



# MVCF VILLAGER

**June 2008**

Issue No. 0608

## MISSION VILLAGE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

**Carl Baker, Pastor**  
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[www.mvcf.net](http://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,

Well, it finally happened. As many of you know, we live on a canyon like many others in San Diego. Critters visit the back yard frequently. A combination of things can make this situation almost comical at times. Such a combination recently went like this:

- My wife has an inordinate fear of snakes.
- My fear of snakes is right behind hers.
- Allyson doesn't like to see anything killed.

I heard Susan yelling, as did all of North County, so I went to check it out. She said there was a snake in the back yard but it was not a rattle snake because it was hissing. I immediately came running to sacrifice myself, if necessary, for my family. After an argument with my daughter, which I lost, it was decided the snake would live. Did I mention we're afraid of snakes? Back to the "I came running" part. When I got there, he was coiled up ready to strike. That hissing we talked about? It was interpreted wrong. It came from rattles. There in my own yard, trespassing was a seven foot rattle snake. OK, I admit, he was three to four feet long. My tools for dealing with the situation were a shovel and a pizza box.

I scooped him up with the shovel, which was surprisingly easy, and put him in the pizza box. I never gave a thought to what I would do with it once it was safely

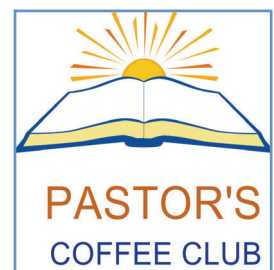
in the box. It didn't matter. Before I could get the lid closed, he slithered out of the box and through the fence into the ivy. We were safe, but left to our thoughts of his eminent return. Have I mentioned we're scared of snakes?

After my show of bravery, I began to engineer in my mind. How could I build a snake barrier? Finally I decided to ask for help. I called Steve, our church's resident snake person and he gave me some simple directions. Wow, how easy. All I had to do was ask. Why hadn't I thought of this before this incident since I was warned about the snakes? And this reminds me of something...

How come when the snake, Satan, comes around and slithers his way into our lives, do we not go immediately to the one who can help? Scripture tells us that "in Christ we are more than conquerors" but nevertheless, we try unsuccessfully time after time to fix things ourselves. The next time you're approached by the enemy, do what I finally did. Go to the one who can fix the problem.

**Psalms 40:1 (NIV)** "I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. "

Yours In Love and Service,  
Pastor Carl



Tues, June 10

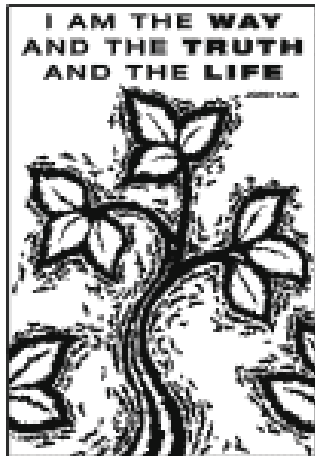


# VIEW FROM THE PEW

## QUESTIONS THAT ARE ASKED OFTEN

The following are three questions one hears quite often.

**Isn't there more than one way to God?** Let's look at the major religions of the world. In the Jewish faith, Moses taught there is only one God; Krishna of Hinduism mentions many gods; Buddha was an agnostic. Hindus believe the universe is God, yet Muslims believe the God of Islam, Allah, is separate from the universe. With these different beliefs, and these beliefs aren't some recent phenomena, but centuries old with much cultural connections, we see all these paths don't lead to the same God. One can reasonably conclude that these can't all be right, and there is the possibility that all are wrong. Among all of these ways to God rises one voice, that of Jesus, who in John 14:6-7 says: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me you would know my Father as well." No one else has ever made the claim that Jesus has made.



**How can a loving God allow bad things to happen?** God created humans with freedom of choice, so with that freedom comes a potential of bad choices. A result of that is the potential of evil. So why have freedom of choice? Without this, we would be machines, not recipients of love, nor capable of giving it. With freedom of choice, even though it leads to pain, we are promised no more death or mourning, crying, or pain in the end if we choose Christ. Revelation 21:4 says: "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

**Isn't the idea of submission to a spouse, particularly to the husband not right?** In Ephesians 5:22-24, many people who find fault with the Bible and choose to reject it, point to this verse. Submission is not surrender, or that the wife is inferior to the husband. In 1 Corinthians 11:8, it mentions the man is the source of the woman. Man was created before woman, driving her existence from man, just as Christ comes from God, equal to the Father, yet submitting to Him to carry out His plan for salvation. The wife thus submits to her husband for the better of her husband and family. In turn the husband in Ephesians 5:25 is to love his wife as Christ loved the church, giving himself up for her. Remember, the Christian faith is centered on submission; to our spouse, to fellow church members, to our leaders in the workplace and government.

May God Bless—Jean Fortanas



# FELLOWSHIP



Not a whole lot going on, but I wanted to remind you all that BEACH NIGHTS ARE STARTING!!! **WOO HOO!!!**

The first official Beach Night is June 25 starting any time after 5:00 at our usual place North of the Hilton Mission Bay. Please feel free to bring friends, dogs, blankets, chairs, STUFF TO SHARE (desserts, etc) and anything else you need. Dinner will be lovingly provided by Paul and Kathleen Staley!

Most of the nights are picked for providing meals - but there are a few open. It's really easy and the church will reimburse you the cost of the meal. There will be a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Please see me if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Jennifer French

## LADIES FELLOWSHIP

All ladies (and their friends) are warmly invited to join us at the Ceramic Cafe in Grossmont Center on Saturday, June 7 at 4:30 for a really fun time of fellowship and creativity. You'll get to pick any type of ceramic piece you wish, paint and decorate it however you wish, and enjoy time with friends as you wish! The cost is anywhere between \$5 and \$25 per piece of ceramic. We'll go out to dinner at a restaurant in the mall (save on gas, you know).



Please sign up on the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall, as we need to give the Ceramic Cafe an idea of how many will be attending.

Just a friendly reminder that the proper procedure for use of church equipment is to contact the Stewardship Chairman.



Thank you,

Mike Loren,  
619.464.1133

[deucescoot@cox.net](mailto:deucescoot@cox.net)



# EVANGELISM

**In memory of Selah, whose name means "Pause, and think about it", here are some quotes for all of us to pause and think about this month.**

"Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of our children." **Charles R. Swindoll**

"The greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but reveal to them their own." **Benjamin Disraeli**

"The discipline of desire is the background of character." **Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

"Freedom is not a gift bestowed on us by other men, but a fight that belongs to us by the laws of God and nature." **Benjamin Franklin**

"There is today a pale, pathetic, and unflinching interpretation of the blessed gospel, which guarantees salvation as 'a financially and socially upgrading experience'; then it finalizes the offer by 'a superlative bonus in eternity and comfort world without end'. How different was Paul's concept of a disciple of Christ." **Leonard Ravenhill**

"There are only 2 ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." **Albert Einstein**

"I can see, and that is why I can be happy, in what you call the dark, but which to me is golden. I can see a God-made world, not a manmade world." **Helen Keller**

"I do not pray for success, I ask for faithfulness." **Mother Teresa**

"This will be the best security for maintaining our liberties. A nation of well-informed men who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the religion of ignorance that tyranny begins." **Benjamin Franklin**

"You may be governed by God, or ruled by tyrants." **William Penn**

"Have you any days of fasting and prayer? Storm the throne of grace and persevere therein, and mercy will come down." **John Wesley**

"Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work." **Oswald Chambers**

"You are never too old to set another goal, or to dream a new dream." **C.S. Lewis**

"The greatest reason for believing that God exists is the church. The greatest reason for not believing in God is also the church." **Author Unknown**

"Jesus Christ, the Righteous - Awfully simple when you know Him, simply awful when you don't."  
**Selah**

## OBITUARY FOR RA-HERU-KHUTI-TEMU-KHEPRA "SELAH"

Our beloved brother whom we knew as Selah Khepra was born Roderick Wilson in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on October 31, 1950 to Mary Ella Wilson. From that moment, he was in motion!

At the age of 9 he was the youngest African-American to earn the first degree black belt in Karate, a life-long passion that took him all over the world. In 1989 he was selected as the Karate Instructor of the year by a karate society in Hong Kong, China. Selah won honors in Japan, Korea, Singapore, and the Philippines as well as many trophies and medals in the U.S.

Selah was widely recognized as a teacher of young men and women. His scrap book is full of pictures of young students who excelled under his tutelage.

For a significant part of his life, teaching karate and, more importantly, the values of this martial art was his profession. For those of us who knew him well, we recognize these values he not only promoted but lived by:

Self-discipline and respect with courtesy for all life.

Trust in the divine power.

Humility, justice, loyalty, courage, modesty, obedience and responsibility mark a good man.

Mercy and courtesy should be our guide.

As Selah moved on to his next vocation as Security and Personal Body Guard, he was helped by his martial arts training. A letter of recommendation to a security firm from a Karate master includes this paragraph:

"Mr. Khepra is a proficient practitioner in the system of Okinawan form of Karate.

In addition to his specializing area of empty hand defense, the 14 weapons utilized in the fighting arts are his main focus of perfection"

He moved on to a security position where his attention to detail and concern for those he protected resulted in several arrests attributed to his efforts. Note this letter of appreciation from the Oklahoma City Police Department:

"This letter is to express my sincere thanks for assisting the Oklahoma City Police Homicide Task Force in the investigation of two elderly women having been murdered in your neighborhood. Citizens who get involved in helping the police are as asset to our community"

From security guard to Champion of our Lord Jesus Christ might seem a large jump for some, but for Selah the enthusiasm and energy he put into the martial arts and security positions was now focused on his faith in Jesus Christ.

Selah was the Lord's minister in every aspect of his life. His wisdom and understanding gave rise to being accepted as a prophet. His prayers and consultations led to both physical and spiritual healing. He not only spoke God's word, but lived it. His poetry, songs, and writings will be a legacy for future generations who seek to know and love God. While he has departed this world to be with the Father, his memory will linger wherever Christians revere our "holy men". No one who entered Selah's presence left without a word of wisdom from the bible or a thought that reflects Christ's love for his children.

Raheru Khepra is survived by his mother Mary Wilson Birdsong of Fort Lewis, Washington, an ex-wife Darlene Hudson of Oklahoma, and devoted brother Sanchez Birdsong of San Diego. He was blessed with nieces Kemi Bell, Kamila Smith, Sachet Birdsong, Alvasicia Brown, and nephew Kenneth Brown along with several great nieces and nephews. Two aunts, Vivian Lawrence and Gertrude Montgomery, and a host of cousins and friends are included in those who will miss his wise counsel and devotion.

Selah's final request is that this Memorial Service be a time of loving fellowship with the emphasis on God's love.

May God bless his memory!



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The next few months are going to be busy for us. Please keep the children and the adults who are working with the children in your prayers. We have our Promotion Sunday, Patriotic Songs performance and VBS all coming up in the next couple of months.

If you would like to help with VBS please see me or complete a sign up sheet. Thanks for your prayers and your help with VBS.

Joel McKinney



## Heaven's Grocery Store

I was walking down life's highway a long time ago  
When I noticed a sign that read, "Heaven's Grocery Store"  
As I got a little closer, the door came open wide  
And when I came to myself, I was standing inside.

I saw a host of angels - they were standing everywhere  
One handed me a basket and said, "My child, shop with care!"  
Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store --  
And all you couldn't carry, you could come back that day for more.

First I got some PATIENCE, LOVE was in the same row  
Further down was UNDERSTANDING, you need that everywhere you go.  
I got a box or two of WISDOM, a bag or two of FAITH --  
I just couldn't miss the HOLY GHOST for he was every place.

I stopped to set some STRENGTH and COURAGE to help me run this race  
By then my basket was getting full, and I remembered I needed GRACE  
I didn't forget SALVATION, for SALVATION, that was free,  
So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.

Then I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill  
For I thought I had everything to do my Master's will  
As I went up the aisle, I saw PRAYER and I just had to put that in,  
for I knew that when I walked outside, I would run right into sin.

PEACE and JOY were plentiful, they were on the last shelf  
SONGS and PRAISES were hanging near, so I just helped myself  
Then I said to the angel, "How much do I owe?"  
He just smiled and said, "Just take them everywhere you go!"

Again I smiled at him and said "How much do I really owe?"  
He smiled again and said, "My Child, Jesus paid your bill -- a long time ago."

----- Author Unknown





## GET READY TO BLAST OFF

VBS is July 14-18  
6:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Tell your friends and mark your calendars now. Join us as we explore the awesome wonder of God. There will be science experiments, crafts, lab books, games, dancing and yummy snacks. Trinity Presbyterian is also joining us this year!

Joel McKinney, Director  
Christopher French, Mad Scientist Teacher  
Leslie Huffor, Craft Leader  
Leah Peek, Dance Leader  
Jennifer French, Snacks Leader  
Terri Carver, Games Leader

We are looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in helping with VBS, please call the church office or email Joel McKinney at [jmckinney1@san.rr.com](mailto:jmckinney1@san.rr.com).

See you in July!



**Boy Scout Troop 985  
and  
Carrie and Scott Stinson  
Cordially invite you to attend  
The Eagle Scout Court of Honor  
for  
David Anthony Stinson**

**Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 7:00 P.M.**

**Mission Village Christian Fellowship  
San Diego, CA 92123**

## 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.

Every week a group of folks meet to pray for the church, for those who are ill or hurting, and for our land. During the summer we meet at 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays.

Please join us.



## FOUNDATIONS - MVCF Youth Group

Wednesday Nights  
(Thursdays After Beach Night Begins)  
7pm at MVCF

See Caleb Hummel or Luke Jacobs For More Information  
Check Out the FOUNDATIONS Blog at  
<http://mvcfyouth.blogspot.com>

### HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUPS ON HIATUS DURING SUMMER

Join Us for Beach Nights  
On Wednesday Evenings for a  
Great Time of Fellowship  
See Bulletin or Call Church Office  
(858.278.2633) for More Information



# SPECIAL EVENTS

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Leah Peek—04  
 Kathryn Wloczewski—07  
 Caleb Hummel—11  
 Samantha McKinney—21  
 Michael Fiori—22  
 Stephanie Leigh—24  
 June McCollough—25  
 June Angus—27  
 Doug Eno—30  
 Penny Horner—30

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Scott & Jenny Fiori—09  
 Gene & Shirley House—10  
 Mark & Sylvia Flannigan—17  
 Kevin & Susan McCasland—25

## GAME NIGHT Saturday June 21

Come and enjoy an evening of your favorite board or card game at MVCF. We love to play Mexican Train Dominoes but you may enjoy another game.

Bring a friend and a snack to share and join us for Game Night at the church.

Third Saturday of each month) at 6pm.

See Mary Jo or Mike Loren if you are interested or have questions.

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

## Saturday, June 28 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

...tired of cooking or eating alone?  
 Is your cupboard bare?  
 Fast food and take out eating up your budget?  
 Come to the "Mission Village Community Meal"

### We're Serving Salad During the Summer and It's FREE!!!

What's the menu? Salad, bread, and dessert.  
 When? The last Saturday of every month  
 What time do we eat? Anytime between 4-6 p.m.  
 Where? The Garden Room at Gethsemane Lutheran  
 2696 Melbourne Drive, San Diego  
 Who's doing this? Gethsemane Lutheran Church and  
 Mission Village Christian Fellowship  
 More information from 858.277.6572 or 858.278.2633  
 Volunteers and donation accepted.

### COMMUNITY MEAL VOLUNTEER POSSIBILITIES

- I can bring a salad ingredient (reimbursement offered if needed).
- I can bake fresh bread or will buy a loaf of bread.
- I will bake cookies.
- I have containers to donate that can be used to send extra home with someone.
- I will set up (be here by 3:15 p.m. and you can eat first!).
- I will help clean up (come and eat at 5-5:30 p.m. to help at 6 p.m.).
- I will make a donation so that we can offer this meal without charge (identify your gift as "Community Meal").
- I will come and eat and get to know our neighbors.
- I will invite family, friends and neighbors.
- I will go to my immediate community with door hangers.
- I will encourage and pray for this time of fellowship.

Please cut this out and turn in to Mary Jo.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_



# JUNE CALENDAR

**Sun June 1 Adult Sunday School, 8:30 a.m., Worship, 9:30 a.m.**  
Kearny Mesa Convalescent Visit, 3:00 p.m.

Mon 2 Open

Tues 3 Open

Wed 4 Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Youth Group, 7:00 p.m.

Thurs 5 Home Fellowship - Thibodeaux, 7:00 p.m.

Fri 6 Bunco & Potluck, 6:00 p.m.

Home Fellowship - Armstead, 7:00 p.m.

Sat 7 Ceramic Café & Dinner, 4:30 p.m.

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**Sun 8 Adult Sunday School, 8:30 a.m., Worship, 9:30 a.m.**  
**Immanuel Convalescent Visit/MCRD**

Mon 9 Open

Tues 10 Pastor's Coffee Club, 10:00 a.m.  
Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Wed 11 Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Youth Group, 7:00 p.m.

Thurs 12 PanHandlers  
Home Fellowship - Thibodeaux, 7:00 p.m.

Fri 13 Home Fellowship - Armstead, 7:00 p.m.

Sat 14 God's Extended Hand, 8:00 a.m.

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**Sun 15 Adult Sunday School, 8:30 a.m., Worship, 9:30 a.m.**

Mon 16 Open

Tues 17 Open

Wed 18 Hymn Sing  
Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Youth Group, 7:00 p.m.

Thurs 19 Home Fellowship - Thibodeaux, 7:00 p.m.

Fri 20 Home Fellowship - Armstead, 7:00 p.m.

Sat 21 Men's Breakfast/Work Party  
Bunco & Potluck, 6:00 p.m.

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**Sun 22 Adult Sunday School, 8:30 a.m., Worship, 9:30 a.m.**  
**Immanuel Convalescent Visit, 2:00 p.m.**

Mon 23 Open

Tues 24 Open

Wed 25 BEACH NIGHT

Thurs 26 Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Youth Group, 7:00 p.m.  
Home Fellowship - Thibodeaux, 7:00 p.m.

Fri 27 Home Fellowship - Armstead, 7:00 p.m.

Sat 28 Community Salad Meal with Gethsemane, 4:30 p.m.

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**Sun 29 Adult Sunday School, 8:30 a.m., Worship, 9:30 a.m.**  
**MCRD**

Mon 30 Open

Tues 31 Open

## 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

Pastor .....Carl 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 Wingler  
 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	Carl Jensen
Service (Interim)	Mary Jo Cooper
Stewardship	Mike Loren
Fellowship	Jennifer French
Missions	Brenda Casey
Evangelism (Interim)	Jim Ryer



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