



It is hard to believe we are once again at the prolog of another spring. The spirit of spring begins in March when time springs forward launching us into the holy celebration of our Lord's death, burial and His glorious resurrection.

The buildup and final crescendo to this glorious event normally ends the same for most folks every year. In America, we tend to mark events off of our calendars and move on to the next big event in our lives. There is nothing wrong with setting goals and looking forward but the downside to this mindset is all the wonderful blessings left behind in the dust and clutter of our minds.

Christians should daily ponder the death of our Lord. Through our remembrance of Christ's death we are humbled and conscience of His great love for us. In 1707, Isaac Watts wrote the hymn *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*. Mr. Watts penned this beautiful hymn as he reflected on the death of our Lord. His words graphically describe the impact Christ's death had on him. I encourage you to read this beautiful hymn as often as you can, grasp the warmth embedded in the lyrics and find solace as Mr. Watts did in the beauty of the cross.

Notice the impact the cross of our Lord made on the apostle Paul. He writes in Galatians 6:14, "*As for me, may I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of that cross, my interest in this world has been crucified, and the world's interest in me has also died.*"

The death of our Lord has impacted us in many ways. The greatest impact Christ's death has upon us is the gift of salvation. This truth is confirmed in Hebrews 9:22 where it states, "*For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins.*" When we understand the effect Christ's death has made on our lives it brings Paul's expression of gratitude into perspective. "*As for me, may I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of that cross, my interest in this world has been crucified, and the world's interest in me has also died.*"

May we never forget the gift of God's love in the sacrifice of Jesus His Son. I pray God will develop in us all a true sense of awe and wonder in the cross of our Lord and may it lead us to live lives worthy of His great grace and mercy. Hebrews 12:1-2 (NLT) *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. 2 We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. May God bless the reading of His Word.*

Thank you church for your continued prayers and support for me, my family and Frosty (our dog). I am blessed to be your pastor and I think and pray for you often.

Your friend,

Pastor Tim

### Pray for Our Men and Women in Uniform

**Devon Henesley** - Grandson of Jean Johnson  
**Branch** - Navy **Rank** - 2nd Class  
**Assignment** - Virginia Beach

**Brandon Woolworth** - Nephew of Chery Hanna  
**Branch** - Air Force  
**Assignment** - Tucson, Arizona

**Megan Hines** - USNA - Pastor Tim's Daughter  
**MIDN** - **Megan Hines**  
**1 Wilson Rd.**  
**P.O. Box 12610**  
**Annapolis, Maryland 21412**

### Valentine Party by Cindyann Lucas

Florence and friends made the place look real neat  
 Decked out for fun and for getting good stuff to eat  
 The guests each brought a pot luck dish  
 There was quite a variety almost anything you'd wish  
 I brought the applesauce cause you know I don't cook  
 I played tic tac toe using the activity book  
 When it was announced that it was time to eat  
 Did you see how fast everybody was on their feet?  
 Turkey, pork roast, macaroni, tamale pie  
 I ate so much I thought I would die!  
 There were games to play before getting the sweets  
 I wasn't that full - there's always room for the treats  
 Sucking M & M's up with a straw and stacking candy hearts  
 There is friendly competition when the games start  
 Al and Paul sang songs - they have wonderful voices  
 Singing songs of love as their musical choices  
 At this time of year we think about love  
 The best love of all comes from God up above

### Women's Retreat

Combine the beautiful tall Redwoods and flowers with sharing and laughter and what do you have? The East Bay Ladies Retreat at Mt. Hermon! If you have never been to Mt. Hermon, you don't know what you are missing.

We had eleven ladies attend. They were: Stephanie Shouse, Chery Hanna, Chery's daughter Joyce, Deborah Davis, Bonnie Swyers, Florence Kimmel, Diane Varady, Diane's neighbor Denise, Barbara Trimble and her 2 daughters.

This year's theme was "Heroes: Ordinary Women Living Extraordinary Lives" Zechariah 4:6b—"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord Almighty." Our retreat speaker was Sharon Douglas and worship leader was Julie Simpson.

The Women's Retreat was a lot of fun. Hopefully next year more of you will come. Begin now to save money for next years Women's Retreat.

### On Mission Celebration by Diane Varady

March 5 was an exciting event. Homemade soups were served with salads along with French bread. The desserts were quite tasty as well. Thank you all who provided food in some way. The programs for the evening were sharing about the various ministries people are involved in at our church.

Chery shared about Operation Christmas Child and encouraged others to take a shoe box and fill it. She also shared other ministries the women were involved in such as The Easter Egg hunt for the Afghan children.

Joyce shared about the Rest Home ministry and showed some pictures. Then Al shared about the Open Door Mission and the importance of sharing Christ with the homeless. Mike shared about the ministry that he and Bonnie were participating—that of sorting medical supplies to be shipped to foreign countries that were in need. Tim F. shared about the local Afghan ministry and Global Gates organization that he is working through. Our main speaker was Mikko Sivonen, currently a resident at GGBTS. He and his family will return to their home/mission field in Finland in June. Everyone enjoyed hearing about the various ministries.

### An Evening of Surprises Saturday, April 30th 4:00 pm

**Mark Your Calendar** - Everyone is invited to a Progressive Supper on Saturday, April 30th at 4:00 pm. This will be an evening of surprises, so come on out and have some fun. We will all meet here at the church and carpool together.

Don't forget, if you are planning to come, please sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway.





**First Southern Baptist Church**  
 15503 Usher Street  
 San Lorenzo, CA 94580  
 church@fsbcsl.org  
 (510) 276-3688

**Sunday Services**

Sunday School 9:30 am  
 Morning Worship 10:45 am



**April Calendar**

6th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm  
 - Prayer Meeting - 5:45 pm  
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm  
 11th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 am  
 13th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm  
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm  
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm  
 11th - 13th - Women's Retreat  
 16th - Women on Mission - 10:00 am  
 20th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm  
 - Prayer Meeting - 5:45 pm  
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm  
 23rd - Men's Breakfast - 8:30 am  
 25th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 am  
 27th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm  
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm  
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm  
 28th - Open Door Mission - 6:15 pm  
 30th - Progressive Supper - 4:00 pm

**Happy Birthday**

13th - April Machetta  
 14th - Vaclav Hrdina  
 19th - Rachel Bocar  
 23rd - Richard Bocar  
 25th - Diana Belger  
 29th - Edith Currie

**Happy Anniversary**

7th - Sean & Brenda Kelleher



**First Southern Baptist Church**  
**Newsletter**

**Glorifying God ~ Loving One Another ~ Reaching the World**

**Pastor: Tim Hines - Interim Pastor: Dr. John W. Shouse**

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March/ April 2016

**Welcome Our Interim Pastor**



**Dr. John W. Shouse**

Ph. D. Southern Baptist Theological Seminary  
 S.T.M. Yale University - M. Div. Yale University

Dr. John Shouse is a native of Washington, D.C. and currently chairs the Historical Theology Department at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary where he is a Professor of Christian Theology. Dr. Shouse has served as pulpit supply and as an interim pastor at various churches and has served as an adjunct professor at educational settings around the country.

Dr. Shouse has written numerous professional papers and publications and has authored the book *An Introduction to Christian Worship*.

He is also active in the professional theater, most recently in Equity productions of William Shakespeare. Dr. Shouse is also a performing illusionist and a member of the Fellowship of Christian Magicians.