

MVCF

January 2024 Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR

2650 Melbourne Drive, San Diego CA 92123 | Phone: 858.278.2633 | www.missionvillage.church

Pastor's perspective

Psalm 147:10-11

"His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of the warrior; the Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love."

As we go into a new year, I would imagine that many, if not most of you are making some kind of New Year's Resolution. I tend to not be a huge fan of New Year's Resolutions, because we try so hard in our own strength to make improvements to our lives, and then when we fail we just feel bad about ourselves. Yet despite the low success rate we still make those resolutions, hoping that we can somehow be a better person in the new year.

One thing that may help us with our resolutions going into a new year is to ask ourselves this: what motivation lies behind my resolution? In other words, what is leading me to make this resolution in the first place? If we are honest with ourselves, many of the resolutions we make going into a new year are driven by a desire to want to feel better about ourselves. We want to exercise more so that we are in better shape so that we feel better about ourselves. We want to make more money so that we have more financial stability so that we feel better about ourselves. Even our spiritual resolutions, such as wanting to read the bible more or spend more time in prayer, while excellent goals, can often be fueled by a sense of not measuring up, not being good enough, and needing to do more for God so that we can please God and in turn we can then...you guessed it...feel better about ourselves.

Pastor's perspective continued on page 2

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Perspective	1
Pastor's Perspective Cont.	2
Calendar	3
Birthdays/Anniversaries	3
Youth Ministry	4
Youth Ministry	5
The many names of God	6
New Beginning	7
Council Members	8
Contact Information	8

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 Adventure

Pastor's perspective continued

Grief Support Group meetings are held on call, if you desire to meet MVCF would like to offer support.

If you are interested, please contact Russ Armstead

Small Groups:**Monday**

1:00 p.m. Afternoon Bible Study at MVCF

Tuesday

6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting Online

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Youth Group at MVCF

1st Thursday

5:30 p.m.
de Vos Home Fellowship at MVCF

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
Frank Romeo

What an encouragement then to find that God's delight in us does not depend on our efforts to please him! The psalmist writes, "His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of the warrior; the Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love." What a relief to know that God's delight in me is not dependent on my feeble efforts to please him! Even when we struggle in our faith we still don't need to question God's delight in us. Tim Keller highlights this when he writes of this psalm, "(God's) delight does not wax and wane depending on my performance but is unvarying because I am in Christ."

So if you are a follower of Jesus, God delights in you. God does not delight in you because of what you will do for him this year, nor does God delight in you for how you will grow closer to him this year. God delights in you because you are in Christ.

This should encourage and help us in at least two ways as we head into a new year. First, because God already delights in us as followers of Jesus, any effort we make to honor, serve, and grow closer to God this year is not done to earn God's favor, but done because we have already received God's favor. That makes all the difference in the world when it comes to our motivation to grow in our spiritual disciplines and practices this year. While it is draining to try and grow spiritually because you are trying to please God, it is life-giving to try and grow spiritually when you know God already delights in you.

Second, because God already delights in us as followers of Jesus, any resolutions we do make in this new year can be made without the burden of trying to feel better about ourselves. If you find that you are struggling to feel better about yourself, maybe a good practice going into a new year is not to make a long list of resolutions you think will help, but rather to start the year by praying this: "Lord, help me to see myself the way you see me. Help me to value myself the way you value me. Help me not to make my assessment of myself based on my successes and failures this year, but to simply to see myself as your (already) beloved child. Help me to walk with you, serve you, and grow closer to you this year without the burden of self-worth attached to my efforts. Thank you that you delight in me already, because I belong to Jesus. In Jesus' name, Amen."

If you find that this prayer resonates with you or challenges you, make sure to tell a brother or sister in Christ who can pray for you and encourage you in this new year. And then, as God's beloved children, let us see what he would have for us in this new year.

Happy New Year!

Pastor Steve

January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed	2 Office Closed	3 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry	4 De Vos Home Fellowship	5	6
7 9:30am Epiphany Service	8	9 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	10 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:30pm Youth Group	11	12	13
14 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship	15 1:00pm Bible Study	16 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	17 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:30pm Youth Group	18	19	20
21 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship	22 1:00pm Bible Study	23 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	24 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:30pm Youth Group	25	26	27 8:30am All Church Work
28 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship	29 1:00pm Bible Study	30 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	31 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:30pm Youth Group			

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS



Happy Birthday

Senyo Adjibolosoo 01/07



Roger & June McCollough 01/02

Picture courtesy of Pastor Steve

Youth Ministry

Angel Tree Shopping



HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE MVCF YOUTH GROUP!

God bless us all in 2024! What 3 New Decisions will you make in 2024 to do for God?

We need God's super power strength and His guidance to make the many decisions daily according to His plan!

We are so blessed with everything we have available to us – especially at our small **CHURCH:**

Our beautiful front lawn that has had many festivals and BBQ's & VBS's, many events for our Serra Mesa Community.

God is using us to get His Word out there and spread his Good News!

The Festive Holiday Lights to light up our church & cross with an added beautiful Nativity scene!

Our Sanctuary – comes to life for each reason for the season – especially during the month of December. The wreaths and lights that we put out to see is shining the light of Jesus to all.

Our Youth Group Room & Children's Nursery – awesome on the Mesa – led by the Holy Spirit!

Our humungous and efficient kitchen – we have many celebrations in there throughout the year.

Our Serra Mesa Community Garden is gorgeous; takes a lot of TLC to be a pleasing sight for us.

Our Serra Mesa Community Orchard

Our Serra Mesa Food Bank (every Wed: 10a-noon-FREE food for the community in our zip code)

Last BUT certainly not least: **God's People: US**

We have many angels in our church to make it the House of God that it is! Especially the DeVos Family!

Our Youth Group wants to give a big shout out and a huge **Thank you** to each and everyone of them! ! !

Pastor Steve – So dedicated to assist me with switching off running the YG Meetings every Wed. 6-8! Plus, all the other events he-they cover. We taught the YG the deep meaning of the Lord's Prayer; Apostles Creed is starting Jan. 3rd. This last month we were so blessed with delivering Angel Tree gifts.

Joanna - steps in whenever she is asked to with YG; has adult ministry; the littlest children love her.

Andrew – is our star YG student; we are glad when he can attend YG after his soccer games, scouts, tutoring. He is such an overachiever; we support him coming on Sundays and to YG for some fun with us.

Evan – we love Evan! His enthusiasm for God is evident in all he does – getting baptized - a beautiful site. Every late Dec. year he slips in another birthday. We love it when he comes to YG with us as he brings his good energy and sportsmanship to us when we play pool or frisbee or any other reindeer games. He loves sports and loved his Grandfather even more, as he expressed to sincerely. The Holy Spirit shined.

We can see Evan's love is carrying on to **his Grandmother: Karen**. We are so very blessed with her presence at our church services, functions when she can, and just that she attends as she is. We love their family stories and see their connections. The DeVos Family strengths started with Karen and Chris DeVos with God then creating Pastor Steve & his family for us. They all bring us JOY in their own way. We are so blessed you came to our church on the Mesa in Serra Mesa.

Karen is an angel in our church for many reasons! Next Holiday season – on top of our church in the sanctuary will be a beautiful angel on top of the tree in honor of her and the DeVos family. She was such an integral part of our Angel Tree this Year! Thank you!! Our YG thanks especially her plus all the others who contributed donations for us shop and deliver over 50 Angel Tree Gifts. The amount of service that our **church angels** provide to the community is in abundance!

The Many Names of God

Adonai—Lord our Sovereign

El Elohim—God

Jehovah Jireh—The Lord will provide

Jehovah Shalom—The Lord is Peace

Jehovah Ralph—The Lord Who Heals

El Shaddai—The All-Sufficient One

Jehovah Raah—The Lord my Shepherd

“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”

1 Peter 2:24

Bible verses for the New Year and new Beginnings

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Ezekiel 11:19-20

Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

Ephesians 4:22-24

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Lamentations 3:22-24

Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."

Psalms 100:4

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

Philippians 4:6

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Colossians 3:9-11

Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

..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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We're on the web!

missionvillage.church

ncil Members

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

Cou

Steve de Vos
Jennifer French
Ronda Adams
Tony DaVee
June McCollough
Christopher French
Terri Carver
Joanna de Vos
Frank Romeo
Jenny Fiori
Carl Demas
Matt & Ellen Davis
Ernie Garcia
Hannah French

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 ElderTony DaVee
Elders.....Chris French
Carl Jensen

Staff

Administrative Assistant.....Judy Yacob
Nursery Attendant.....Hannah French