be church planters. That there would be funds to help them with their travels and moves.

Region 4 Church Plants: Pray for these Pastors, their leadership teams and the many partners helping to start and grow these works.

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| • Boris & Teresa Alfaro (<i>Hispanic</i>) | Comunidad Cristiana Reneuvo, Salem |
| • Josh & Elizabeth Howeth (<i>Collegiate</i>) | The Branch, Corvallis |
| • Sean & Christina Sullivan (<i>English</i>) | RVCC/New Hope, Grants Pass |
| • Jamie & Claudia Pantoja (<i>Hispanic</i>) | Nueva Vida, Medford |
| • Shawn & Tina Snyder (<i>Legacy Plant</i>) | Living Hope, Medford |
| • John & Cindy Peters (<i>English</i>) | Living Water Fellowship, Salem |
| • John Y & Kyungyoung Lee (<i>Korean</i>) | Salem Grace Church, Salem |
| • Bryan Bernard (<i>Collegiate</i>) | Mosaic Church (OSU Campus), Corvallis |
| • Ryan & Lori Moore (<i>English</i>) | Beautiful Mess, Eugene/Springfield |
| • Hernan & Maria Cancino (<i>Hispanic</i>) | North Bend (sponsor: FBC, North Bend) |
| • Fernando & Ruby Duran (<i>Hispanic</i>) | Eugene/Springfield |
| • Jorge & Lourdes Franco (<i>Hispanic</i>) | Salem |
| • Daniel Estrada (<i>Hispanic</i>) | Unassigned |

NWBC

- **Pray for our Pastor's and wives, Region 4 Team, Missionaries (IMB and NAMB) and NWBC staff** that we all would have eyes to see as He sees and empower all of us to love the unlovely, the rejected, and the outcasts as Jesus did. 1 Sam 16:7b
- **NWBC leadership as they continue to serve Northwest churches.**

USA

- **For the USA as we seek to vote according to our conscience.**
- **For the USA to turn back to God.**
- Pray that our government will do the right thing for our Christian brothers and sisters who are incarcerated in another country.
- **Continue to pray for the Baptist Disaster Relief folks.**

World

- For IMB missionaries who have retired, to be used of God. That their transition to the states will be smooth. Pray for their children as they begin their schooling here.
- For the IMB as they climb out of the financial distress they are in.
- For our USA churches as they step up to help our missionaries to find new ministries, work, and help with all that comes with an unexpected move.
- Pray that the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will be all that is needed to keep our missionaries on the field.
- **NWBC East Asia Partnership.** <http://www.nwbaptist.org/ministry/eastasia/Current%20EA%20Partnership%20Project%20Requests.pdf>
- **200 from our NWBC churches will go to Thailand for an IMB missionary meeting. This will include their children. If you feel lead to go contact the convention office (360) 882-2100 for more information.**
- **For our missionaries who are in difficult countries or working in difficult situations.**
- Pray for the missionaries who must move to be out of harm's way in so many of these situations around the world.
- Pray for the families of those who have lost their lives because of their Christian belief.
- Pray for those who are dealing with unexpected health issues. That they will receive or be able to get to proper care.
- Pray for the Unreached/Unengaged People Groups all over the world. That many servants of God will be lead to their very door with His message of salvation, love, grace, and mercy.

Tim Foster information for financial help:

Also, for those who might be interested, there is not only the GoFundMe account that has been set up for Pastor Tim, but also a church member has set up an account with Umpqua Bank (any branch).

- **Timothy Foster - Donation Account**
- **Umpqua Bank (any branch)**
- **Acct No. 3967436274**

It is my understanding that contributing to the above account will not be tax-deductible!

Thanks again for your on-going prayers for Pastor Tim and Sherrie. God is at work and we are trusting Him to meet their every need.

Praying with you, Bruce

Revitalizing Church Through an Outward Focus

Ed Stetzer: LifeWay Research

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2016/february/revitalization-part-1-outward-focus.html>

Church revitalization is a very real and important topic to many today because statistics indicate that the majority of churches are plateaued or declining. So, since the majority of churches are not growing, if you're a church leader, pastor, or Christian leader reading this you're probably in a church that needs revitalization.

Thom Rainer says: Nine out of ten churches in North America are declining, or they are growing slower than the community in which they are located. Nine out of ten churches need revitalization.

Because of the large number of struggling churches, many people think we should focus on church planting. Others think we should look for new ways to fulfill the mission, such as in missional incarnational communities.

Both of these expressions are good and vital. But there are many churches that are simply in need of revitalization. I am a big proponent of revitalization. I have been involved in such projects as a pastor, and have researched and written about the process as well.

Why outward focus?

Various factors contribute to a transformational church. You can find some of those [in the book *Transformational Church*](#). One of the things you will find in churches that are growing disciples and growing numerically is an emphasis on outward focus. It is so integral that outward focus should be a part of revitalizing a church.

When a congregation is engaging in ministry and mission it causes people to live not for themselves, but, to quote 2 Corinthians 5:15b (HCSB), "for the One who died for them and was raised," they become again who God designed them to be. When a group of such people are gathered as God's "called out" ones, they can revitalize a church.

One of the reasons churches are stuck and stagnant is because they have for years pandered to the consumerist mentality of Christians. Then we're shocked and surprised when people act like customers rather than co-laborers.

If a church is to experience revitalization, the people must begin to think less about themselves and more about God.

A pastor in a plateaued or dying church may ask, "How can a renewed outward focus be a key part of a church revitalization?" or, "How can we turn our church outward?"

Gospel revitalization

One consideration is the issue of gospel proclamation and gospel demonstration. I want us to see gospel proclamation as telling people that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, and men and women can trust and follow Him by grace through faith. But I want us also to see gospel demonstration where people live out the implications of the gospel in their community.

Proclamation and demonstration, or message and ministry, are inseparable.

The proclamation and demonstration of the gospel message are two sides of the same coin. If you want to revitalize a church, gospel revitalization will be central to that.

Revitalized churches live the gospel in both word and deed. I have led churches through this process. If a church is to experience revitalization, the people must begin to think less about themselves and more about God, His glory, and His mission.

When people are focusing on that objective, and when they're serving and ministering to others who are hurting and in need, we've learned they've got more time for ministry and less time to engage in drama.

Outward focus can solve inner problems

Confucius said: "He who rows the boat has no time to rock the boat." (Confucius didn't say that, but somebody did and it's true!)

An outward focus can avert church conflict. Instead of having a room full of customers demanding church their way, the music their way, the pastor their way, you have a room full of co-laborers who are receiving training to live out the mission of God.

When churches are living with this outward focus, they're telling the good news of Jesus Christ. But they're also engaging people in ministry and mission within the church and mission outside the church. Both of these things are taking place: engaging ministry inside and outside. There's gospel proclamation and gospel demonstration.

Telling the message is part of living the message

One of the things that we **found in research** is that people in healthy churches don't just proclaim the gospel because they are told they should. Rather, it is a natural part of the life of the church.

[Evangelism in transformational churches](#) is not viewed as an activity done by a few while everybody else watches. A church needing revitalization needs to understand that evangelism is not a spectator sport.

Christians love evangelism as long as [as somebody else is doing the work](#). But in transformational churches, those that were experiencing this revitalization and focus have owned the sharing of the gospel. And the church has often made a conscious decision that their existence is seeing people reconciled to God through Christ. So we see this focus and these practices along the way.

Sharing the Gospel defines us

We have increasingly seen in churches that are growing through conversion, that they were active, even aggressive, about servicing and engaging in their community. That activity was part of their DNA. Church membership even felt the ministry impact.

Transformational churches have a different perspective on church membership. More than signing a card and joining a church, membership in a healthy church often equals a commitment to serve both the church and the community.

Christ followers should be part of a community called church that is facing outward. This outward focus moves into the community with a certain passion for "sentness."