

# FBC NEWSLETTER

Loving God, Loving Others, Serving Christ  
Making God's Kingdom Relevant To Our Community



Second Quarter 2010

April-May-June

**FOLLOWING GOD'S CALL** by Pastor Joe

Peter, John, and James watched as Jesus taught the crowd beside the Sea of Galilee. Then Jesus instructed them to prepare the boats to cross over to a place where He could be alone with the Father. But, some of the people refused to let Him go. A scribe caught His cloak, "Rabbi, I will follow you anywhere!" Jesus answered, "the foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." The scribe released his hold and turned away.

"Lord!" shouted another. This time the love and devotion on the man's face brought a hopeful response. "Follow me." The man bowed his head, "Lord, please, let me first go and bury my father." Jesus words were penetrating, "allow the dead to bury the dead. You follow me."

The man had been willing to follow Christ anywhere, but leaving his home and family. (From. Matthew 8:20)

Jesus has chosen each of us to receive His forgiveness, love, and grace. It is not a matter of working to achieve a certain position, but learning to walk by faith in commitment and devotion to God.

The men in Matthew 8 were spiritually and emotionally moved by the love of God, but deep in their hearts they did not make a full commitment to Jesus Christ.

It is easy to say you will follow Christ until it begins to infringe on our vision of what we thought that lifestyle would include. We quickly discover that we cannot be fully committed to Christ and remain tethered to worldly passions. Jesus said, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me." (Matthew 10:38)

The call to follow Jesus is a call of responsibility, loyalty, and devotion. While there are many blessings involved in following Jesus (eternal life, peace, security, hope, joy, and wisdom) the call to follow Jesus is a serious, life-changing one.

Why does Jesus call us to a righteous life-style? His most basic reason is to build an intimate relationship with someone He loves. You are His chosen child. No one will ever love you more than He does. And God wants to be with you.

Another reason God calls you is to provide wisdom and hope, whatever you are facing. He speaks to us through His Word, the Holy spirit, and another individual such a trusted pastor or friend.

He calls us to Salvation. No one is left out. Each person can respond to the Gospel of Christ and believe in Christ as the Redeemer.

We are also called to sanctification. As believers, the eternal punishment from our sins have been removed and we have been declared "not guilty" by God because of Christ's shed blood

at the cross. Sanctification is an ongoing process whereby we are being made into the image of Christ. Purity and holiness are a part of this process.

The third call is a call to service. We no longer profess to just be a follower, but we enter into complete commitment to Christ. We dedicate our lives to Him and begin to step into service for Him.

Serving God does not necessarily mean that we all go to a foreign country to be a missionary. One of the most effective mission fields is the place where you spend most of your time; your home, office, or neighborhood.

Answering the call of God means being willing to follow Christ regardless of the cost. You no longer define your life by what you can do, instead you are defined by the love and care of God.

This year has begun as a response to God's call, by our church, and many of you who have chosen to follow Christ's call in your personal life.

We have experienced a wonderful month of missions awareness, with the report and challenge from several of our foreign and local missionaries and outreach organizations.

We studied and practiced prayer in a variety of meaningful ways, and have seen people's spiritual relationship with the Savior blossom.

We have taken Christ's call serious enough to pray and invite our neighborhoods to an evangelistic Easter service, along with the media advertising and web site presentations by the Southern Baptist Convention.

Now we have opportunities to answer God's call to people beyond our local neighborhood, by physically assisting ministries in Hollywood and Skid Row, L.A. We will take canned food to the "Hope Again Ministries" and spend a Saturday working and cleaning their facilities. We will also be able to serve a BBQ, and present a worship service.

The test of our commitment now, is to make our prayer life, personal spiritual growth, and service to our Lord a permanent, ongoing part of our daily life.

We need to follow His call to witness to and pray for the Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth, (Acts 1:8) because we have received the power of the Holy spirit.

We need to take up His Cross and follow.

(Much of this article was taken from "A call to follow", by Charles Stanley. In touch magazine, September 1998)

# COME WORSHIP WITH US



**CHECK IT OUT  
SUNDAY  
SCHOOL!**  
Something  
interesting for all  
ages.  
Sundays at 9:00 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
Youth & Adult Studies)

9:00 a.m. Sunday (Children,

WORSHIP

10:00 a.m. Sunday

CHILDREN'S CHURCH  
age 3 through grade 5)

10:30 a.m. Sunday (Children

## CALENDAR

### REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

CELEBRATE RECOVERY (Each Monday)	6:30 p.m.
(Christ Centered Recovery...Counts as AA or NA)	
SHEPARD PLACE STUDY (Each Tuesday)	9:30 a.m.
Prayer Group at Clousers' (Each Tuesday)	6:30 p.m.
TeamKidz (Each Wednesday) (Children's Bible Club)	6:30 p.m.
Local Pastors Prayer at FBC (First Thursday)	11:30 a.m.
WMU Meeting (First Thursday)	2:00 p.m.
Heart Links (Each First Friday)	7:00 p.m.
Shepard Place Service (Third Sunday)	2:00 p.m.
Needleworks Club (Second & Fourth Friday)	10:00 a.m.
Senior Lunch (Third Thursday)	12:00 noon
Men's Breakfast (Saturday to be Scheduled)	8:30 a.m.

### COMING EVENTS

April 2	Good Friday Service—12:00 Noon
April 4	EASTER Service - 10:00 a.m.
April 9	Heart Links—7:00 p.m.
April 10	Mission Trip to "Hope Again"
April 15	Senior Lunch—12:00 Noon
April 24	Men's Breakfast at FBC...Coming Soon!
May 1	Ladies' Tea (May Day theme) 1:00 p.m.
May 6	National Day of Prayer
May 6	Pastors' Prayer Meeting
May 9	Mother's Day
May 15	Hood Fund Rummage Sale
May 31	Memorial Day
June 10	School Graduation & Play—6:00 p.m.
June 11	Last Day of School
June 20	Father's Day





The HOOD FUND YARD SALE

Saturday, May 15  
8:30AM - 2:00 PM  
at Pastor Joe & Jeanie's.

Bring your stuff the morning of the sale and take home what doesn't sell that afternoon  
Join the fun of finding those special treasures!



Tell every- one in your neighborhood!

Come and Join the Party!

Come and spend some time with the Lord in our prayer room, right behind the sanctuary.



Plan Ahead!  
July 12-16th

Vacation Bible School



Thank You to Martin Topham, Craig Thomas, and Moses Perez for finishing the stonework on our walk circle. It looks beautiful!



- April Birthdays!!**
- 04/05 Todd Lemere
  - 04/10 Steve Franco
  - 04/11 Everett Ferguson
  - 04/25 Thelma Ownby
  - 04/27 Perky Hathaway
  - 04/19 Joan Burfitt
  - 04/28 Paul Babcock

**May Birthdays!!**

- 05/03 MaryAnne Babcock
- 05/04 Ursula Norby
- 05/06 Letty Clark
- 05/14 Ken Norby
- 05/14 Ferne Pelkey
- 05/15 Jeanie Epley
- 05/16 Linda Gramatovich



**June Birthdays!!**

- 06/04 Erika Delk
- 06/05 Tristan Harvey
- 06/08 Kathy Delk
- 06/12 Jerry Clouser
- 06/14 Ann Mullins
- 06/24 Nancy Welty
- 06/25 Sandee Brown



MISSIONS TRIP

Saturday, April 10

Don't forget to sign-up for our Missions Trip to Hope Again, a homeless ministry, in Hollywood.



We are continuing Our food drive for

**HOPE AGAIN**

**Canned Foods:** Tuna, Spam, ravioli, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, fruit, vegetables, beans, chili, beef stew, soups, milk,

pork & beans, refried beans, chicken, juice,

**Other Foods:** Macaroni & cheese, pasta, instant coffee, powered coffee creamer, hot chocolate, rice, beans, small powered milk, hot/cold cereals, oatmeal, ramen noodles, cup-o-soup, small jars of mayonnaise, jello, pudding, peanut butter, jelly, crackers.

**Other Necessities:** Personal hygiene items for men & women (small shampoo, conditioner, soap, etc), boxes of diapers (all sizes), toothbrushes, toothpaste, towels, washcloths, grocery gift cards, gas gift cards, gently used clothing.



ANNIE  
ARMSTRONG  
EASTER OFFERING  
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

The North American Mission Board's primary responsibility is to assist Southern Baptist churches in reaching the United States, Canada, and U.S. territories with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The agency provides assistance to churches, associations, and state conventions in church planting and evangelism, including soul-winning training, interfaith witness, and church and community ministries. Five key priorities of NAMB include impacting major cities, growing ethnic congregations, evangelizing students, mobilizing volunteers for missions, and reaching Canada.

More than 5,000 missionaries, 2,500 chaplains, and thousands of mission volunteers are seeking to reach the estimated 220 million unbelievers in the U.S. and Canada. Their goal is to start 2,200 churches in 2002, reach the 212 languages among 112 language groups, involve more than 18,500 youth in 63 World Changers projects, and the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief network, which includes more than 20,000 trained volunteers.

A significant element in being on mission is giving of your financial resources to missions. Your financial gifts will be instrumental in purchasing the best materials and supporting God-called personnel to share Christ effectively.

Another element in being on mission is prayer. As you pray for missions, you will discover God's power in your own life, as you seek ways to become an answered prayer to others.

March and April will be our Annie Armstrong Missions Offering emphasis. Give as the Lord leads.

*"Give and it shall be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Luke 6:38.*

*Ladies' Tea*

*May Day Theme*

*Bring your Daughters,  
Moms, Friends and  
Grandmothers  
to a  
Ladies' Tea and  
Fashion Show*



*May 1, 2010  
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

*RSVP: 684-1434 or 684-3533*



**May 6, 2010.** The **National Day of Prayer** is a day designated by the United States Congress as a day when people are asked to come together and pray, especially for their country. It was created as a floating holiday in 1952 and fixed on the first Thursday in May by Ronald Reagan.

There is a memorial service planned for Mary Campane's son, Frank, on Saturday, May 22 at 1:00 p.m., at FBC.



# Exciting News About Carpinteria Christian School

## Praise God! Enrollment is Up!!



This year Pastor Joe, Miss Hannah and Miss Sally took our CCS kids on many educational (and fun) field trips as well as having our local fire fighters come to the school to share about fire safety. Some of the kids watered the grass while they held the fire hose, learning how heavy water is as it streams through the hose to douse fires. We were also visited by "Art From Scrap" which has a special organic gardening educational program. The kids learned how and when to plant various vegetables. After getting quite dirty digging

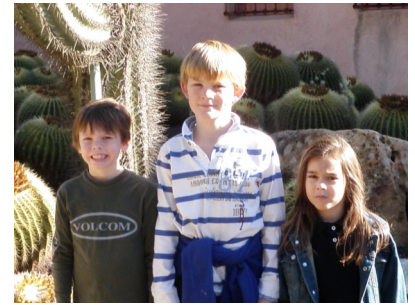
holes, they planted different types of lettuce, parsley and broccoli. During a time they were normally closed, Lotus Land opened their doors

especially for our kids, they toured the SB Historical Museum, the Natural History Museum as well as the Mission Museum. The Reef Tour at the UCSB Marine Science was particularly interesting for our kids.

Last week they toured the Maritime Museum and the Ty Warner Museum on the wharf and traveled between the two on the "Lil Toot" shuttle boat.

During our last church business meeting, Pastor Joe gave an update about CCS. Because of the present economy, enrollment this year is down. He informed us that in order to continue, our enrollment would need to increase substantially. Our children need an education with a Biblically based curriculum, a safe, nurturing environment where they receive Godly moral standards as well as a challenging academic program.

Very soon after Pastor Joe's announcement, we began to get phone calls from parents who wanted to enroll their children in CCS next year. Two new students were enrolled just a couple of months ago. There is now a waiting list for Jr. High. God is blessing this small but growing ministry.



*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)*

**Coming Soon in April  
Our New Church Sign!**

**June 10th**



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Pastor: Rev. Joe W. Epley

**GOOD FRIDAY Service**  
April 2nd at Noon  
First Baptist-5026 Foothill Rd  
Carpinteria, CA



**Easter Service**  
April 4th at 10:00 a.m.  
First Baptist Church  
5026 Foothill Rd  
Carpinteria, CA