

# Mission Village Christian Fellowship

## March 2022

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### Worship Schedule

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

### *Pastor's Perspective*

Reverse Mardi Gras

“Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road” Mark 10:52

March 2nd is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent, the season of prayer and reflection leading us up to Holy Week, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Just as Advent prepares our hearts for Christmas, Lent prepares our hearts for Holy Week.

One of the most visible events that takes place at the beginning of Lent is not Ash Wednesday itself but the day before with the Mardi Gras Celebration. **Mardi Gras means “Fat Tuesday” and is a huge party on the streets of New Orleans.** The idea is to party it up before the Lenten season of prayer and repentance begins. Indulge before you abstain.

Now Lent certainly is a season of heart preparation, and with it comes reflection, prayer, and in some traditions, fasting. Unfortunately, the idea of Mardi Gras communicates the idea that you have to have fun and live it up now before you enter the drudgery of Lent. It communicates that joy is found in the party, not in drawing closer to Jesus.

But nothing could be further from the truth. In Mark 10:52, we see a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, who, upon being healed by Jesus, joyfully follows Jesus on the road. Yes, that road leads to Jerusalem, where Jesus will be arrested, tried, and crucified. And yes, that road probably means suffering for Bartimaeus. But Jesus has healed him. He could have at that moment gone to a local pub in Jericho and celebrated his sight and what it meant for the rest of his life. But at that moment, with the whole world in front of him, Bartimaeus chose to follow

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

### *Small Groups:*

Monday

1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study-Library

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting Online

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Youth Group

1st Thursday

5:30 p.m. Harris Home Fellowship

Friday

7:00 p.m. French Home Fellowship

2nd & 4th Friday

11:00 a.m. Grief Support Group

Church Work Party Every Fourth

Saturday of the month

8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. refreshment will be provided.

For more contact Doug Eno

### *Pastor's Perspective, continued*

Jesus. Jesus changed his life, and he was going to stay with his Savior. Joy comes from being with Jesus.

This Lenten season I want to encourage us to not see Lent as a season of joyless drudgery. Rather, I want to encourage us to see Lent as a season of great joy, where we realize the things we were chasing after that we thought would give us **joy and fulfillment don't come close to the joy and fulfillment and satisfaction we can receive from following Jesus.** And while the Lord may lead us to step back from or even give up some of the things we were pursuing, this season of Lent should show us that our greatest treasure and joy in this life is Jesus himself (Matthew 13:44).

So as we enter this season of Lent, I want to point us to two churchwide activities and one personal activity that can help us as we find joy in following Jesus. On Sunday mornings, we will be working through Mark 10 in a new **Lenten sermon series. Mark 10 has often been referred to as Mark's discipleship manual;** in other words, the nuts and bolts of how to grow closer to Jesus. It is a wonderful chapter in the Gospel of Mark and a beautiful text for our Lenten season.

Then on Wednesdays, beginning on March 2nd, we will have a brief Lenten service each week. This service will be on Youtube (online only), will stream live at 7 pm, and will remain available online later if you are not able to join us live. In these Lenten services, we will dive deeper into some aspects of the message from the previous Sunday and apply it to our lives.

On a personal level, I want to challenge you to add something to your life. Instead of taking something out of your life (as is the typical Lenten practice), I want to encourage you to add something into your life that will help you follow Jesus. Maybe that is praying for five minutes at the beginning of each day or spending five minutes reading the bible. Or maybe you take one or two Saturdays and have a spiritual retreat by yourself. Whatever you add should be **attainable (for example, don't say I'm going to spend two hours praying each day if you have not had a regular time of daily prayer in your life to this point!).** Now you may find that in order to add something into your life that helps you follow **Jesus, you may have to give something up, and if that is the case, that's ok. But focus on adding something that will help you follow Jesus and find joy in Jesus during this Lenten season.**

If you need ideas or help in adding something to your life that will help you draw closer to Jesus, feel free to talk to me on Sunday. And as we go through this Lenten season, please tell a close friend or me how the Lord is moving in your life and how you are finding joy as you draw closer to Jesus.

**True joy isn't found in the party; it is found on the road with Jesus. And that is something to celebrate this Lenten season!**

Blessings,  
Pastor Steve

# March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 7:00 p.m. Online Prayer Meeting	<b>2</b> Ash Wednesday 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Food Pantry	<b>3</b> 5:30 p.m. Harris HF	<b>4</b> 6:30 p.m. French HF Women's Retreat	<b>5</b> Women's Retreat
<b>6</b> 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	<b>7</b> 7:00 p.m. Online Prayer Meeting	<b>8</b> 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	<b>9</b> 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Food Pantry 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 11:00 a.m. at MVCF Grief Support Group 6:30 p.m. French HF	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 	<b>14</b> 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study	<b>15</b> 7:00 p.m. Online Prayer Meeting	<b>16</b> 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Food Pantry 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	<b>17</b> St. Patrick's Day 	<b>18</b> 6:30 p.m. French HF	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	<b>21</b> 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study	<b>22</b> 7:00 p.m. Online Prayer Meeting	<b>23</b> 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Food Pantry 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 11:00 a.m. at MVCF Grief Support Group 6:30 p.m. French HF	<b>26</b> 8:30 a.m.—11:00 a.m. All Church Work Party
<b>27</b> 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	<b>28</b> 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study	<b>29</b> 7:00 p.m. Online Prayer Meeting	<b>30</b> 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Serra Mesa Food Pantry 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	<b>31</b>		



05—Jean & Michele Fortanas  
05—Tony & Michele Quion



04—Darryl Angus  
04—Tony Quion  
05—Tony DaVee  
07—Andrew de Vos  
07—Van Thibodeaux  
14—Matt Leigh

16—Admasu Agiro  
19—Frances Chism  
20—Austin French  
23—Michelle Kelley  
24—Frank Romeo  
25—Jayson Stone Jr.

25—Susie Scott-Manies  
26—Chuck Sones  
27—Mike Loren

## *Our Lord & the KISS Principle*

I know a few acronyms are applied to this principle, though the spirit is the same. I prefer “Keep It Super Simple.” In the Scripture and most of the teachings of our Lord Jesus, we see profound understandings of our lives and revelations of the nature of God reflected in the most common elements of His creation. Some examples of these simple elements are water, fire, wind, grass, lilies, olives, branches, etc. So many of Jesus’ parables involve these simple elements to illustrate some aspects of our relationship with each other and God. Jesus was truly the master of the K.I.S.S. concept. It is true that our environment is significantly more complex than the environment of the biblical time period. And we have to create some very elaborate methods of explaining human behaviors and interactions. However, I believe this makes it even more important that we use this K.I.S.S. principle

*Seder*

*6:00 p.m.*

*Wednesday, April 13, 2022*

*Good Friday (Tenebrae)*

*7:00 p.m.*

*Friday, April 15, 2022*

**Keep  
It  
Super  
Simple**

in understanding the profound aspects of our lives and the many qualities of the Lord. Keeping it as simple and straight forward as we can, provides the opportunity to be on the same page with each other. During “Holy Week”, the week before Easter, we will have a special opportunity to see Jesus use simple elements to show the most profound relationship we have with Him as Lord and savior. We will have a Seder observance at our church.

What is a Seder observance? The Seder is the Last Supper Jesus had with His disciples. These elements are the simple elements of herbs, a bone, an egg, honey and apples, bread, wine/grape juice, vegetables, salt. The Seder of Jesus’ time started as the Passover meal the children of Israel had in Egypt, and that simple meal would set them free from Pharaoh. It always had a profound significance in Jewish life. During the last Seder, the last Passover supper Jesus would spend with His disciples, Jesus would make this a special observance for the whole world and particularly those would accept Jesus the Christ as Lord and Savior. We will see in this special observance the K.I.S.S. principle at its most profound level. More information, exact dates and times, will be shared later this month.

-Mr. French

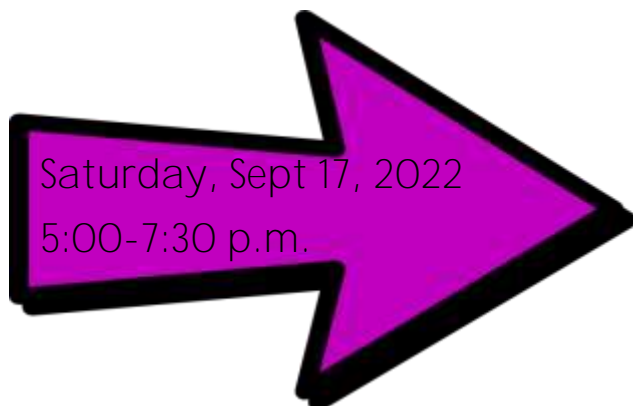


Dear MVCF Church Family,

Your generosity and kindness is greatly appreciated! The many items and monetary contributions you gave produced two WELCOME BASKETS and provided other much-needed basic necessities for newly arriving Afghan families.

On February 8, the collected items were delivered to Bridge Builders Network in El Cajon. Dan and Debbie Bender were very pleased with all the donations (as shown in the photo). Valuable treasured time was spent with Dan and Debbie in touring and learning about their organization. Here is one of Dan's heartfelt comments: "Last night, we ran out of diapers. Today, you brought a box of diapers in the exact size we needed!". The Lord's divine timing and provision is evident.

Thank you for caring, sharing, loving, and gathering together to assist refugee families with a hand up. Blessings...



Fundraiser Event  
for IIHFD Human  
Factor Leadership  
Academy in Ghana  
Venue: Mission Village  
Christian Fellowship

*Youth Ministry*

I hope everyone has a wonderful Valentine's Day. God is your significant other and loves you! XO

One student asked: If God is our Father, who is our Mother? Mary? Mother Earth? Your own Mom?

The students have been loving and learning a lot thru the Bible Project. A book of the Bible is summarized per class.

So far, we've gone through Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

In Leviticus, we focused on verses 16:5-10 & 15-22. We spoke about the Day of Atonement. We learned about God's commandments again, the rituals in the temples in the Old Testament. Only the High Priests were allowed to be in the Arc of the Covenant, to learn about the rules, morals, purity, or solutions for the people, scapegoat, sacrifices. To stay focused on the One and only #1 God of Israel. We taught them what Jesus has done for us when he died on the cross. He has both served our 'jail time' and wiped our record clean. He has paid for our sins and removed our guilt and shame. We explained that they too can experience that freedom when they believe in Him. They all nodded that they do. Numbers was a census taken to account for all populations of that time and the tribes of people.

Deuteronomy, known as the Shema, is the most important part of Judaism. Moses wanted to make sure the people would only believe in the One true God and not get distracted by others around them who do not. The chapter we focused on for us to Listen, Love, Learn Laws, be obedient to get His blessings upon us.

We read Deuteronomy 6:4-5 and 30:6. God wants our hearts to be transformed toward Him. We asked what my distract them? Issues with family, i. e. as they get older, they see more and more the relationships with members of their family; some are struggling and need attention and to talk to each other about it. Issues like parents fighting does not get them to want to go to church the next day. As they get older, they get more and more responsibilities. We discussed that they need to do good in school right now: #1! Obeying God and praying for wisdom before studying, tests, papers or projects due, presentations – it helps them!

Even if it is difficult sometimes to follow God, He gives us the Holy Spirit, which provides us with clarity. We learned the difference of how it feels to have and believe in God versus some friends & family who do not. We ask what we can pray for each night when Youth Group ends: Mostly to do good in school; keep loving God by praying and building the relationship we have with Him.

Galatians 5:22-23 The fruits of the spirit.

Can you recite them? We've asked the youth to memorize them.

2 Timothy 3: 16-17 – God breathed in us the Holy Spirit

John 14:26 – stay on the right path – on the righteous path of God! Do not stray, if you do – get back on!

How do you think God works in your life right now? Some of the answers from teens: Know when to keep your mouth shut; be quick to listen and slow to speak; know when not to get involved or participate, stay out of 'bad' situations, learn how to respect people better and better.

In the upcoming month of March toward Easter, we will be focusing on LENT, and what we can do for God to show him we can make a sacrifice or add something to our daily agenda to build our relationship with God. We will be watching the same Lent videos as our church each Wednesday at 7pm. Then we will discuss them afterward in more detail. We will focus on the life and mind of a teenager and how we can equip them with Godly verses to help better overcome their fears and life's unexpected circumstances.

We have a couple of youth group special meetings coming up: On March 15 at 6pm we will be going to a school play at High Tech High called Julius Cesar. Our very own MVCF Youth Group star student: Sam Miller, Grandson of Jenny & Scott Fiori, is playing the part of Brutus. We want to support him with our presence. Also, to pray, the peasants are very pleasant, too.

We will participate in the Seder Dinner with Chris French on the Wednesday of Holy Week in our fellowship hall. All our church is invited to attend but please RSVP to myself or Chris ahead of time. Thank you all, and God bless us.

-Terri Carver, MVCF Youth Group Leader

Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)

22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

17 God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

John 14:26 (NLT)

26 But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.

..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

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San Diego, CA 92123

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### We're on the web!

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

### Council Members

Pastor  
Moderator  
Clerk  
Financial Secretary  
Treasurer  
Children's Ministry  
Youth Ministry  
Adult Ministry  
Stewardship  
Fellowship  
Service  
Evangelism  
Missions  
Finance Ministry  
Worship

Steve de Vos  
Jennifer French  
Ronda Adams  
Tony DaVee  
June McCollough  
Christopher French  
Terri Carver  
Joanna de Vos  
Mike Loren  
Open  
Darryl Angus  
Open  
Ellen Davis  
Ernie Garcia  
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.....Brooklyn Cave  
Nursery Attendant.....Hannah French