



It is hard to believe the month of February came and went so quickly. Caryl Shaw worked diligently, with her "crew", to plan our annual Valentine banquet. The banquet turned out to be a wonderful event. I want to thank all of you who attended and those who worked so hard to make the banquet a success.

The month of February is a celebration of love but for one of our longtime staff members February was a time of loss. I ask that we lift Shauna and Bill Duncan and their family up in prayer as they grapple with the passing of her father, Larken Shoptaw. May our church family be a great source of comfort and support during this time of loss. We love you, Shauna, and your family!

As we move into the month of March, we find there are wonderful opportunities ahead of our church. There are a couple of items I would like to bring to your attention. Over the last several months, our attendance has dwindled. When a church's attendance begins to dwindle, there are dire consequences. Better described, the life of the church is being snuffed out.

When a person is sickly and at the point of death, many times a doctor will sedate the patient to make their passing more peaceful. We must be very careful we do not allow ourselves to become sedated, ignoring our situation and the people that support us. We, as the body of Christ, the church, must rise up off our deathbed, shake off the haze and restore our will to live!

Here are a few things we can do as a church that can help strengthen and bring our church back from the brink. First, we need to pray for God's help. Second, we need to be faithful to study God's word. Third, we need to be faithful to attend our weekly services including Sunday School. Fourth, we need to be faithful in giving our tithes and offerings. Fifth, we must be faithful to encourage one another to support the ministries of the church by attending and engaging our lives in the service of our Lord.

You may have noticed a major theme throughout the last paragraph, **faithfulness**. As you know, the strength of the church cannot ride on the backs of a few people. Collectively, as one unit, we can accomplish so much for God and be a thriving church. A faithful church is known for its love for God and its love for the people for whom He died.

As your pastor, I want to encourage you to examine your faithfulness to God and the church for whom He died and ask yourself, are you giving God your best or are you living in a sedated state of being, waiting for the end to come.

Our church is at a crossroad, which path are we going to choose? The easy sedated path, which leads to death, or will we choose the difficult path, which leads to life? Matthew 7:13-14 (KJV) *Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: <sup>14</sup> Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*

We do not find in modern America many stories of "comeback" churches because most dying churches accept their fate and prefer sedation to fighting back and overcoming their obstacles. Their dying wills have been made with the instruction "do not resuscitate!"

I hope and pray you will feel my heart as I plead with you to consider your ways and attitudes. I pray, as God gives you the strength, you will once again engage in the ministries of our church and be faithful to the ministry of the Gospel.

Matthew 19:26 (KJV) *But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, with men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.*

May God bless you all and may He bless our church,

Pastor Tim

## Valentine Banquet "God's Love"

by Cindyann Lucas

At the Valentines party the tables were full  
Caryl and committee made everything look cool  
They did a great job making everything just right  
Especially with a budget so tight!  
The food was delish - pasta, salad & bread  
Seven dozen cupcakes in the color of red  
Charles attended without his wife  
but ended up saving Diana's life  
The cotton ball game was fun to play  
or if your number was called you'd win a candy bouquet  
I enjoyed myself and the fellowship too  
If you weren't there then shame on you!  
We can glorify God in things fun and new  
Just remember it's most important to do! 🍩 🍩



## Daylight Saving Time Begins

Sunday, March 8th

Don't forget to set your clock forward before going to bed on

Saturday March 7th.

## Women on Mission

I hope you all had a great Valentine's Day. We will meet on March 21st at 10:00 am for a potluck meeting.

What would you like to find out about? Do you have a special interest? All suggestions are welcome. Come join us for a wonderful time of eating and sharing. Learn about what is going on in the world of missions. See you there!

## "World Religions from a Christian Perspective"

Come join us on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm as Tim Fortescue, will continue to lead us in a weekly study of religions that are prevalent in our area.

**Week Four - Wed., Mar. 18** - Study of Sikhism and sharing their faith with Sikhs.

**Sat., Mar. 21** - Visit a Sikh Temple in Fremont and have lunch at the Sikh Temple.

**Week Five - Wed., Mar. 25** - Study of Islam and sharing their faith with Muslims.

**Sat., Mar. 28** - Visit a Mosque in Hayward and have lunch at a Yemeni Muslim restaurant in San Leandro.

**Week Six - Wed., April 1** - Debrief, wrap-up and evaluation. **Sat., April 4** - Take another member not a part of the study to lunch in an ethnic restaurant of their choice and meet back to share experiences of the training, to wrap-up and debrief.

## An Easter Musical

Sunday, March 29th  
6:00 pm

Our choir, led by Shauna Shoptaw-Duncan, will be presenting an Easter Musical on Sunday, March 29th at 6:00 pm called "Redeeming Love."

Come join us and bring your family and friends as we praise the Lord with music.

Following the cantata we will be serving refreshments.

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## Pray for Our Men and Women in Uniform"

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

**Joshua Woolworth** - Nephew of Chery Hanna  
**Branch** - Navy **Rank** - Basic Training  
**Assignment** - Great Lakes, Illinois

**Megan Hines** - Daughter of Pastor Tim and Donna Hines - **Branch** - Marines  
**Rank** - CPL - **Assignment** - South Carolina

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



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### *Sunday Services*

Sunday School 9:30 am  
 Morning Worship 10:45 am  
 Evening Worship 6:00 pm

### *Wednesday Services*

Family Dinner 5:00 pm  
 Bible Study 5:45 pm  
 Choir Practice 6:30 pm



## March Calendar

4th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm  
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm  
 - Choir Practice - 7:00 pm  
 8th - Daylight Saving Time Begins  
 9th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 am  
 10th - Church Wide Visitation - 5:30 pm  
 11th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm  
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm  
 - Choir Practice - 7:00 pm  
 13th - 15th - EBBA Women's Retreat  
 18th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm  
 - Bible Study - 6:00 pm  
 - Choir Practice - 7:00 pm  
 21st - Women on Mission - 10:00 am  
 23rd - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 am  
 24th - Church Wide Visitation - 5:30 pm  
 25th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm  
 - Bible Study - 6:00 pm  
 - Choir Practice - 7:00 pm  
 26th - Open Door Mission - 6:15 pm  
 28th - Men's Breakfast - 8:30 am  
 29th - Week of Prayer/Annie Armstrong Easter Offering  
 - Easter Musical- 6:00 pm

## Happy Birthday

7th - Ken Day  
 14th - Bob Belger  
 17th - Eldora Walton  
 17th - Don Walton  
 18th - Reva Cohen  
 23rd - Michael Fellows  
 25th - Jordan Johnson

## Happy Anniversary

23rd - John & Doreen Fellows  
 24th - Ken & Barbara Day  
 26th - Robbie & Edith Currie



# First Southern Baptist Church Newsletter

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

Pastor: Dr. Tim Hines

Associate Pastor: Ken Hillard

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## The Month of March

Here are some interesting facts about the month of March:

March is the third month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendar that consists of 31 days. The predecessor to the Gregorian calendar is the Julian calendar, which derived the name March from the Roman god of war, Mars. It is considered the seasonal equivalent of September in the Northern Hemisphere. March starts on the same day of the week as February and November and ends on the same day of the week as June in common years.

March was originally the first month of the year in the 10-month Roman calendar because of its association with the first day of spring. The Spring or March equinox falls during this month between the 19th and 21st. March also marked a time when war would resume after the long winter months. January became the first month of the calendar year around 700 BC. Although January 1st is New Year's Day, many cultures and religions still celebrate the beginning of the New Year in March.

March's birth flower is Daffodil, its birthstones are aquamarine and bloodstone which symbolize courage.

In Southern Baptist life, the month of March kicks off our Annie Armstrong mission's campaign.

The week of Prayer and offering for SEND North America begins on March 29th through April 26th. "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19.

Our church will join other Southern Baptist churches in praying for North American missionaries.

Though their stories and methods vary, our missionaries are doing whatever it takes to share the gospel with North America.

Please continue to pray for our missionaries and give generously to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.