

More than Sundays

I once heard the story of a father who asked his son, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" The young boy answered, "I want to be a pastor". The father probed further, "and why do you want to be a pastor?" The reply came, "Because a pastor only works one day a week – on Sunday". If you share the opinion of this boy, then you may be interested in learning what your pastor did during six days at the end of August.

MONDAY: Update the church website, join in the Driftwood Rest Home Ministry at 11 AM, share lunch with 5 church people, begin reading in preparation for Sunday Sermons.

TUESDAY: Start off the day with a pastor's breakfast including discussion and prayer, buy a canary for a church member and deliver it to her home, prepare Wednesday lesson.

WEDNESDAY: Complete Wednesday lesson. Sketch out two Sunday sermons. Join in the 5 PM meal, teach the evening lesson, and lead the prayer team.

THURSDAY: Officiate at an un-expected funeral service at 1 PM. Accompany the church bus to the Open Door mission to Oakland. Develop sermons is the times available.

FRIDAY: Focus on getting all responsibilities complete to include two Sunday Sermons. In the evening, travel to a small-group meeting in San Francisco to raise awareness of "Come & See Africa".

SATURDAY: Leave home at 8:30 to teach "Survey of the New Testament" at San Quentin Prison. There are a dozen expectant inmates. Get back by 2 PM. There is still some rest before Sunday morning.

Since I worked from the church office on each of these six days, there were also plenty of phone calls to answer, mail to open, visitors to greet, cards to sign, decisions to make, and a few crises to resolve.

I am reporting my activities neither to gain your sympathy nor to win your admiration. I love being a pastor and delving daily into the Bible is my delight. I want you to know that First Southern Baptist Church in San Lorenzo is a "happening place" with lots of ministry opportunities and lots going on. Don't be like the little boy. Don't think that your church is a once-a-week operation and that we hibernate for six days. There's a lot to do. Roll up your sleeves. "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

Kim's Corner

Our front sidewalk is bordered by several large rose plants. I often see passersby stop to smell the roses. I happened to be outside when a woman folded her hands toward the sky and expressed her gratitude for these beautiful roses. She said "Thank you!" to me. I have to confess that the one who deserves the "thank you" is our deacon John King. He drops by once in a while and prunes back the bushes. I learned that there is a correct way to clip a rose bush. You cut just above six leaves on a stem to make new roses come up year around. It takes care as well as knowledge to properly care for plants.

I sometimes think about marriage as a rose bush. On occasion, my husband and I are caught up by the busyness of life and we neglect to clip our rose bush. In past years, we didn't know how to tend the garden of our marriage and make the roses grow year-round.

When my son, Simon, was married in 2006, we wanted to give him and his new bride a special gift. For a few hundred dollars we paid their way to "A Weekend to Remember" which is a marriage enrichment conference sponsored by Family Life. Our daughter-in-law, Dilia, called me after their special weekend in upper New York State. They had a great time at a nice hotel and learned a lot about each other. They also learned about being a godly husband and a godly wife. My husband and I were so glad that we provided a supportive part in their weekend to remember.

First Southern is now seeking married couples in our church to attend "A Weekend to Remember" in November at beautiful Monterey. I made the first announcement of this conference last Sunday morning. When God speaks, the godly listen. After the service, a young couple came to me, and said "We want a Weekend to Remember." Do you want to enrich your own marriage, then you can sign up too. Just phone the church. You can also pay the way for children or grandchildren. I know some churches that help by babysitting for the weekend. Chris and I plan to attend. We need to learn more about tending the garden of our own marriage.



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



Wednesday Evening Family Fellowship
5:00 p.m.

Vacation Bible School

by Jane Thornell

"I think it was our best VBS ever!"
"I had a great time!" "The children were all so well-behaved."
"The snacks and the luau were great!"

I think everyone who participated in this year's "Outrigger Island" VBS received a blessing. We weren't sure where the students would come from, but God sent them! We averaged 62 in total attendance each night, with the adult class averaging 18. Praise God!

Our two summer missionaries were a great help. Jessica Hawkins and Jessica Andress (Jessica "squared" as the pastor called them!) filled in with the preschool and missions. They were good examples to the children.

Following the island theme of VBS, the luau on Friday night was a fitting end to the week. Everyone who wanted some got a taste of the roasted pig, and it was devoured, from head to toe! There were 96 children, adults and family members in attendance for the luau and Family Night program. Praise God!

As always, VBS is a wonderful church-wide event. Thank you to each teacher and helper who studied, planned and gave of their time for a busy and rewarding week. Thank you to the crafts, snacks and recreation folks who all did a superb job. Thank you to those who helped make the worship rally a smooth and fun beginning to each day. Thank you to those who baked goodies, or supplied snack or craft items – we appreciated each and every donation. And thank you for each prayer, because God blessed us with a wonderful VBS.

We have discovered several prospects from the children who attended VBS. Now we need to enlist teachers and other helpers to provide for these children on Sunday mornings. Please be in prayer for these needs, and how you can help.

Migrant Workers Day

by Diana Belger

Pastor Chris, Caryl, Jane, Al, Missionaries Jessica and Diana visited the migrant workers in Patterson to distribute food. This is a once a year project planned by the East Bay Baptist Association to reach out to people in need. 42 families received the aid but most important they heard the good message of Christ love through Pastor Victor Pulido. He lead them in prayer to accept Jesus as their savior. New testaments were given to all the families that attended and a personal invitation for their children to come to Vacation Bible School given by several East Bay Baptist Churches.

It was hands on ministry providing a physical need and taking the gospel of Jesus. The migrant workers blessed my life with their gratitude and humbleness. Some of the people shared with me the pain to have to leave families in Mexico for 6 months in order to get some work in the fields.

Pray for these people for they endure hard labor, loneliness and discrimination.

Sunday Morning Sermon Series

The last three messages address "Organization of the Church"

- September 7 ~ Servants of the Church ~ 1 Timothy 3:8-13
- September 14 ~ The Mystery of Godliness ~ 1 Timothy 3:14-16
- September 28 ~ Received with Gratitude ~ 1 Timothy 4:1-5

Sunday Evening Sermon Series from Revelation

- Sept. 7 ~ The Woman and Scarlet Beast ~ Chapter 17
- Sept. 14 ~ The Fall of Babylon ~ Chapter 18
- Sept. 28 ~ Rider on a White Horse ~ Chapter 19

"Pray for Our Men and Women in Uniform"

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| Mike Brown – Son-In-Law of Al & Jane Thornell
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
Branch – Air Force Rank - Sergeant
Assignment – Travis Air Force Base | Todd Shaw – Son of Bob & Caryl Shaw
Branch – Army Rank – Staff Sergeant
Assignment – 101 st Airborne Special Forces | Devon Henesley – Grandson of Jean Johnson
Branch – Navy Rank – Petty Officer 3 rd class
Assignment – Overseas |

September Calendar

3rd - Wednesday Dinner & Fellowship - 5:00 p.m.
7th - Church Council - 5:00 p.m.
8th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 a.m.
10th - Wednesday Dinner & Fellowship - 5:00 p.m.
12th - 13th - EBBA Men's Retreat
17th - Wednesday Dinner & Fellowship - 5:00 p.m.
20th - Church Leadership Training - 8:30 a.m.
21st - Lord's Supper - 6:00 p.m.
22nd - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 a.m.
24th - Wednesday Dinner & Fellowship - 5:00 p.m.
25th - Open Door Mission - 6:15 p.m.
27th - Men's Breakfast - 8:30 a.m.
- Women's Fellowship - 10:00 a.m.



1st - Sean Kelleher
2nd - Justine Hillard
4th - Elliott Seigal
6th - Ken Hillard
8th - Justin Smith
14th - Mike Fortner
16th - Richard Northcutt
25th - Esmeralda Bocar



23rd - Steve & Shirley Halbach
27th - Edsel & Pauline Ford



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State Goal: \$500,000

Our Church Goal: \$ 1,000



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September is California Mission Offering month. The theme for this year's CMO is "Bright Hope for Dark Days" based on 1 Peter 2:9. "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." (NIV). You can make a difference in providing "Bright Hope for Dark Days" by giving to the California Mission Offering. Gifts to the CMO will support community ministry, church starting, healthy church and associational partnership projects and will provide needed support for projects and ministries in every part of the Golden State.

Through CMO, you make a difference in reaching Californians who don't know Jesus by:

- starting churches to reach California's diverse population,
- strengthening churches and helping them remain healthy,
- giving a cup of cold water in Jesus' name through Disaster Relief, migrant and a variety of other ministries,
- partnering with associations to provide needed support for local projects, and
- providing valuable mission support to churches and their pastors in crisis times, and to students by providing scholarships for those training to be pastors and church staff members.



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