

the Proclaimer

January 2018

Volume 31 Issue 1



Have a wonderfully blessed 2018



*From your
TFB Staff:*

Back row, l. to r.: Peggy Moore (Front Desk Volunteer), Karen Davis, (Bookkeeper), Pastor Charlie, Sharlene Jackson (Receptionist), Karla Gaines (Children's Ministries Director), Pastor Rog; front row, l. to r.: Jay Kim (Jr. High Director), Matt Strand (High School Director), Bethany Landen (Children's Ministries Assistant), Tammy Hurtado (Nursery Coordinator), Sonja Sealey (Office Lead), Andrea Lavoie (Secretary), Ann Pursche (Volunteer Administrator), Barbara Harvey (Front Desk Volunteer), and Pam Fisher (former Pianist); Absent: Randy Stager (Blended Worship Leader/Choir Director), Daniel Marion (Contemporary Worship Leader), and Kate Bode (Pianist)



ATTENTION ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS & GROUP LEADERS

Please note that your reports are due on or before **January 7, 2018**, so that they can be included in the 2017 Year-End Report that will be made available to the congregation at the Annual Meeting on January 28, 2018.

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Proclaimers are also available for viewing and printing on-line: www.tfbclife.org

From the Pastor's Heart



“Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.” President Kennedy expressed this in a speech back in the sixties igniting a vision for civil service in our country and around the world.

As we enter the year 2018, I would like to suggest a twist on President Kennedy’s phrase: Ask not what God can do for you; ask what you can do for God.

This asking flows out of a genuine heart of gratitude for all God and Christ have done and continue to do for us. Our passion for serving the Lord grows as our love for Him grows. This asking is not because God needs something but because we need something—we need to experience the joy and meaning of life that serving God brings to our souls.

So when we ask God what we can do for Him, we do so, not to meet a need of His, or to earn points with Him or with others, but because we want Him to be honored; we want our Savior and Lord to be the center of our lives and for people to see Him in us and, as a result, come to know Him and grow in Him.

Let me suggest some questions you can ask yourself to open up

your mind and heart as to how God might want you to serve Him in 2018:

- What would I like to do for God in 2018?
- In what ways would I like to make a difference with my life for God?
- How might God work through me in my everyday life to honor Him?
- Who in my life needs Jesus, and how might I show Jesus to them in 2018?
- How might I encourage and help fellow believers in their walk with God in 2018?
- How might I help my church family thrive in 2018?
- God, what do you want to do through me in 2018?

In pursuit together of serving God,
Pastor Charlie

Reflections by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

It does not seem possible, but we are about to enter a brand new year—2018. So much has happened this past year, and so much more is about to take place. How thankful I am that our Lord is in complete control of all things. Everything is filtered through Him, so we can take encouragement in knowing that He is aware of all things before they touch our lives. Praise Him!

Now, we do not know what will come into our lives this next year, but thankfully we know where to go in time of need. God’s Word reminds each of us of our SAFE PLACE—a place which cannot be moved or done away with. We are told of this safe place throughout the Scriptures, but may I remind us of the one mentioned in Hebrews 4:14-16:

“Therefore, since we have a great High Priest Who has ascended into heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a High Priest Who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one Who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

Where is our safe place? The throne of grace. Who is waiting for us there? The Lord Jesus, our great High Priest. What will He do for us? He will sympathize with our weaknesses, cleanse us of our sin, minister to our needs, and give us



renewed strength for each new day. Yes, dear family, this alone is our safe place. How thankful I am for a Savior Who is absolutely faithful and available to meet with us 24/7. Hallelujah, what a Savior!

As we start this new year, please be assured that our Lord is always there at the SAFE PLACE waiting for you.

From our home to yours, Joyce and I wish you a blessed and safe New Year.

Trusting only in Him,
Pastor Rog

You're invited



&



*It's time for
Our annual Potluck
and Business Meeting
Sunday, January 28
5:30 p.m.*

We will meet in the Gym and review the year that has passed, give thanks to the Lord for what He has done, and focus on the vision He has given us for 2018. A-M, bring a salad or dessert; N-Z, bring a main dish.

2018 Offering Envelopes

New Offering envelopes for 2018 are in the foyer. If you don't have any assigned to you but would like some, please call Terri Mullin, 310/629-0396.



Pastor's Orientation Class

If you are interested in joining Torrance First Baptist Church, sign up for Pastor Charlie's Orientation Class, which will be held on **Saturday, January 27, 2018, from 9 a.m.-12 noon.** This class is a pre-requisite for anyone who wants to become a member of TFB, but it is also for those who just want to know more about our church and what we believe. Call the church office or sign up in the patio beginning January 7.



Introducing **Kate Bode**, who is our new 2nd service worship pianist. Kate is from Virginia (near Washington D.C.), and is a Junior at BIOLA University. She is majoring in Music with a piano performance emphasis. Recently (on December 10) she played a solo at Carnegie Hall in New York!!

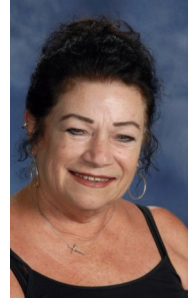
She is happy to be here at TFB and has commented that she is very grateful for the warm reception she has received. Many of you have heard her and are awed by her God-given talent.

We are so blessed to have her!



As we say hello to Kate, we also want to say "Thank you!" to **Pam Fisher**, who has decided to retire after over a decade of wonderful service to TFB as our pianist.

Thank you, Pam, for using your talent to bless Torrance First Baptist Church for all of those years!



Perspectives
on the World Christian Movement™

King's Harbor Church is inviting TFB members to join them for a 15-week course (January 22-April 30, 2018) in Biblical, historical, cultural, and strategic analysis of the impact of the world Christian movement. Each of the 4 vantage points or "perspectives" highlights different aspects of God's global purpose. The cost is \$275, but if you register before December 31, 2017, you can save \$50. Contact Neville Hardy, 310/328-7363, for more details.



Events

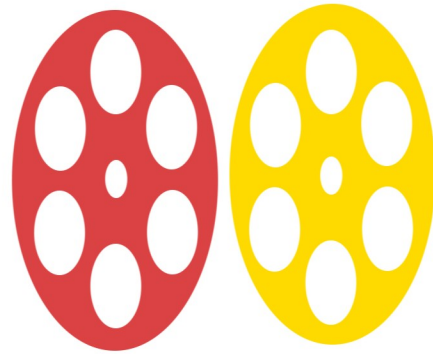


Tournament
Saturday, January 20, 2018

Meet here at the church at 9:00 a.m. so that we can carpool to the Downey First Baptist Church, 8348 - 3rd Street, in Downey.

We will be in competition with other churches and are looking to bring home the gold!

Pizza will be provided for all.



Movie Night
January 21
6 p.m.

with pizza, drinks,
and snacks

New College Group Starting
Thursday, January 4
7 p.m.

See Ann or Matt for details.



WINTER CAMPS

High School ~ February 16-19 at Camp Edwards in Big Bear ~ \$100

Jr. High ~ Information coming

Juniors (3rd-6th grades) ~ February 23-25 at Forest Home ~ \$175

Sign up now with a \$50 deposit.

If you'd like to help a youngster go to camp, who could not otherwise afford it, please write *"Camp Scholarship Fund"* on your envelope.



Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

Please remember that Dinner Night (2nd Saturday of the month) and Game Night (4th Saturday of the month) are great opportunities to invite friends, whether they attend TFB, go to another church, or don't go to church at all.



Dinner Night ~ Saturday, January 13, 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at El Pollo Inka, 23705 Hawthorne Blvd. (West side of Hawthorne at Skypark Drive.



Game Night ~ Saturday, January 27, at 6:30 p.m. ~ Meet at Gloria Pedersen's, 817 Amapola Avenue, Old Towne Torrance. Bring drinks and snacks to share.



For additional questions, suggestions, or more information, call Gloria, 562/505-4495.

TFB Academy

"Bibliology ~ The Doctrine of Scripture"

By Laura K. by Springer, M.Div., Th.M.

Throughout 2018, we will be looking at the Doctrine of Scripture, known as Bibliology. This month, we look at its unity, truth, significance, and power.

The Bible is one text. The Christian Bible is composed of the Old Testament (39 books, also known as the *TaNaKh*) and the New Testament (27 books). The *TaNaKh* was finalized in 20 BC and was the Scripture used by Jesus and his apostles and mentioned in the New Testament. The 27 books of the New Testament were written in the first century AD and recognized as Scripture by the church as the New Testament Canon. The church officially declared the canon closed in AD 397 (*canonicity*).

The Christian Bible was written by around 40 human authors and one divine author, God, over the span of about 2,000 years. Despite the many human authors and the span of years, the Bible is one text. It is God's communication of himself in text (*revelation*) and was breathed out by God (*inspiration*) and written by human authors.

The Bible is true. It is without error in what it affirms (*inerrancy*), for what it says happened, actually happened, and the truths it proclaims are true. It will not fail to achieve the purposes God has for it (*infallibility*).

The Bible is significant. While nature reveals God's power and divinity (Romans 1:20), the written Word reveals Christ, law, salvation, and much more. It is important to understand this written text, for understanding is good (John 20:31; 1 John 5:13).

The Bible is powerful. It works in the lives of the people of God, teaching, reproof, correcting, and instructing in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16-17). As believers read and study the Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us its import (*illumination*) and guides us as we seek to understand what it says and what it means (*interpretation*).

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work"

(2 Timothy 3:16-17, ESV)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Happy New Year Office Closed	2	3	4	5 All day prep for Loaves & Fishes 7p Married Couples (any age)	6 11a Loaves & Fishes
7 2:30p Sing at Royalwood	8	9	10	11 7p Beacon Light Mission	12	13 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out
14 5:20p Prayer Gathering	15 7p Finance & FacMan Teams	16 6p Ministry Teams: Fellowship, GO, Outreach, Worship, & Disc. Dev. 7p Deacon/ess Mtngs	17	18	19 6p Kids' Night Out 7p Married Couples (any age)	20 9a HS Dodgeball 7p Share & Care
21 6p H.S. Movie Night	22	23	24	25	26	27 9a Pastor's Orientation Class 6:30p Singles' Game Night
28 5:30 p.m. Potluck & Annual Meeting	29	30	31			

Recurring Weekly Events:

Sunday

Worship Services:

9:15 a.m., 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Adult Sunday School, 9:15 & 11 a.m.
Children's Church, 9:15 a.m.
Patio Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.
Children & Youth S.S., 11 a.m.
Handbell Practice, 4 p.m.

Monday

Ladies' Prayer, 10:00 a.m.
King's Family Karate, 6:30 p.m.
Men's BSF, 6:55 p.m.
**[all the above, except 1/1; and Karate
begins again on 1/15]**

Tuesday

High School Leadership, 5:30 p.m.
High School C4, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

Family Dinner, 6 p.m.
Colossians Kids, 6:30 p.m.
Jr. High QUEST, 6:30 p.m.
"Crazy Love" Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.
Parenting Fellowship Group, 6:30 p.m.
Choir Practice, 7 p.m.
[All the above except 1/3]
Open Volleyball, 8:15 p.m.

Thursday

Ladies' Bible Study, 2 p.m.
College Group, 7 p.m.
7th Day Adventist Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Friday

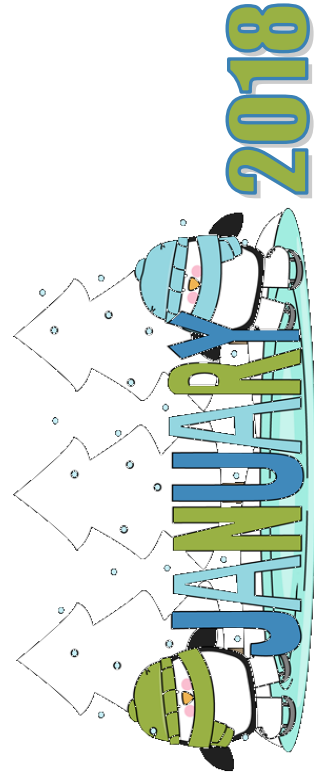
Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst., 9 a.m.

Saturday

Men's BSF Leaders, 6 a.m.
7th Day Adventist Baptists, 9 a.m.

Upcoming February Events

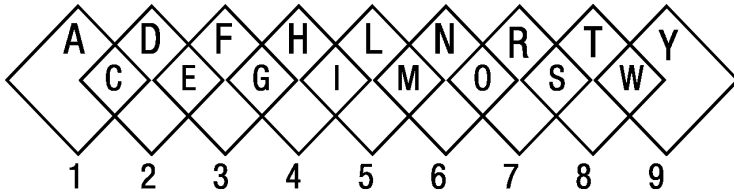
- 2/3 ~ Loaves & Fishes, 11a
- 2/10 ~ Singles' Dinner Out, 6:30p
- 2/16 ~ Senior Luncheon, 12n
- 2/16-19 ~ High School Camp at Camp Edwards
- 2/16 ~ Kids' Night Out, 6p
- 2/23-25 ~ Junior Camp at Forest Home
- 2/24 ~ Singles' Game Night, 6:30p





“A New Year – A New You”

Find the words from 2 Corinthians 5:17.



“ e
 8 4 2,3 7 2,3 3 6,7 7 2,3 4,5 3

1 6 9 6,7 6 2,3 4,5 7,8 4,5 6

1,2 4 7 4,5 7,8 8 4 2,3 4,5 7,8 1

6 2,3 8,9 1,2 7 2,3 1 8 4,5 6,7 6 ;



8 4 2,3 6,7 5 2 4 1 7,8

3,4 6,7 6 2,3 8 4 2,3

6 2,3 8,9 4 1 7,8

! ”
 1,2 6,7 5,6 2,3

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

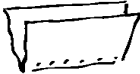

Celebrate “A New Year and A New You!”

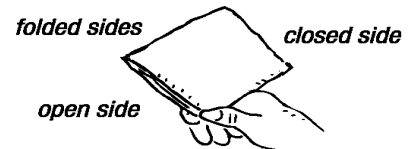
Make a paper noisemaker to celebrate with.

You will need:

- * a piece of notebook or copier paper
- * crayons or markers
- * ruler
- * scissors

How to:

1. Cut a piece of paper 7" or 8" square.
2. Color it or write “Happy New Year & Happy New You” on it.
3. Fold paper almost in half. The bottom edge should be 1/2" from the top. Crease the fold well. 
4. Fold in half side-to-side with the shorter flap inside. Crease well. 
5. Hold the paper tightly between thumb and index finger at open corner where there are only 2 thicknesses.
6. Quickly flick your arm and wrist downward. The inside paper will pop out and make a loud snap.



Kids Night Out

—parents night off—



3rd Friday of each month
 January 19 ~ 6-9 p.m.

Parents, leave the kids (infants through 5th grade) to have dinner and a movie with us while you enjoy a night out together. We are asking for a donation of \$3/child.



transformation ^{*} MINISTRIES

“Now to Him Who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen” (Ephesians 3:20-21).

Dear First Baptist Church of Torrance,

On a regular basis, I have the amazing and joyful experience of joining with congregations and leaders in Transformation Ministries. It is my privilege to “thank and remind” as I travel around [for] TM. First “Thank you for your generous partnership in our common MISSION!” Second: I remind each one that God is accomplishing incredible things through our common MISSION that no one leader or single congregation could accomplish alone. Yet together, we are!

On a recent Sunday, I was bringing greetings and celebrating with Madison Baptist Church in Phoenix, AZ, at the installation of their new Lead Pastor. Meanwhile hundreds of miles away in Pasadena, California, Unite Church was launching on its very first Sunday! Just a few days later, a Search Team in California made its recommendation to call a new pastor and two more TM churches indicated their need for help with the process of prayerfully searching for a new pastor or entering into a time of health assessment. Oh, and a group of pastors leading Cuban American churches in Miami, Florida made plans to connect with church planters in SoCal for encouragement and equipping. On a weekly basis, leaders are connected and supported, churches receive vital assistance in a multitude of areas, and hundreds of pastors and leaders in TM generously connect and share.

*“...churches receive vital assistance
in a multitude of areas...”*

Please know your faithful and generous support of TM is making a difference. For that reason, it is with sincere gratitude I acknowledge your gift of \$758.33.

Transformation Ministries exists to see every pastor growing and developing spiritually, every church healthy, and every community transformed for Christ. When you give to TM, lives are transformed through TM. Your gift does indeed make a difference. Your support of Transformation Ministries is essential to the ongoing work of encouraging and equipping over 180 churches in thirteen (13) states across the US and now in Mexico. God has given us the vision to continue to effectively serve our current leaders and churches and grow by eighty-five (85) new churches by the year 2020. That’s a big goal—and we are well on our way to seeing it happen.

Standing with you for Him,
Dr. William C. Nolte, Mission Lead

*Transformation Ministries is an Association of 180 churches that is committed to transforming lives and spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. TFB is happy to be a part of this association.

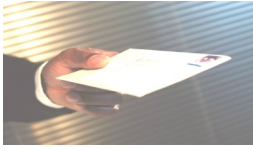
Pregnancy Help Center Baby Bottle Campaign



We will be distributing empty baby bottles in January to be filled with your monetary donations to help mothers save the lives of their preborn children.

Your filled bottles will be collected on February 11.

All funds will go directly to aid the Pregnancy Help Center to continue to provide free services like pregnancy testing and ultrasound to the South Bay and to give counseling, education, and practical assistance to help women who are facing a crisis pregnancy to choose life for their baby.



We Get Mail

Dear TFB Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
 Thank you for sending me the lovely plant because of my mother's passing. She is in Heaven with her Heavenly Father and my Father, her husband. I know she is very happy and at peace, so I cannot be sad.

In His Name,
 Nancy Christensen

The Thanksgiving lunch that Don and Mary delivered warm was excellent and plenty for two meals. I made broccoli/cheese soup with the abundance. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Sincerely,
 Lea Douglas

Thank you for all the years you have sent me the church paper. I recognize a few of the people after all these years! I loved the church!!

Oma Northamer

I would like to thank those that contributed recyclables for most of 2017 to help fund the cost of my Boy Scout Eagle project: Dr. Gregg Kellogg, Pastor & Mrs. Charlie Rice, Brenda-Jean Shephard, and Angie Subala.

The project was completed on December 2, and I look forward to getting my award next year.

Sincerely,
 A. J. Sigsbury



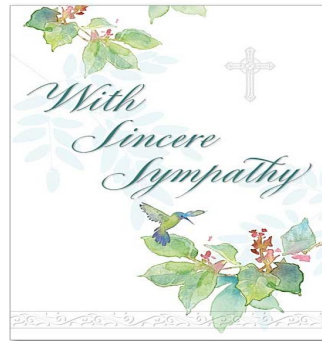
Flower Calendar

If you would like to celebrate a special event in your life or honor a loved one in 2018, please sign up to reserve your preferred date on the calendar in the foyer. Choose one date per family until all have had an opportunity to sign up and only one sign-up per date. You may make your **tax deductible** payment of \$70 anytime before your chosen date. Mark your envelope "*TFB Flower Donation*" to get credit for your gift.

Christmas Card Exchange



Please make sure to check the box in the foyer to make sure there are no Christmas cards remaining in it for you. We will not be able to forward by mail any cards that are left over. The box will be in the foyer through January 7.



Please pray for the family of TFB member Iris Daniher, as she is now with the Lord.



Michael Banfield, Reba Belcher, Mila Boyer, Julie Cochran, Tom Cochran, Gloria Deering, Leah Douglas, Virgie Fletcher, Earl & Jean Forman, Dutchess Gattis, Mary Jacobsen, Joanne Jenkins, Helen Kessenich, Joan Kindt, Mary Larsen, Joy Moore, Bill Morgan, Joy Pierson, Darlene Purdom, Penny Rahmeyer, Jean Rayner, Connie Reimer, Barbara Rudé, Claudine Schultz, Mary Schultz, Chris Spitzer, Bill & Gerri Stoodley, Norma Vinsonhaler, and Gertie Wissinger.

TFB Tithes & Offerings



Thank you for giving approximately \$41,558 in the month of November.



Smile
like
a
child



“A merry heart does good, like medicine” (Proverbs 17:22, NKJV).

The Proclaimer is a monthly publication of the First Baptist Church of Torrance, California, located at 2118 West Carson Street (6 blocks east of Crenshaw). Sunday services: 9:15 a.m. Worship Gathering (Contemporary Service); 11:00 a.m. Blended Service (with Sunday School for all ages); and 6:00 p.m. Evening Service. Mid-week events for children and students: College NeXus; High School C4; Jr. High Quest; and *Colossians Kids* for children.

For more information, contact the church office: 310.328.5030 or tfbc@pacbell.net. Or visit us on the web at www.tfbcilife.org