



MVCF VILLAGER

January 2009

Issue No. 0109

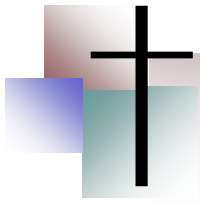
MISSION VILLAGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Carl Baker, Pastor
2650 Melbourne Drive
San Diego, CA 92123

858.278.2633 ~ FAX 858.278.3330
Email: missionvillage1@sbcglobal.net
www.mvcf.net

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| ◆ 8:30 a.m. Sunday | Adult Education Class |
| ◆ 9:30 a.m. Sunday | Worship Service |
| ◆ 10:00 a.m. Sunday | Children's Bible Adventures |



A SERVANT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Church Family,

Another new year is upon us. I said in my article last year that January first was my favorite day of the year. I suppose it's partly because it symbolizes another chance to get things right. And maybe it's because another year has passed and I'm still here. Being alive is a reason to celebrate. But it certainly isn't a noble reason or one to brag about. So, to me, being alive just isn't enough. I want to say at the end of the year that I have lived life to the fullest. Jesus said in John 10:10b, "*I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly*". (KJV)

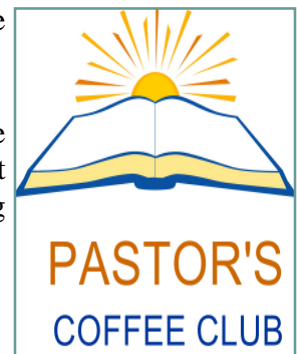
I have watched Christians, myself included, over the years. Many of us don't live life to the fullest, yet that is exactly what Jesus promised. So, what's the problem? Let me give you three possibilities why I believe so many people are living below the spiritual poverty line.

1. We become inward focused. Sometimes lack of joy comes from watching others who are experiencing the blessings of God. We can become so inwardly focused that we get a great big case of the "woe is me's". Trust me, you don't want the "woe is me's". You want a forward focused, positive outlook that allows you to see the blessings of God in your life and in the lives of others. When you get to this place, you'll begin to rejoice no matter how bad things get.
2. We forget that our timeline for life is just beginning in this world, no matter how old we are. We're citizens of a better country, a heavenly dwelling. We have life eternal. We need to celebrate this fact everyday with thanks giving and praise to the One who has made it possible. The present cannot get too bad with a future that is so bright.
3. We compare what we have to what others have. Bad mistake! When we start doing this, the "woe is me's" have just about got us. Why? Because no matter how much you have, there is someone, somewhere with more. It's not until you have celebrated what you have, that you can start celebrating with people who have more. The only way to true joy is learning to weep with those who weep and to rejoice with those who rejoice.

The apostle Paul said, "*for me to live is Christ*". If I am living in Christ, there is reason to face the New Year with anticipation and joy. And it doesn't matter what I don't have. What matters is that I begin the year by thanking God for what I do have.

Wishing You a Happy and Joyous New Year,

Pastor Carl



Wed, Jan. 14

10:00 a.m.

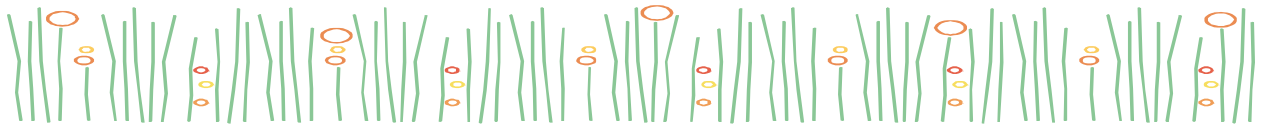
Get ready for Epiphany

Many Christian denominations celebrate Epiphany each year on or near January 6. “Epiphany,” which means “showing forth,” celebrates the visit of the magi, or wise men, to the baby Jesus. These men, also known as kings, saw the star that led them to Bethlehem.

The fact that these wise men were Gentiles, not Jews, teaches us an important theological lesson: Their search for the Savior shows that Jesus came for all people.

In 1875, Philip Bliss wrote the hymn “The Light of the World Is Jesus.” The first stanza captures the meaning of Epiphany, a season of light:

The whole world was lost
In the darkness of sin,
The Light of the world is Jesus!
Like sunshine at noonday,
His glory shone in.
The Light of the world is Jesus!



**O Come
Let us
Adore
Him**



Epiphany Worship Celebration

Celebrating Friendship & Unity

Sunday, January 4, 2009

At 11:00 a.m.

**Trinity Korean Presbyterian Church & Living Word
Christian Fellowship will be joining us for worship &
fellowship, bring your favorite dish to share!**



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The following staff positions are currently open:

Application Programmer Analyst
Benefits Coordinator
Chief Information Officer
Community Ministries Assistant – part time
Credential Analyst (Bakersfield)
Director, Undergraduate Admissions
Landscape Project Supervisor
Office Assistant/Receptionist – part time (Bakersfield)
Payroll Assistant, part time
PC Technician
SFS Loan Assistant
Web Designer/Developer

For more information, click [HERE](#) (or type in the web address below) to access the job postings. Please send this list to anyone you know who may be looking for a new job.

Thanks,

Wendy Berchek
Human Resources Assistant
Office of Human Resources
Point Loma Nazarene University

<http://www.pointloma.edu/HumanResources/Employment.htm>

What is a Prayer Quilt?

- Can you touch a prayer?
- Can you pull it close and feel its comfort?
- You can if it's part of a prayer quilt.

The idea behind these quilts is simple, yet powerful. A heavy thread is used to take stitches through the quilt layers, and the ends are left free to be tied with a square knot. As each knot is tied, a silent prayer is offered for someone in special need — someone who has asked us to pray for them. The quilt is then given to that person. What makes each quilt so special is not the pattern, color or workmanship, but the fact that prayer is symbolically tied into each one. These comforters are a statement of faith, and a testimony to our belief in God and in the power of prayer.



Prayers & Squares, The Prayer Quilt Ministry, began in 1992 at Hope United Methodist Church in San Diego, California. Since then the ministry has expanded to include chapters in churches of many different denominations across the world.

Through Prayers & Squares, thousands of quilts have been distributed, each a special gift of love. They have been made for sick babies, for cancer and AIDS patients, for adults and children facing surgery or difficult family situations — for many reasons, but each for someone in special need of the healing power of prayer.

Would you like to learn more about how you can help with or support this ministry? Here's what you can do:

Donate Materials

Fabric
Tone on Tone Backing
Sewing Thread
#5 Pearl Cotton
Batting

Donate Time

Machine Sew-ers
Hand Sew-ers
Tie Placement

For more information contact the church office 858.278.2633

Senior Lunches



MVCF-Common Ground Café hosts the Living Well Senior Lunches on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday every week at 11:00 a.m. for a donation of \$3.50 a meal.

The menu is posted on the bulletin board by the Church Office and in the café.

For reservations, please call Beverly at least two days in advance at 858.571.2994.

FOUNDATIONS - MVCF Youth Group

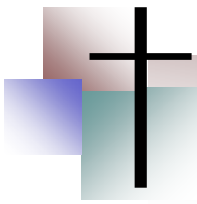
Wednesdays

7pm at MVCF Youth Room

See Caleb Hummel or Luke Jacobs For More Information

Check Out the FOUNDATIONS Blog at

<http://mvcfyouth.blogspot.com>



FELLOWSHIP

Dear Church family,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

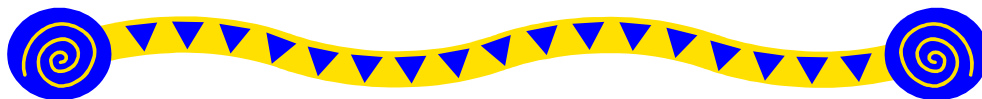
Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised because he continues to do immeasurably more than we can ask or think. Last month, I sent out an email asking for help for coffee set up. Well, it's my pleasure to report that my elves and I are smiling now! We would like to thank all the ladies and gentleman who have responded to our distress call. It is a great delight to have you all on board. If she hasn't done so already, our dear beloved Mary Jo will be providing the necessary training for the coffee set up. God bless all of you our new elves and welcome to the Fellowship Ministry!

Now, the fellowship ministry still needs more hands - not for coffee set up this time - but for clean up after fellowship. If you are one who particularly likes to stay long after fellowship is over, or if you simply like to be of help putting stuff away and cleaning the kitchen, please consider offering your services. All of us will be blessed by it. Remember, the 'more' the merrier and more hands make light work. Believe me it is merry in that kitchen after fellowship.

On another note, I would like to remind everyone that this year we are beginning what we call 'Celebration Sunday' on the last Sunday of each month. This event will be hosted by different Home Fellowships. It entails providing a lunch for the church body based on a theme of your choice. The first celebration falls on January 25th and will be hosted by the Adjibolosoo HF members. The theme we have chosen for this day is UNITED NATIONS. If you do not actively belong to a HF we will contact you to ally yourself with one for the purposes of making a contribution.

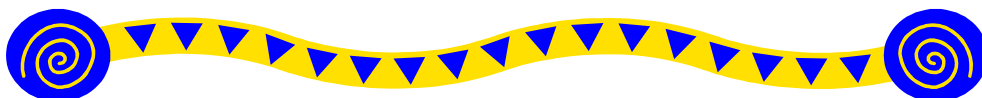
God bless you all. The Lord is our strength. Have a wondrous new year.

Sabina



"Celebration Sunday"

After service Sunday, January 25
Adjibolosoo Home Fellowship will be providing
United Nations Treat!





JANUARY CALENDAR

Thurs	1	New Years Day - Office Closed
Fri	2	Office Closed
Sat	3	Open
Sun	4	Epiphany Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Potluck to Follow Service Kearny Mesa Convalescent Visit - 3:00 p.m.
Mon	5	Home Fellowship - June's - 2:00 p.m.
Tues	6	Open
Wed	7	Prayer Meeting & Youth Group - 7:00 p.m.
Thurs	9	PanHandlers - 9:00 a.m.
Sat	10	God's Extended Hand - 8:00 a.m.
Sun	11	Adult Sunday School - 8:30 a.m. MCRD - 9:00 a.m. Worship Service - 9:30 a.m. Immanuel Convalescent Visit - 2:00 p.m.
Mon	12	Home Fellowship - June's - 2:00 p.m.
Tues	13	Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Wed	14	Pastor's Coffee Club - 10:00 a.m. Prayer Meeting & Youth Group - 7:00 p.m.
Thurs	15	Home Fellowship - Thibodeaux - 7:00 p.m.
Fri	16	Home Fellowship - Armstead - 7:00 p.m.
Sat	17	Men's Breakfast & WorkParty - 8:00 a.m. FASD Food Distribution - 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Sun	18	Adult Sunday School - 8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 9:30 a.m.
Mon	19	Home Fellowship - June's - 2:00 p.m.
Tues	20	Open
Wed	21	Prayer Meeting & Youth Group - 7:00 p.m.
Thurs	22	Home Fellowship - Thibodeaux - 7:00 p.m.
Fri	23	Home Fellowship - Armstead - 7:00 p.m.
Sat	24	Open
Sun	25	Adult Sunday School - 8:30 a.m. Worship Service - 9:30 a.m. Immanuel Convalescent Visit - 2:00 p.m.
Mon	26	Home Fellowship - June's - 2:00 p.m.
Tues	27	Open
Wed	28	Prayer Meeting & Youth Group - 7:00 p.m.
Thurs	29	Home Fellowship - Thibodeaux - 7:00 p.m.
Fri	30	Home Fellowship - Armstead - 7:00 p.m.
Sat	31	Open

To view the complete MVCF calendar, go to:
www.mvcf.net and click on [Calendar of Events](#).

WWJD key chain



This craft is a reminder of Jesus' perfect example for us. When we ask "What Would Jesus Do?" we can build our character to be more like his.

What you need:

- 16 inches of bead and jewelry cord (about 1 mm thick)
- 32 mm split ring (key ring)
- 4 wooden beads (about 1 cm or $\frac{3}{8}$ ")
- 5 jewelry beads (plastic or wooden, about $\frac{1}{2}$ cm or $\frac{1}{2}$ ")
- black permanent marker

What you do:

1. Fold your jewelry cord in half.
2. Put the loop of the jewelry cord through the split ring.
3. Put the ends of the cord through the loop to make a knot.
4. Thread the two ends through one of your small beads.
5. Then thread the rest of the beads (alternating between small and large, ending with a small bead).
6. Tie two or three knots at the end to hold the beads in place.
7. With a permanent marker, write a letter (W, W, J and D) on each of the four wooden beads. On the opposite side of each bead, write the same letter.

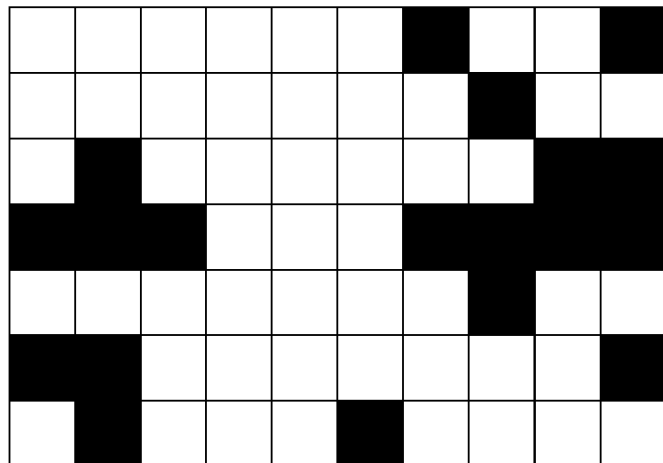


CHARACTER THAT PLEASES

The New Year is a time for renewed commitments and changes in our behavior. Complete the puzzle below to see whose example is worthy of imitating or copying.

Match the blocks of spaces and letters to finish the NIV Bible verse.

Y	■	M	L	L	O	W	F	O
A	S	E,	A	M	P	L	E	X
■	■	O	W	F	L	L	■	■
O	F	E	A	M	P	L	E	X
.	■	S	C	H	R	I	■	■
:	1	1	1	C	O	R	1	■



Answer: Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. 1 Cor. 11:1



WHAT IS IN THE NEXT LIFE?

After this life, we have the opportunity for a wonderful life in eternity. Many questions come to mind; some of them are as follows...

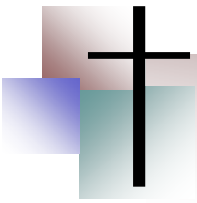
What happens immediately after this life is over? The body is asleep and decays until resurrection (Ecclesiastes 12:7), but the spirit is conscious of whether it is in Heaven or Hell. (Luke 16:22-31). You will have an active personality of emotion and intellect (Rev. 6:9-11). Those in heaven are present with Jesus (Phil. 1:23, 2 Cor. 5:8), and those who have gone to Hell are tormented in flames (Luke 16:24). This is the initial judgment, called the judgment of faith. Some call this the intermediate Heaven. At Jesus' second coming the body and spirit (or soul) are reunited, and there is the final judgment, a judgment of works. This is a final determination of degrees of reward for those in heaven and degrees of punishment in hell (2 Tim. 2:12; Rev. 2:26-28, 3:21).

Can we see what is happening down on earth? Bear with me on this one. Some point to Rev. 6:10, where martyrs await judgment for those that murdered them on earth, and say yes, but to me I'm not certain as to whether this is a judgment, or the final judgment, and the final judgment itself can be used as an indicator as to whether justice has been done. Others point to Heb. 12:1, which some feel points to those above watching us on earth running "...the race before us." However, to me, those witnesses are in reference to Heb. 11:1-39, and it's not clear if they were witnesses of us on earth or of God's fulfillment of His promises in the intermediate Heaven of those who died before us. Some quote Rev. 21:3-4 where every tear is wiped away as meaning God would let us see good on earth, but that seems a stretch. Luke 16 shows that we can communicate after death between those in heaven and hell before the final judgment, but not to those on earth, and again does not mention whether we can directly see what is happening on earth. However, Rev. 19:1-5 speaks of a great multitude in heaven shouting hallelujah, praising God for specific judgments by Him toward evil on earth. I'll say yes and hang my hat on that.

We know that God knows all the sins we've done. Will others find out all the bad stuff I've done that no one knew about? As a child, I broke a window playing baseball with a friend and ran away without telling anyone else. Will it come out in the final judgment for all to know? Malachi 3-16 is referred to by some as a record of everything we have done, good and bad, but that seems like a stretch. It speaks of a "scroll of remembrance" for those saved, and the context reads as if only the good is on there. Rev. 21:4 mentions every tear will be wiped away, and others point to this as only the good of those saved is remembered by God. There are degrees of suffering in hell—is that the only way we'll know about bad things that happened? For me, there is no answer...

What else? We will eat (Luke 24:42-43), play sports (1 Cor. 9:24, 27, 2 Tim 2:5), wear clothes of white robes (Rev. 3:4; 6:11), no marriage, nor sex (Matt. 22:28-30), no need to sleep (Rev. 21:25), will look the same (Rev. 21:24), recognize our friends (Matt. 27:52-53), but there is no reference to what age we'll be. We will be able to speak and understand each other, though we don't know what language, and will live on a new earth (Rev. 21:1). Rev. 22:3 says our work will be serving the Lord, but our new bodies will not tire as in our previous life as mentioned in Gen. 3:19.

What a hopeful way to begin the New Year!
May God bless,
Jean Fortanas



SPECIAL EVENTS

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

04—Marjorie Trickett
 07—Senyo Adjibolosoo
 08—Adessa Kingsbury
 14—Cameron Steck
 23—Linda Little
 23—Jacob Kingsbury
 27—Leslie Huffor
 28—L. David Casey

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Roger & June McCollough—02
 Luke & Christina Jacobs—18

HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Angus, Mon @ 2 p.m.
 Thibodeaux, Thurs @ 7 p.m.
 Women's Fellowship, January 9 @ 7 p.m.
 Armstead, Fri @ 7 p.m.

See Bulletin or Call Church Office

(858.278.2633)

for More Information

Every week a group of folks meet to pray for the church, for those who are ill or hurting, and for our land.

We meet at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Please join us.

Food Distribution in Serra Mesa

through Feeding America San Diego Food Bank
 and Mission Village Christian Fellowship Church

Where: Parking Lot of Mission Village Christian Fellowship Church, 2650 Melbourne Dr one block off Mission Village Dr. at Shawn Ave. up the hill from Qualcomm Stadium

When: **Saturday, January 17, 1:00-3:00pm**

Who: If you have a need for food, you can come. For accountability to Feeding America San Diego Food Bank, you will need to sign your name and give an address or phone to receive your food.

Also Needed:
Volunteers to assist in the distribution

Information: 858-278-2633

Mission Village Christian Fellowship Church
 2650 Melbourne Dr.
 San Diego, CA 92123



READY OR NOT HERE COMES 2009

What will 2009 bring our way? Only God knows for sure. That's what makes life exciting (and scary) much of the time. We just do not know what is going to happen next. And yet, we know that if we stay close to Jesus we will make it through the most impossible situations imaginable (& unimaginable).

This past year I enjoyed listening to David Jeremiah some mornings; he is so full of the Spirit when he preaches. His series on Revelation and his book "What in the world is going on" has helped many, including me, this year. I loved his description of the battle of Armageddon – all of us saints have an important part to play in the final epic battle – we get to watch Jesus conquer evil! – Yahoo!

I also read "Mere Christianity" by C. S. Lewis for the first time this year. It was confirming and comforting to me to realize that a lot of what God has taught me about his nature was the exact same as what Mr. Lewis wrote about so simply and eloquently. I guess God hasn't changed much since the 50's (lol). (That's texting shorthand which means "laugh out loud" for all of you non-texters in our church – texting is another thing I started doing in 2008 – with help from my boys).

2008 started out rough for me, as I had to send my friend and roommate Selah off to a nursing home to die of pancreatic cancer – once he needed morphine there were just too many problems. But the Lord has blessed me at the end of the year to bring a cherished friend back into my life, and I don't know what will become of that friendship in 2009. Only God knows for sure. That's what makes life exciting and scary.

I was blessed in 2008 with an increase of work and job security, while most others in my industry (mortgage) were experiencing just the opposite. It's nice not being broke all the time as I was for most of 2002 thru 2007, but in a way I miss the total financial reliance on the Lord that was absolutely necessary during those years. It is good to need the Lord, and dangerous to be wealthy. "God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs." Matthew 5:3 (NLT). Thus I believe that 2009 is going to be a blessed year for America, as more and more people leave the god of materialism behind (whether they do it purposely or not). And we need to respond to those with their lost wealth and missing gods with the kind of caring and concern that Mary Jo and the folks at God's Extended Hand tend to use – the hands-on, practical kind.

It is going to be a good year for evangelism – to tell others what Jesus has done for us personally. I believe more will listen in 2009. We need to take every opportunity during this coming year to share our personal stories (and don't leave out the bad parts, they help hurting folks the most).

So, what will 2009 bring our way? Only God knows for sure. That's what makes life exciting (and scary). Kind of like a roller-coaster. Hold on close to Jesus.

May God bless us all in 2009 and bring us closer in unity with Him as a family, as a church, and as a nation.

Jim Ryer

Mission Village Christian Fellowship

You are invited to worship with us each week and to accompany your children as they participate in our Church School program.

We are a family church and serve every age:

Adult Class..... 8:30 a.m.
 Coffee Fellowship 9:00 a.m.
 Worship & Children's Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m.
 (Coffee Fellowship Following Worship)

**Nursery and toddler care is available
 during Worship Service and Sunday School**

Staff and Leadership

PastorCarl N. Baker
 Ministers ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE CONGREGATION
 Elders Tony DaVee, Chris French, Paul Staley
 Administrative Elder Russ Armstead
 Elder In Training Carl Jensen
 Worship Leader Andrew Winger
 Support and Counseling Ministry Janetta Stephen
 Youth Pastor Caleb Hummel
 Administrative Assistant Ronda Adams
 Newsletter Editor Terri Loren

Council Members

Moderator	David Casey
Clerk	Jennifer McKinney
Financial Secretary	Tony DaVee
Treasurer	Ronda Adams
Finance	Kathleen Staley
Children's Ministry	Joel McKinney
Youth Ministry	Luke Jacobs
Adult Ministry	Scott Fiori
Stewardship	Mike Loren
Fellowship	Sabina Adjibolosoo
Missions	Brenda Casey
Service	Adande Washington

Evangelism



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