

# MVCF

## September 2025 Newsletter

2650 Melbourne Drive San Diego CA 92123 | Phone: 858.278.2633 | [www.missionvillage.church](http://www.missionvillage.church)

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### Worship Schedule

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

### Pastor's Pen

#### Wisdom for Living and Serving Well

We live in a fast-paced world, constantly stimulated by social media, 24-hour news, and online access to far more information than our brains were designed to process. Kids today, because of the availability of multiple devices (phone, computer, video games, etc...) can actually consume more than 24 hours of media in a day. And because of the access to almost unlimited information, there is infinitely more for us to worry about as we have a digital front row seat to wars, famines, and crises taking place all over the world.

In addition to all of this, we continue to try and live our lives, care for our families, and put food on the table. And then of course, we want to serve God. We know that it is important to serve God in ministry, and so we serve. We help with Vacation Bible School. We help with the Children's Ministry. We help with Youth. We help on church work days. And on and on and on.

These are all good things and good ways to minister and serve God. Our church needs people to serve in these ministries and more! But the problem is that given the lives we live, we often serve with our physical, mental, and spiritual gas tanks running on empty. We have seen the warning light come on, warning us that our tank is almost empty, but we keep going. And going. And going. Until we are running on fumes. Just this week Joanna and I heard from some good friends who are burnt out at their church. They have served faithfully in ministry, but have nothing left in their tank. And sadly, I hear this story of being burnt out in ministry from many people.

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How do we live and thrive and serve God in such a world? How do we make sure that our tanks are full so that we can live and serve and thrive? Well, sometimes the best wisdom for life today comes from the most unlikely of sources. Bernard of Clairvaux was a 12th century Benedictine monk, but his writing sounds like it was written for our busy, running on fumes lives today:

“The man who is wise, therefore, will see his life as more like a reservoir than a canal. The canal simultaneously pours out what it receives; the reservoir retains the water till it is filled, then discharges the overflow without loss to itself . . . Today there are many in the Church who act like canals, the reservoirs are far too rare . . . You too must learn to await this fullness before pouring out your gifts, do not try to be more generous than God” (Bernard of Clairvaux).

Bernard rightly observes that many people are like canals...they simply channel whatever little they have and pour that into life and ministry, and then of course have nothing left to give after that. Clearly this does not lead to long-term health in terms of life or ministry. Thankfully Bernard offers a different approach: be a reservoir. Be a reservoir where God fills you up all the way to capacity. And then, as your reservoir overflows, you bless others in ministry, but you are not running on fumes yourself. You still have plenty in your full reservoir to live and thrive and continue to love and bless those around you.

This, in a nutshell, is what Christian discipleship should look like; to be so filled up with the love of God that it overflows onto the people around us as we serve in ministry. And then, as we continue to be filled with God's love in our walk with him, we are continually able to let that love overflow in ongoing ministry.

Many of you know that I am on the last lap of an academic program at Talbot School of Theology, working on a Doctor of Ministry degree. I can see the finish line! And my research has focused on this very topic: What does it look like to have a discipleship process that looks like what Bernard of Clairvaux describes? What does it look like to be so filled with the love of God that it overflows into a fruitful, Spirit-filled ministry? Many discipleship programs and tools that are out there today focus on a personal relationship with Jesus, or teach ministry skills, but don't see one as flowing from the other. So my research has been to create a process that helps someone's growing relationship with God to flow into fruitful (and sustainable!) service for God.

As we head into this fall, if you are feeling burnt out, like your tank is on empty, or that you are trying to serve like a canal and not a reservoir, this discipleship process is for you. If you have served our church faithfully in the past but are looking to grow closer to the Lord and serve him faithfully in a new season (maybe in an entirely different way!), this process is for you. And if you want to serve the Lord but are not sure of how or where to start, this process is for you.

If this describes you in any way, shape, or form, please come talk to me in the weeks ahead. I would love to help you get your spiritual reservoir filled and discover the joy of serving from an overflow of that reservoir, rather than serving on fumes. And as more of our church serves from an overflow of God's love pouring out of us, it will have a beautiful impact on our church family and surrounding community.

Blessings,

Pastor Steve



# September 2025

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



## SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

### Small Groups:

#### Monday

1:00 p.m. Afternoon

Bible Study at MVCF

7:00 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

5:00 p.m. Picnic

7:00 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**



*Happy Birthday*



Senyo & Sabina Adjibolosoo 09/02

Admasu & Etalemahu Mahu Agiro 09/18

Paul-Michael Dekker 09/12

Raylynn Stone 09/20

Terri Foster 9/26

### Youth Ministry





## **UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP STARTS OFFICIALLY AGAIN WEEK OF September 14th – Exact date to be announced soon!**

**We are so excited to ‘meet up’ for Youth Group so very soon!**

**Hopefully we’ll be getting new students as we’ve been talkin’ to you and your parents to decide on Tues. or Wed nights and what work’s best for most! We will continue our picnics on Wed.’s 5-7p with great food served!**

### **To recap:**

What a fantastic summer we had in San Diego, always perfect weather. Every Wednesday proves to be a bigger challenge with more and more younger children attending our picnics.

Most of the students are already back in school – some in the middle of August. We see many smiling faces and excitement as they see their school friends again and invite them to our community picnics. The Youth Group should become more involved with their growth which will help them grow more into the disciples of Jesus in their church training.

Geneva is now our senior Youth Group student as Briahna and Matt are officially adults. We are looking forward to starting a college/young adult group as more of our students age out of Youth Group.

Hopefully, we will get our Youth Group attendance to grow larger with many new students. Get the word out that we will be having great Youth Group meetings starting soon!

We are excited about our upcoming teaching agenda for the Youths to learn more about Jesus and how when we build a relationship with Him, we build a shield of protection, too!

God Bless us all, all to Him the glory!

Terri Carver Youth Group Ministry Leader at MVCG





*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

San Diego, CA 92123

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## Council Members

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