

*Pastor's Perspective*

“But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called ‘Today,’ so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.” -Hebrews 3:13

A few weeks ago, several folks on our Leadership Council were able to attend an online ministry conference along with me. It was an awesome experience, and I am looking forward to sharing some of the highlights with all of you in the weeks and months to come!

One of the main speakers at the conference was a man by the name of Julius Kim, and he shared openly about his nearly fatal Covid-19 experience. He preached from Hebrews chapter 3 and taught on holding “firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory” (Hebrews 3:6). His main point? Just keep swimming. Just keep swimming. It was a much-needed message after a very hard year!

And one of the ways we “just keep swimming” is by encouraging one another (Hebrews 3:13). In fact, God designed to encourage one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. As you may have discovered this past year, the Christian life is really hard to live in isolation. We were not designed to follow Jesus alone! We need one another!

Thankfully, we are coming into a new season. With Covid-19 cases continuing to drop and more folks getting vaccinated, we will have more opportunities to see each other in person and connect with each other in person as we go into this summer. And if we can see each other more, then we have more opportunities to encourage each other as well.

So, as we move into this new season, I want to ask you to do two things. One, ask the Lord to bring to mind the folks you were not able to connect with over the past year and make a plan to visit them and encourage them. Keep in mind that some folks are still in adjusting to being more social again, so we need to have grace and patience regarding logistics--meeting indoors/outdoors, mask/no mask, etc... But the most important thing is to make a plan to visit them and encourage them in Christ!

Two, take advantage of opportunities this summer to gather as a church fellowship. For example, Beach Nights return in June, and more details will be coming out soon! A NEW opportunity this summer will be a Friday Night BBQ Night in front of the church. This will be held once a month and is an easy way to gather, relax, and encourage one another. Dates for that will be announced shortly. Another opportunity is our annual Family Camp that will take place in Pine Valley July 2-4. If you have not registered or have questions, be sure to see Joanna at church on Sunday.

I do not know about you, but all these upcoming opportunities and activities are encouraging me to keep swimming. So, let us encourage one another to just keep swimming!

Grace and Love,

Pastor Steve

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**Worship Schedule**

Until Further Notice

- 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Inside & Online Sunday Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Children's Bible Adventure

A good and perfect gift

James 1:17

*17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadow.*

Matthew 5:44-45

*44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.*

Based on the above scriptures, we know that our Lord pours out His blessings on both believers and un-believers. Though sun and rain are specifically mentioned blessings, the passage in James makes it clear that all the good things we experience are from our Lord. What we need to understand is that these wonderful blessing from the Lord will have the greatest impact on our lives when we know the author of those blessings. The experience of blessings, coupled with faith, will truly change our hearts. What I desire for us is to consider how those blessings from the Lord impact our lives and how could those blessings impact the lives of an unbeliever. Out of the myriad of blessings the Lord pours upon his creation I want to focus on the one addressed in the Philippians passage below; peace.

Philippians 4:7

*7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

In the life of a believer, this is how the specific blessing should impact our hearts and mind. The absence of peace, sadly, is sometimes a struggle for our brothers and sisters in Christ. We have witnessed the very real struggle in this past year. My challenge and my prayer for my family in Christ is that we fully accept this “good and perfect gift” (His peace) from our Lord. Why? Because from what I understand from the Scriptures, the reason our Lord pours out this “good and perfect gift” – is to be a beacon to unbelievers. We are living testaments to how this gift of peace will have its perfect effect in times of trial and uncertainty. I believe that our Lord pours out His blessings upon us all as both a perfect expression of His love and as a way to draw His children to Him. In that act of drawing His children to Him we believers have an important role. My prayer continues to be that as we grow in the truth shown in Philippians 4:7 and with all the gifts our Lord bestows upon us, that we will be effective instruments for Jesus, reaching the world around us.

Mr. French

Mission’s Ministry

Below are some exciting updates from the Serra Mesa Food Pantry. The pantry:

- Has been serving 115-120 families per week. Just in the past few weeks the number of families has started to decline, which is a positive sign for the community.
- Has established new partnerships and welcomed new volunteers who are eager to serve the community.
- Received a \$5,000 COVID-19 Capacity Equipment Grant from the San Diego Food Bank, which will be used for additional storage space, upgraded weatherproof signs, and more.

As a reminder, the pantry is open to the community for drive-by food pickup 10am - 1pm on Wednesday mornings on the MVCF campus (using safe, social distancing precautions) and welcomes volunteers.

Ellen Davis for Missions

“- this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Romans 12:1b-2

Small Groups:

Monday

1:00 p.m.

Afternoon Bible Study at MVCF

7:00 p.m.

Men’s Bible Study TBD Where

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting Online

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Youth Group Fellowship Hall—MVCF

Friday

2nd & 4th Friday

11:00 a.m. Grief Group at MVCF

6:30 p.m.

Chris French Home Fellowship at MVCF

# May 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<b>2</b> 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	<b>3</b> 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	<b>4</b> 7:00 p.m. Online Prayer Meeting	<b>5</b> 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Food Pantry 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 6:30 p.m. Home Fellowship with the French's	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Mother's Day	<b>10</b> 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	<b>11</b> 7:00 p.m. Online Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m. Hybrid Council Meeting	<b>12</b> 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Food Pantry 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 11:00 a.m. at MVCF Grief Support Group 6:30 p.m. Home Fellowship with the French's	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Spring Meeting	<b>17</b> 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	<b>18</b> 7:00 p.m. Hybrid Prayer Meeting	<b>19</b> 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Food Pantry 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:30 p.m. Home Fellowship with the French's	<b>22</b> Work Party 8:30 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
<b>23</b> 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	<b>24</b> 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	<b>25</b> 7:00 p.m. Hybrid Prayer Meeting	<b>26</b> 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Food Pantry 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 11:00 a.m. at MVCF Grief Support Group 6:30 p.m. Home Fellowship with the French's	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	<b>31</b> Memorial Day Office Closed					

## Youth Ministry

May is our last month of youth group for 2021 – to start again 2 weeks after school starts. We have finished the book of John and watched half of the movie the Compassion. Of which, if they stay interested, we can finish over the summer. We are very excited to have our final Youth Group retreat of 2021 to be attending the Pine Valley Bible Camp church retreat. We will be going July 2-4<sup>th</sup>. We have many activities planned such as: Bible learning classes with the church and a couple on our own, Frisbee Ultimate and golf, an early morning Saturday sunrise hike, the obstacle course with Zip line, basketball, volleyball, swimming, laser tag & cookie decorating crafts. We have 7 youths that started with us at the beginning who earned their way to the camp by helping with our rummage sales. We just got 4-6 more interested new youths who may attend next year and a few siblings who will be in 6<sup>th</sup> grade next year that we are asking to attend. We would like to earn a bit more money for them as well so we will be serving the congregation a spaghetti dinner on Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$10 for the first member of your family and \$5 for members thereafter. We will ask for and bring many yummy desserts with coffee.

We are also memorizing Psalm 23 along with our church. We'd like to continue to meet and play Frisbee at Beach Night on Wed.'s. We are hoping this wonderfully fun fellowship tradition continues this summer. For those who are new: we meet just north of the Hilton Hotel off of Mission Bay drive between 5-6pm. Everyone brings their own chair or blanket. Someone at the church volunteers to bring the main dish (like pizza), a salad and dessert. The church provides the soft drinks and snacks; smores with a campfire. The adults fellowship or play bocce ball or dominos or password – some type of fun game. The children and youths play in the playground or play Frisbee in the big field next door. You can stay as long as you like, we stay till dark. This is a relaxing fun evening that we look forward to attending.

A huge thank you goes out for those who helped me this past year, which was much more challenging than the year before. Thank you to: Pastor Steve, Chris French, Ivan, Jim Ryer & Audrey. She kept us well-nourished with water and snacks and kept us on track with celebrating all birthdays!!! It takes a village to help and have success and I very appreciate they shared their time with us. We thank the council for voting in our curriculum for the youths as said, "They really liked it." Plus, we are very thankful for all your prayers. We thank God the most for allowing us to meet and help grow our group. ☺

Terri Carver for the Youth!

## Children's Ministry

VBS...Vacation Bible School is a go for this summer.

Date: August 17-20

Time 6:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

Themes.. Rocky Railroad

Day1.. Jesus' power helps us do hard things.

Day2...Jesus' power gives us hope

Day3... Jesus' power helps us be bold

Day4... Jesus' power unites us with Him and each other forever.

For more information contact Mr. French 858-735-5923 or [christopherpfrench@gmail.com](mailto:christopherpfrench@gmail.com)

Grief Support Group  
on the second & fourth  
Friday  
of every month at  
11:00 a.m.  
If you are interested in  
attending, please talk to  
Joanna de Vos

We exist to  
worship God by  
helping people to  
know and follow  
Jesus.

Work Party  
Every Fourth  
Saturday  
of the month  
8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.  
refreshment will be  
provided.  
For more info call  
Mike Loren  
at 619-464-1133

**MVCF**



Find the following words in the puzzle.  
 Words are hidden ↑ ↓ → ← and ↘ .

- |         |        |          |          |         |        |
|---------|--------|----------|----------|---------|--------|
| AUDREY  | DOUG   | JENNIFER | LUISA    | PASTOR  | STEVEN |
| BEVERLY | ELLEN  | JENNY    | MARGE    | ROGER   | SUSAN  |
| BRUCE   | ERNIE  | JIM      | MARILYN  | RONDA   | TERRI  |
| CARL    | FRANK  | JIMBO    | MARY JO  | RUSS    | TONY   |
| CASEY   | GAYLE  | JOANNA   | MATT     | SABINA  |        |
| CHRIS   | HANNAH | JOHN     | MICHELE  | SCOTT   |        |
| CHUCK   | IVAN   | JUNE     | MICHELLE | SHIRLEY |        |
| DARRYL  | JEAN   | LISA     | MIKE     | STEVE   |        |



- 13—Shirley House
- 14—Isabella Aray
- 22—Audrey Nakamura
- 28—Max Guenther
- 29—Marilyn Jensen



23—Jim Ryer & Audrey Nakamura

..as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved,  
clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness,  
humility, gentleness and patience. Col. 3:12

## Mission Village Christian Fellowship

2650 Melbourne Dr  
San Diego, CA 92123

Phone: 858-278-2633  
[missionvillage1@missionvillage.church](mailto:missionvillage1@missionvillage.church)

We're on the web!

[missionvillage.church](http://missionvillage.church)



### Council Members

Pastor	Steve de Vos
Moderator	Tony DaVee (Pro-tem)
Clerk	Ronda Adams
Financial Secretary	Tony DaVee
Treasurer	June McCollough
Children's Ministry	Open
Youth Ministry	Terri Carver
Adult Ministry	Joanna de Vos
Stewardship	Mike Loren
Fellowship	Shirley House
Service	Darryl Angus
Evangelism	Open
Missions	Ellen Davis
Finance Ministry	Ernie Garcia
Worship	Open

### Sunday Schedule

Worship & Children's Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Nursery & Toddler Care is Available During Worship Service  
Service will be live on [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#)

### Elders

Pastor / Elder.....Steve de Vos  
Administrative Elder .....Tony DaVee  
Elders.....Chris French  
Carl Jensen

### Staff

Administrative Assistant.....Ronda Adams  
Nursery Attendant..... Hannah French