



Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 3

March 2007

Return Service Requested



FSBC

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

Calendar

4th - Leadership Meeting - 5:00 p.m.
 4th-11th - Annie Armstrong - Week of Prayer
 7th - Bible Study - 11:00 a.m.
 - Choir Practice - 6:00 p.m.
 - Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
 8th - Bunco - 7:00 p.m.
 12th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 a.m.
 14th - Bible Study - 11:00 a.m.
 - Choir Practice - 6:00 p.m.
 - Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
 16th - Spiffy Spoofters - 5:00 p.m.
 18th - Lord's Supper - 10:45 a.m.
 21st - Bible Study - 11:00 a.m.
 - Choir Practice - 6:00 p.m.
 - Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
 22nd - Open Door Mission - 6:15 p.m.
 24th - Men's Breakfast - 8:30 a.m.
 - Women's Fellowship - 12:00 p.m.
 26th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 a.m.
 28th - Bible Study - 11:00 a.m.
 - Choir Practice - 6:00 p.m.
 - Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
 31st - Spring Cleaning - 9:00 a.m.

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From the Pastor
By Pastor Chris

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Week of Prayer for NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

March 4-11, 2007

Change Your World



National Goal: \$57,000,000

www.AnnieArmstrong.com

Our Church Goal: \$ 2,007.00

March

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 SAN LORENZO, CA
 PERMIT NO. 19

23rd - George & Linda Baker
 - Chris & Kim Foreman
 24th - Ken & Barbara Day
 25th - Robbie & Editha Currie



7th - Ken Day
 14th - Bob Belger
 15th - Ed Wilbur
 17th - Don Walton
 - Eldora Walton



MINISTRIES & UPCOMING EVENTS



Viola Jones

On Monday, February 12th, Sister Viola, released her bonds to earth and woke up at the feet of her Savior Jesus Christ. Please remember to keep the family in your prayers.



Sunday, March 11th

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead before you go to bed on Saturday Night, March 10th.



**Saturday, March 31st
9:00 a.m.**

Mark your calendar Rain or Shine it's spring cleaning time and we need your help. For those of you who like to do yard work please bring your own tools and gloves and don't forget there is always something that you can do



First Southern has invited Pastor Dave Robinson to our pulpit on March 25th during the morning service. His innovative presentation often involves sculpting an image in clay while teaching and preaching. Come, listen, see and understand what the prophet Isaiah means when he says "O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."

Valentine Luncheon

On Sunday, February 11th following the morning worship service we had a valentine luncheon. We had a fun time getting together and singing, having our pictures taken and of course eating. Here are two pictures of valentine couples.



Thank you to those of you who came and celebrated valentines with us.



Maybe you haven't got the word yet. Our congregation is "decentralizing" into five deacon teams. Ken Hillard is heading up the Green Team, Al Thornell the Blue Team, Ken Day the Red Team, and John King the Silver Team. At the present time the Gold Team is without a deacon. Every member, attendee, and visitor is now assigned into one of these five color teams. Pastor Chris is heading up a "rainbow team" of the deacons and their wives.

Our desire is to provide hands-on quality care to each and every person that steps through the door at First Southern. If a deacon hasn't contacted you



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



**Wednesday Prayer Meeting
11:00 am**

It was almost ten o'clock and the memorial service for Army Specialist Michael Balsley was about to begin. The church was packed to overflowing.

As church pastor, I was responsible to make sure that the ceremony ran smoothly from beginning to end. We had added more chairs to the side rooms; we had fixed a problem with the sound system; we had adjusted the order of service to meet some last minute changes. I looked around and nodded with confidence, "It appears that everything is in order for this ceremony to begin."

Then I heard Michael's father speak up from the front pew. "It's not right" he said in a loud voice. I was startled. I looked around quickly and asked myself, "What's not right? Is Michael's army portrait misaligned? Maybe he doesn't like the music being played." Then he repeated his words, this time with choke in his voice, "It's just not right!"

Then I understood. It was the tragic death of his 23-year-old son that "was not right". This was absolutely true. Michael Balsley (the son) should never have died before James Balsley (the father). How could such a monstrosity ever be right? How could even the perfect memorial service ever begin to make it right? Impossible! It's just not right.

This was my third funeral service of the year. On the first occasion, a woman died in her nineties. On the other occasion, it was a woman in her eighties. These were truly somber events. Grief was real and sorrow was palpable. But nobody shouted out, "It just not right".

For three years, the drumbeat of death in Iraq had been an abstract painting to me. The death of one young man from the church brought it into sharp focus. I once heard it said that this is the difference between peace and war: "In peacetime, sons bury their fathers. In wartime, fathers bury their sons." How out of place it all feels. How wrong it is!

In the grief of James Balsley, I heard the lament of King David at the death of his own son, who also died in battle,

"And the king was much moved, and went Up to the chamber over the gate, and wept; And as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!" [2 Samuel 18:33]

"It's not right. It's just not right!"



Women's Fellowship

**Saturday, March 24th
12:00 p.m.**

Here at the Church

We will be having lunch followed by a shower for the Women's Crisis Center and we will be making Easter Baskets for the children. We are going to need your help so mark you calendar and plan on coming out and joining us

Men's Breakfast

**Saturday, March 24th
8:30 a.m.**

Vasiliki's Restaurant
Hayward

Across the street
from Chabot College



"Pray for Our Men and Women in Uniform"

Mike Brown – Son-In-Law of Al & Jane Thornell Johnson
Branch – Marines **Rank** – Master Sergeant
Assignment – Stationed in Miramar

Nate Fielding – Grandson of Lillian Fielding
Branch – Army **Rank** – PFC Medic
Assignment - Iraq

Jenny Merritt – Great Niece-in-law of Jean Johnson
Branch – Marines **Rank** - Corporal
Assignment – Iraq

Kevin Seigal – Son of Elliott & Teresa Seigal Johnson
Branch – Air Force **Rank** - Sergeant

Todd Shaw – Son of Bob & Caryl Shaw
Branch – Army **Rank** – Staff Sergeant

Devon Henesley – Grandson of Jean Johnson
Branch – Navy **Rank** – Petty Officer 3rd