



MVCF

July 2024 Newsletter

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

Pastor's Pen

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery." -Galatians 5:1

Most of you will read this newsletter on or around the 4th of July holiday. And I hope you have a wonderful time celebrating our nation's independence and giving thanks for the freedoms we all enjoy in this country. But I also want to encourage you to not give in to that which threatens our freedom every single day.

Now this is an election year, and it is easy to find political pundits talking about the threat to our freedom. Republicans say it is the Democrats who threaten our freedom, and the Democrats point the finger right back and say it is the Republicans. They yell back and forth at each other and will do so up until (and well past) the election in November.

But I would like to suggest that the biggest threat to freedom is not the politicians and political pundits. The biggest threat to freedom...is you. The biggest threat to freedom...is me.

Consider what Paul writes to the churches in Galatia. These were churches that started when the people in Galatia joyfully received the good news of the gospel that Jesus died for their sins. They joyfully believed in the good news that in Christ, there was nothing they could do to make God love them more, and nothing they had done to make God love them less. They experienced true freedom, knowing that there was no way they could earn their salvation, and that Jesus had already earned it on their behalf through the cross. All was well and good in Galatia.

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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

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

6:30pm Women's Bible Study at MVCF

Tuesday

9:30 am Bible Study at MVCF

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

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And then some folks came along and “threw (the Christians) into confusion” (Galatians 1:7). Their message was this: Yes, the whole Jesus dying for your sins thing is great, but now if you REALLY want to be saved, you have to be circumcised and do all of these other things related to the Old Testament law. In other words, they added to the gospel. They said to be saved, you had to believe in Jesus AND do certain things. And with that message, the churches in Galatia had their freedom in Christ stolen from them and fell back into the slavery of having to obey the law in order to please God.

Sadly, many Christians live in this same slavery today. Many will say, I believe Jesus died for my sins, but then live as if they have to earn God's love and forgiveness. Many Christians feel that because of their track record of sins, that God is somehow displeased with them. Many Christians feel pressure to do more and sin less in order to please God. Many Christians therefore live in slavery. Does this describe you?

Now you might push back at this point and say, well, don't we have to obey Jesus? Doesn't Jesus give us some clear moral imperatives for how we are supposed to live? And the answer is a resounding yes! But there is a HUGE difference between obeying Jesus in order to earn God's love and acceptance, and obeying Jesus because you know God ALREADY loves and accepts you. It is the difference between two people in the early stages of a romantic relationship, and two people in a strong, healthy, committed marriage. In the former, you are unsure if any action or lack of action will end the relationship. And the latter, you know the relationship is secure, so you do things for your spouse because of that love and security. One is slavery. The other is freedom.

Because of Jesus, when God looks at you, he doesn't see your sin. He doesn't see your track record. If you believe in Jesus, God looks at you and sees Jesus and his sinlessness (2 Corinthians 5:21). That is true freedom, where we can then go and fully live for Jesus without having the burden of anxiety, not knowing if we have done enough to please God or earn his favor.

So on this 4th of July holiday, let the political pundits yell at each other over who is a bigger threat to freedom. But you, my dear brothers and sisters, take some time to examine your heart. Are you living in slavery or freedom? Do you live in anxiety that you haven't done enough for God, or do you desire to serve God because of this gracious love that has been poured out onto you through Jesus? Do you beat yourself up when you struggle to read your bible and pray, or when you struggle do you turn to the God who loves you and ask him to help you draw closer to him? If you find yourself feeling like you need to do more to please God, take some time to pray this gospel prayer to God this month: “In Christ, there is nothing I can do that would make you love me more, and nothing I have done that makes you love me less.” When that prayer sinks into your heart and begins to change your heart, that is where you find true freedom.

Blessings,

Pastor Steve

Gospel prayer is from J.D. Greear and his book, *Gospel*.



July 2024



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

Moderator

Dear church family,

There are really no words to express the French Family's deepest appreciation for your love, support, meals, cards, gifts, texts/phone calls and visits during this journey with Christopher (aka Mr. French). We all feel tremendously supported and encouraged and truly have felt every prayer - the peace that passes all understanding surrounds our home - Christopher feels it and so do we all.

We don't know what will happen tomorrow, but we know Who holds tomorrow in His hands, and for that, we are grateful and at peace.

Thank you so very much!!!

All our love,

Jennifer, Caleb, Hannah,

Austin and of course, Christopher

JULY CELEBRATIONS



Aender Harris 07/04

Amy Cheshire 07/06

Selassie Adjibo- 07/08

Matt Davis 07/20

Christopher & Jennifer French 07/08

Bruce & Gayle Kraft 07/17

Youth Ministry

I believe our Youth Group had quite the Encounter this year at Future Quest! We had a GREAT time! We were amongst hundreds of other Teenagers hungering for more of God; More & More! We loved the worship concert songs with worship leaders and screaming' Teenagers shouting! Singing as loud as they could with hands raised high in the air. What a sight!!

The main worship sessions each day were awesome; many kids could worship right in front of the stage. **Briahna** and **Geneva** were up there every session. Even though they were tired – they came back each and every day to get more spiritual food from God and His only Son Jesus. We are so proud of their efforts to come and love God more and each other. Also, a shout out to Matt who came a couple days; Sam and Evan came to check it out 1 day and 'liked' it. I think Evan especially liked it as the friend he brought got on the main stage with the concert band called Red Tips. He is a very good rapper; the teens did most of the singing (and were better). They knew all his songs. The good thing is that he is a Christian Rapper – he certainly got them! He kept grabbing their phones and taking selfies with them. He sang until almost 10p on Thursday. We (the Ladies) stayed to the end of each night; good to the very last song. They attended workshops that had many selections and topics to choose from during the day along with Games; Golf Cosmic Bowling, A "Girls' room (crafts, painting, making jewelry), A Talent Show & Laser Tag, etc.

The students heard from many visiting Pastors during the very Powerful sessions. They were so awesome, great story tellers, and have a passion for God. After each night session, all the Youth Group leaders lined the stage and anyone could approach them for prayer. The Holy Spirit was moving in the room heavily. Many students were crying. At the end of the 3rd night the Worship concert got stronger and stronger as the night went on. I was drawn to the front of the stage where I leaned against the wall and watched the Worship Band Up Front and Personal. WOW! The Holy Spirit gripped us all tight! I said to myself, self, 'the teens who are in the front row must really have a hunger for Jesus Christ as it is so hot in here and crazy up there.'

As I panned my eyes across the front of the stage of hundreds of students who did I see?? Bri right in front of the stage facing the singers!! Geneva right there as well. I was filled with JOY that our ladies are hungry for God! Of all the big churches there, our tiny church represented! I mean I knew our YG ladies are special and proved it. WE are filled with proudness that we got to teach them these last several years thru HS Graduation.

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Bri has the special Holy Spirit gift of teaching what she learns to others. When I do not think they are listening to us teach – they surprise me in a good way. For instance, on Sunday, during Sunday school, Bri re-told what she learned at Future Quest to: Matt, Geneva, Josh. She told the stories she heard to them and enticed them to get closer to God. I knew Bri had a gift to sing beautiful songs but she also has a gift to teach others. She reached each of them on their own turf. She told those Bible stories to them better than they were just preached to her at FQ. When they pulled out their phones – she was saying “No. No, put those away!” Bri is deciding if she would like to help me with YG!! :)

Then *Isaac* appeared in Sunday School who is too young for FQ. So Bri shifted gears and said to him, “You are just in time for us to try out a new game.” We go through the Alphabet and say as many Bible Words as you can and what they mean to you. i.e. A-Adam, Apple, Aaron, Bible, Bathsheba, Christ, Corinthians, David, Deuteronomy, Elijah, Ezra, Faith, Frankincense, God, Goliath, *Isaac*.. We ran out of time but we had so much fun!!!

Future Quest is an amazing Event that is held every year and Bri is thinking how she can help them out next year!?. She has so much to offer – we are lucky to have her in our church! She just Graduated from PH, she is only 17; planning on going to Grossmont College. Our church’s hope is that she continues to be a shining star; a beacon for Jesus’ love always!

This summer we will not have Youth Group meet; but their room is open every WED 6p!

Jeremiah 1:4-9

“The word of the LORD came to me, saying, ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.’ ‘Ah, Sovereign LORD,’ I said, ‘I do not know how to speak; I am only a child.’ But the LORD said to me, ‘Do not say, ‘I am only a child.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,’ declares the LORD. Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, ‘Now, I have put my words in your mouth.’”

*Pictures courtesy of
Pastor Steve de Vos*

Youth Ministry



.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

Council Members

Pastor	Steve de Vos
Moderator	Jennifer French
Clerk	Ronda Adams
Financial Secretary	Tony DaVee
Treasurer	June McCollough
Children's Ministry	Christopher French
Youth Ministry	Terri Carver
Adult Ministry	Joanna de Vos
Stewardship	Frank Romeo
Fellowship	Jenny Fiori
Service	Carl Demas
Missions / Evangelism	Matt & Ellen Davis
Finance Ministry	Ernie Garcia
Worship	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 Elder	Tony DaVee
Elders.....	Chris French
	Carl Jensen

Staff

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