

# Pastor's Pen

~1 Corinthians 12:27

Jesus' love to them.

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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

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I'm writing this newsletter article on April 22nd, two days after Easter Sunday. And as I reflect on our Easter Celebration at Mission Village Christian Fellowship, my heart is full. Kids and adults alike heard the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection and the hope that we have in Jesus. Our musical praise was awesome. The time of fellowship after the service was sweet. And it was a joy seeing so many of you reaching out to new people, getting to know them, and reflecting

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."

I don't know if I can possibly thank everyone who made Easter Sunday a wonderful blessing, but I'll try to do so here. And if I forget to mention someone, please accept my sincere apologies! Thank you to Carl and Ray Jensen for leading our Sunrise Service worship music, and thank you to Nicole and Mike Dietz for leading our worship team during the Celebration Service. Briahna De La Cruz and Joanna de Vos did a wonderful job corralling kids of all ages to tell them the good news about Jesus. Terri Carver and the Youth Group did so many things behind the scenes preparing for the Easter Egg Hunt. Jenny Fiori and those who helped her created a wonderful environment for fellowship after the service. Thank you as well to the Quion family for the bounce house. I am sure many parents were grateful that we wore their kids out through jumping! And thank you to Frank and Al for all of their hard work preparing our church campus in the weeks leading up to Easter. From mowing lawns to painting doors, they did an incredible amount of work, and our church campus looked great!

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As you can see, it takes a team to minister to our community the way we did on Easter Sunday. And that is how God designed the church. Paul says in 1 Corinthians 12 that we are one body that has many parts. Each part needs the other parts. And just like parts of the body work together, so the body of Christ works together for the "common good" (1 Cor 12:7).

But there is one other aspect of working together as the body of Christ that is critical to understand if we are to continue working effectively together for Jesus. And that is the command to love one another. It is worth noting that in the major passages in the bible where Paul discusses spiritual gifts and ministry, he also discusses love. Notice what Paul writes in the very next chapter of 1 Corinthians:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres (1 Cor 13:4-7).

This is the heart we are to have in ministry. What was so beautiful about Easter Sunday is that I saw so many of you love others with this kind of love. And this love is critical for a Spirit-filled ministry. Paul says if we do not have this kind of love, our ministry efforts are like a "resounding gong or a clanging cymbal" (1 Cor 13:1). No offense to drummers, but that's not a nice noise! Without love, our ministry efforts will not bear spiritual fruit. If our heart is not being filled and shaped by the Holy Spirit, then it is hard to see how our ministry will be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

My hope is that everyone who considers Mission Village Christian Fellowship to be their church home can find some area of ministry to serve in here at the church. A good prayer to pray is "Lord, where do you want me to serve?" But given the importance of the heart for ministry, before we even ask the Lord where he wants us to serve, an even better prayer would be "Lord, what are you doing in my heart?" Ask the Lord to increase your love for your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, and to increase your love for our surrounding community. And then as your love grows and begins to overflow, ask the Lord what this loving overflow looks like in terms of ministry. Letting the Lord work first in our hearts will lead to a more loving, Spirit-filled ministry.

Of course there is one caveat to this suggestion of letting God work in our heart before we discern his calling to ministry, and that is that none of us will ever have the perfect love of Jesus in our hearts. We are still sinful on this side of heaven, and if we wait for sinless perfection before we serve, then we will never serve! So while it is good to let the Lord work in our heart and let that work guide and direct our future ministry efforts, it is also good to jump into ministry now. Ask me or a Council member how you can start serving in ministry now. And then as you get involved in ministry, you can let the Lord work in your heart, to prepare you for an even more fruitful ministry in the future.

Again, my heart is full from Easter Sunday. Thank you all for helping to make it a wonderful day. I'm excited to see how the Lord will continue to work in and through our church family. And I'm looking forward to seeing how the Lord will work in each of our hearts and lead us towards an even more Spirit-filled ministry in the months and years to come.

Blessings, Pastor Steve



# MAY 2025



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



# **May Celebrations**

Jim Ryer & Audrey Nakamura 05/23



Shirley House 05/13 Audrey Nakamura 05/22 Marilyn Jensen 05/29 MVCF Villager May 2025 Newsletter 4

# Small Groups:

## Monday

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

**6:30 p.m.** Women's Bible Study at MVCF

### **Tuesday**

**9:30 a.m.** Bible Study at MVCF

**6:30 p.m.** Prayer Meeting Online

#### Wednesday

**6:30 p.m.** Youth Group 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

## Youth Ministry

He is risen! He has risen indeed! Halleluiah! Praise God -everyday and always! God Bless!

We are so happy that Easter was such a great celebration of the risen Lord as we gathered together as a church family, doubling our numbers in the sanctuary & Children's Ministries!

Easter's Sonrise Service was so beautifully performed outside on our lawn by Carl & Ray Jensen; Pastor Steve then gave an awesome message and of-course coming up next our—Morning Worship Service (Easer songs that was sung so beautifully by our worship team) then a huge Easter Egg Hunt! We had a many families join us from our Wed. Community outreach. We were lucky that Tony Quion set up the bouncy house and Jenni Fiori BBO'd!

We are working together as God's team to spread HIS Good News at Easter time! Our reaching out to the community on Wednesdays seems to be drawing more families to God!

Reminder: the Youth Group ALL Church Rummage Sale is May 3rd – Donations accepted!

The Youth Group has been busy getting their driving permits and licenses: still one by one!

We are teaching our Youth Group students to incorporate God in daily prayer often! We are still studying the book: <u>The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens</u> by Sean Covey.

God gave each of us a 'toolbox' to use everyday – thinking before we act – as they say.

♦ Conscience I can listen to my inner voice to know right from

wrong

♦ Self awareness I can stand apart from myself and observe my own

actions

◆ Imagination I can envision new possibilities

◆ Willpower I have the power to choose and DO!

### Questions for them to start pondering (pg.76):

- ♦ Do you want to go to college?
- ♦ Graduate school?
- ◆ Trade School?
- Should you try out for a team?
- What type of friends do you have?
- ♦ Will you drink, smoke or do drugs?

Your Mission Village Youth Group Leader, Terri Carver! GBU!

You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!

Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.

Psalm 139:13-14

# Pictures From Easter Day



Photos courtesy of Terri Carver





Therefore, 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 Drive** 

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## **Council Members**

Steve de Vos **Pastor** Ronda Adams Moderator Joanna de Vos Clerk **Financial Secretary** Tony DaVee Treasurer June McCollough Children's Ministry Open Terri Carver Youth Ministry Open **Adult Ministry** Frank Romeo Stewardship Jenny Fiori **Fellowship** Service Open Missions / Evangelism Matt & Ellen Davis **Finance Ministry** Open 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
Elder	Carl Jensen

## Staff

Administrative Assistant	Judy Yacob
Nursery Attendant	Hannah French