



MVCF VILLAGER

November 2011

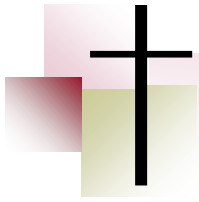
MISSION VILLAGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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 Sunday School |
| ◆ 9:30 a.m. Sunday | Worship Service |
| ◆ 10:00 a.m. Sunday | Children's Bible Adventures |



A SERVANT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Church Family,

This month I am sharing the third and final installment of my journal of my trip to Ethiopia. Please understand that this was written as notes and there may be a few incomplete sentences. The pictures we showed on October 16th are now on the web site for those who were not able to be here that day. www.mvcf.net

Friday July 29, 2011

Woke up at 4 am very sick. The entire day was a wash except for a three hour meeting with the Ethiopian church leaders. I made it through the meeting and went to bed. More of the same into the night. Senyo and Admasu kept me company and prayed over me. The power of prayer and the company of good Christian friends is amazing when you're 9000 miles from home.

Saturday, July 30, 2011

We're meeting the Gore HIV orphans this morning at nine and then heading back to Addis. Being sick in a third world country is hard. No Kaiser and so far from everything. But we have accomplished what we came for with a couple of things yet to do. The only thing we didn't get done was Sunday with the Sardo congregation. Doesn't look like that will happen now. I sent greetings.

The ride from here (Mettu) to Addis was better than an E ticket. The driver uses the white line as a suggestion as do most Ethiopians. Even on hills and around corners. A man and a goat were walking across the road. We just went right between them. Horns here are for notification. Everybody uses them. They are not used to show irritation. People just move out of the way when the horn blows. The car always has the right away. A little entrepreneurial girl came to the window while we were stopped in the road at a village. Cute as could be. Too shy to take a picture but very forward in her salesmanship.

We did the entire 400 miles in one day. Talk about a hard drive. Totally exhausting. We stayed up and talked quite awhile. We laughed about the driver. We praised the Lord for getting us here safe. The driver listened to and sang along with music tapes. It sounded like one song that lasted four hours with no breaks. He finally wanted to get a different tape. I obliged. Guess what? Same song - four more hours. If I had understood the language it might have been better. It was African style with the same cadence throughout. We decided to sleep in and do breakfast/lunch around 10am. I probably will take it easy. It's a long plane ride home.

These people are beautiful. The ladies are very attractive and come out of huts wearing skirts and colorful blouses. Constantly people are holding out corn or eggs or a live chicken to sell. An experience that I'll never forget. As for repeating it, I will need some time to process it. I never would have believed that the culture shock would be so great.

I went to sleep about eleven after touching base with the Lord one last time for the day.

Sunday July 31, 2011

It's the Lord's Day and He is good as usual. I fell to sleep quickly and slept all night. Got up about 7. I think this is only the second night that I have slept well. Being back out of the bush country and in the capitol is a help. We're not in Kansas but I can see it from here.

Continued on next page

Went and met Nardos and another little girl. The best part of the entire trip. She is so sweet. Kept shaking our hands. I hugged her several times. Before I left I reached down for a final hug and she kissed me on the cheek. I lost it. Started crying. She is beautiful and dressed like she is a part of a middle class family in America, yet she speaks another language and lives in poverty. May have been the only nice dress she had and she wore it for us.

Today I truly fell in love with Africa.

With all of our business done we tried for a standby ticket. They said the only thing available was first class for \$3000 each or we could hall everything to the airport and hope for a cancellation. The \$3000 was out. Senyo and I are both isle people. The seating is fairly cramped and we were sure we would get middle seats since we were standby. I guess they didn't want any open seats on the flight so they put us both in first class. Didn't know it until we boarded. What a shock. No extra charge either. And we both got isle seats. God is truly good to his own. It's awesome. I was not looking forward to enduring the flight home. Now I'm enjoying it. May watch a movie on my "much bigger" screen than the one I had in coach or I may sleep. Probably get the flight attendant to fluff my pillow. Ha!

Our last dinner in Addis was wonderful. Admasu treated us to an upscale restaurant that served American as well as African food.

Thursday, August 11, 2011

I am still processing the entire adventure but two things are for certain. I would go back in a heartbeat and I will never be the same.

Pastor Carl

Pastor Carl

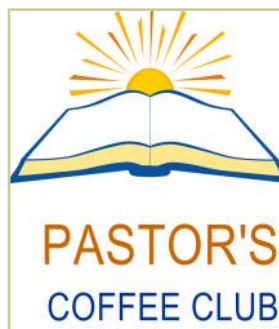
Adult Sunday School



David Casey leads the study and discussion. We meet Sundays in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.

Home Fellowships

- Mondays**—2:00 p.m. June Angus Home
9271 Irvington Ave., 92123 858.277.4156
- Tuesdays**—4:00 p.m. Mary Jo Cooper Home
9165 Rebecca Ave., 92123 858.278.2046
- Thursdays**—7:00 p.m. Thibodeaux Home
3228 Towser St., 92123 858.569.0051
- Fridays**—7:00 p.m. Armstead Home
3336 Stellar Dr., 92123 858.278.3389



Wednesday,
November 9, 2011
10:00 a.m.

Young Adult Home Fellowship
Every Sunday at 6:30 p.m.
Please Call for location 619.337.0616



FAITH PLUS

“Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all.” Galatians 5:2

These strong words came from the Apostle Paul around 48 years after Christ. That’s right, merely half a century later the gospel of grace was already under attack. How you might ask? Let me tell you.

The church at Galatia had been influenced by a group known as the Judaizers. These professing Christians taught that one needed not only to have faith in Christ for salvation, but to follow various works of the Old Testament law. In this specific case, the law was circumcision. The church was being taught and persuaded that not only did one need to believe in Jesus to be saved, but they needed also be circumcised. Modern day Christians may not have issues with Judaizers teaching a faith plus circumcision gospel, but we certainly have a lot of faith plus teachings going around.

Notice Paul’s words to the Galatians: If they begin circumcising themselves, *Christ will mean nothing to them*. How much? Nothing. What is the only way that Jesus could ever mean “nothing” to someone? *If His work is not held in the absolute highest esteem imaginable*. For the Galatian church it was circumcision that “outshined”, and distracted people from the grace of God. What is it for us today?

Take a few moments and think on this. What is it that distracts you from Jesus? No, I am not talking about your job or daily rituals such as reading non-Christian books or watching movies. I am talking about ANYTHING in your life that shrinks the magnificent work of Christ. What exactly are you adding to the gospel?

For me, I was adding confession for forgiveness of sins. Some of you may be thinking “Wait? Really? What kind of teacher are you?!? We are SUPPOSED to confess our sins for forgiveness. Come on! Everyone knows 1 John 1:9!” But the reality is that if we do not believe that we are a hundred percent forgiven solely on the basis of faith in Jesus redeeming work, then we are adding to the gospel. As Andrew Farley puts it, we are “cheating on Jesus.” We on one hand accept His sacrifice as totally sufficient for our sins, while on the other hand, adding “right” behavior to take care of the stuff that He neglected to take care of on the Cross.

1 John 1:9 is one of the main points of cheating on Jesus that exist today. If there was ever something that we like to add to faith, it is confession. The reality is that if this verse does talk about Christians, then we literally lose our salvation every time we sin. That’s right. Check out the language.

*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will **forgive** us our sins and purify us from **all unrighteousness**.” 1 John 1:9*

Farley, Andrew. "Cheating on Jesus." *The naked Gospel: the truth you may never hear in church*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2009. 131. Print.

Continued from previous page

Catch that? Forgive us our sins, and cleanse from what? ALL unrighteousness. I'm sorry to disappoint, but this is salvation talk folks. The only people who are by definition not forgiven and cleansed are those who reject Christ, since Christians by definition are forgiven and righteous people (Romans 3:22). This makes sense when we understand that John was separating light from darkness, those who were of Christ and those who weren't. Those who were not of God, Gnostic teachers, needed to confess (acknowledge) their sins (of which there were many) before God in order to be forgiven and cleansed. After all, we all know that step one to becoming a Christian is recognition of what? Sin! John was not asking Christians to ask for forgiveness. That would be like Bill Gates asking someone for a dollar. He doesn't need it! And neither do believers in Jesus. We have everything we need in Christ.

You now know how I made Christ "of no value" to my life. What is your poison of choice? Good works? Spiritual achievements? Competition? Circumcision?

It's time to check exactly how well we are respecting Jesus' work. Maybe we aren't doing as good a job as we think.

Andy Nelson, Youth Pastor



Legacy Women's Conference

**Ladies mark your calendars for
March 2-4, 2012**

**\$140 for the weekend
all meals included.**

**To sign up register call
858.278.2633**

**There will be a sign up sheet
in the Fellowship Hall
after Service on Sundays.**

Youth Group

7th to 12th grade

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Food Pantry

Open Wednesdays

10:00—2:00 p.m.

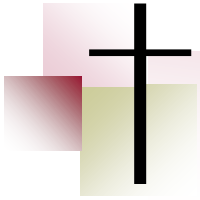
Second Saturday of the month

10:00—2:00 p.m.

Church Camp 2012

May 11-13, 2012

See Scott Fiori to start a payment plan



ARE YOU A FAN OF JESUS—OR?

This message is based on a sermon I heard on October 15th in Paso Robles at the North County Christian Fellowship. It inspired me, so I wish to share it with you.

Are you a fan of Jesus? Do you feel so strongly about Him and His role in your life that you want to identify with Him? Consider these things:

1. A fan is one who sits in the stadium or walks on the side lines and cheers for his favorite team. Do you stand on the side lines and urge Jesus on?
2. A fan buys team clothes and wears team colors to show his support for the team. Do you wear a cross around your neck as the only outward sign so others will know you are a Christian?
3. A fan cheers loudly when the team is winning and boos when it falls behind. Do you support Jesus and God when things are going well and begin to doubt Them when things don't go so well?
4. A fan goes to a party at his friend's house to watch a game on TV. Do you use the church only as a place to go to be with friends?
5. A fan is loyal to his team as long as his friends also root for the team. Do you seek different churches or different religions based upon whom you congregate with?

Does our Lord seek us to be fans? Is all that is required of us is just to be visible supporters of Jesus? The answer obviously is NO! Consider what Jesus said:

1. In Matthew 4:19 Jesus said, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."
2. Matthew 8:22 But Jesus told him, "Follow me and let the dead bury their own dead."
3. Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

The requirement was to FOLLOW HIM. Jesus does not need fans, he needs and demands FOLLOWERS. Just as the fans in the stadium have little or no effect on the performance of the quarterback, so the religious fan has no effect on the performance of our Lord. If we choose to be followers, we stand in the huddle with Jesus as the quarterback as he guides us. If we follow, we not only help ourselves but others to mature in God's sight. We become a team with the True Savior and the Mighty God we serve.

A follower is guided by rules of the Master, not those of his own making. Jesus laid down the conditions of our membership on his team and they provide the basis for our obedience. Being merely a fan doesn't cut it with Him.

Check it out. Are you a fan or a follower?

Russ Armstead

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

PREMIERE EVENT

Wed, Nov 16th
7:00-9:00 PM

WHAT DOES ONE NATION UNDER GOD REALLY MEAN?

We've lost sight of our great heritage as a nation founded on Biblical truth, and the consequences are dire. It's time to reclaim our Biblical heritage and bring God back to the center of American life.

We'll hear top American thinkers and leaders on how to view history and current events in light of God's Word, and how to take action that aligns with His truth.

Mission Village Christian Fellowship
Fellowship Hall
2650 Melbourne Drive, San Diego, CA 92123

To Register:
Call Ronda Adams at 858-278-2633
or Carl Demas at 858-278-9881
cdemas@san.rr.com

Refreshments will be served

Register to attend by: Sun, Nov 13th



Dr. James
Dobson



David
Barton



Newt
Gingrich



Rev. Samuel
Rodriguez



Bob
McEwen



Dr. Timothy
Johnson



Lila
Rose



John
Stemberger



It only takes a gift

We have a blessed opportunity to help restore and enhance the relationship between a child and a parent in prison. In the process of providing that gift, we have the awesome opportunity to be our Lord's instrument helping to restore that eternal relationship between a heavenly Father and his children.

That's the power of a gift given in the love of Jesus Christ

It is very important to note that each gift from us is given on behalf of the parent who is in prison. This is showing the child their parent still loves them.

We have forty children who will get two gifts a piece. We will be partnering with our brother's and sisters at Trinity Presbyterian and Living Word Christian Fellowship.

Help, Help, Help

We need help in preparing for the Angel Tree Kickoff on Sunday November 27th. We need help wrapping the gifts. We also need help delivering the gifts. Please call or text Christopher French for more information at 858-735-5923



THE GREAT
ADVENTure
Workshop

There will be an Advent workshop during Sunday School November 27 for all our children under 12 years old.



*Lutheran HS
Bell Choir*

Sunday, November 27

Celebration Sunday

Fourth Quarter—First Sunday of November—Angus Group

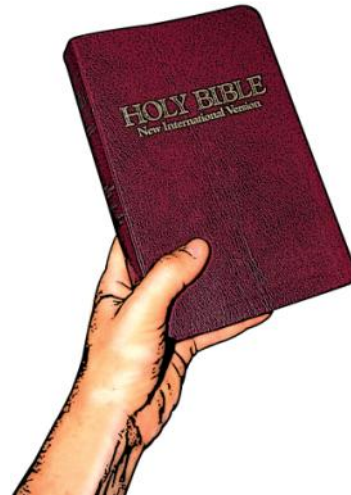
Please see bulletin board in the Café for your Group assignment.

JUST FOR FUN



THIS MONTH'S
birthdays

01—Samuel Millar-Fiori
05—Mignon Armstead
07—Mitch Cook
09—John Nowak
09—Kelley Kingsbury
10—Anna Aray
10—Sara Davidson
14—Eneida Flores
16—Chuck Gibb
16—Carl Jensen
18—Angela Peek
19—Christiana Naputi
21—Scott Fiori
22—Mary Jo Cooper
23—Madysen Adams
24—Ed Robillard
30—Lillian Stone



Some churches observe National Bible Week in November.

According to 2 Timothy, which of the following are ways that God intends for us to use Scripture?

- A. Teaching and training in righteousness
- B. Equipping God's children for good works
- C. Reproof and correction
- D. All of the above

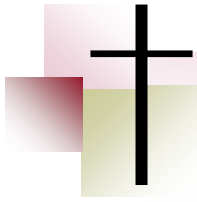
Answer: D (See 2 Timothy 3:16-17.)



November

It is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

- Ephesians 2:8-9



JUST FOR FUN

SIGN OF THANKFULNESS


Create this festive sign, which will serve as a yearlong reminder to be grateful.

What you need:

- Hole punch
- Large piece of cardboard or cardstock
- Twine
- Twigs
- Glue
- Acorns, leaves (real or silk) and raffia

What you do:

1. Punch two holes in the top of the cardboard.
2. Thread twine through the holes and tie it in a knot (for hanging).
3. Using twigs, spell out "Be Thankful," "Thank God" or a similar phrase about gratitude. Glue the twigs onto the cardboard.
4. Decorate the sign by gluing on acorns, leaves and raffia.
5. Hang up your sign. Whenever you see it, think of something for which you're grateful to God.

PUZZLE

Give Praise

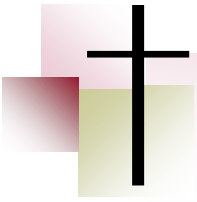
Solve this puzzle to read a Bible verse about praising God for all his blessings.

Directions: In each group, underline the word that doesn't belong. Then write the underlined words on the lines below.

1. Give Take Grab	2. peanut praise pear	3. temple house LORD	4. proclaim past present	5. name boy lad	6. ruin destroy make
7. pine acorn known	8. train nations bus	9. done donut muffin	10. Sing Sleep Yawn	11. she him girl	12. sun praise moon
13. tell fast slow	14. red all blue	15. horrible dreadful wonderful	16. acts sisters aunts		

" _____ to the _____, _____ his _____ ;
 _____ among the _____ what he has _____ .
 _____ to _____, sing _____ to him; _____ of _____ his
 _____ ." PSALM 105:1-2, NIV

Answers: 1. Give, 2. praise, 3. LORD, 4. proclaim, 5. name, 6. make, 7. known, 8. nations, 9. done, 10. Sing, 11. him, 12. praise, 13. tell, 14. all, 15. wonderful, 16. acts
 Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. (Psalm 105:1-2, NIV)



NOVEMBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting	2 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry Noon—Friendship Lunch—Gethsemane 7 p.m. Youth Group	3 7 p.m. Thibodeaux HF	4 6:30 p.m. Bunco 7 p.m. Armstead HF	5
6 Daylight Savings Time Ends 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 3:00 p.m. Kearny Mesa Conv. Visit 6:30 p.m. Jacob's Young Adult HF	7 2 p.m. June Angus HF	8 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting	9 10 a.m. Pastor's Coffee Club 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry Noon—Friendship Lunch—Gethsemane 7 p.m. Youth Group	10 7 p.m. Thibodeaux HF	11 7 p.m. Armstead HF	12 8 a.m. God's Extended Hand 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry
13 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jacob's Young Adult HF	14 2 p.m. June Angus HF	15 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting 7 p.m. Council Mtg.	16 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry Noon—Friendship Lunch—Gethsemane 7 p.m. Youth Group 7 p.m. One Nation Under God	17 7 p.m. Thibodeaux HF	18 7 p.m. Armstead HF	19 8:00 Men's Breakfast
20 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jacob's Young Adult HF	21 2 p.m. June Angus HF	22 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting	23 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry Noon—Friendship Lunch—Gethsemane 7 p.m. Youth Group	24 	25 7 p.m. Armstead HF	26
27 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Jacob's Young Adult HF 	28 2 p.m. June Angus HF	29 4 p.m. MJ Cooper HF 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting	30 10-2 p.m. SM Food Pantry Noon—Friendship Lunch—Gethsemane 7 p.m. Youth Group			
						

