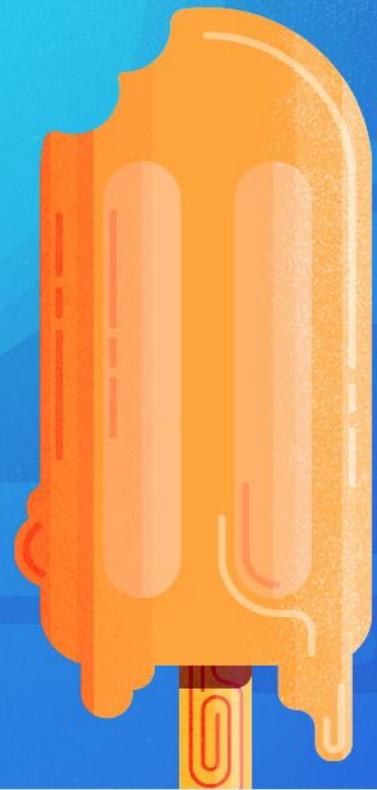


# CHURCH *messenger*



BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | LIGHTHOUSE BIBLE CHURCH  
JULY – AUGUST EDITION

## PASTOR'S PEN

*After reading this article, I thought you would find it of interest as well.*

*Pastor Roger*

### Why do people go to church?

A recent Gallup study found that 76% of people who attend church at least once a month say that sermons that teach them more about Scripture are the primary reason they go.

Plus 75% also listed sermons that help them connect their beliefs to their lives as a major factor for attending. The study confirms what I have been saying for years: Preaching is the number one reason people go to your church. And it's not just any kind of preaching, but Biblical teaching that's relevant to their lives.

It's not the music (38%), community (49%), service opportunities (59%), or kids and youth ministry (64%). All of these are still important. But the primary reasons people listed for going to church was good preaching.

Some will be quick to argue that people should go to church for more than preaching. "It's about Christian Community! It's about loving the Bride of Christ!"

True. Church is about more than preaching. But it doesn't change the fact the  $\frac{3}{4}$  of people come to church because of the preaching. There's no substitute for a good sermon.

### Preaching is a Pastors Primary Responsibility.

This Gallup study reinforces the fact that your number one responsibility as a pastor is to preach the Word. We shouldn't be surprised. The study only backs up what the Bible has said for years.

For example, Paul writes to the young pastor Timothy: "Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction". (2Tim. 4:2)

Jesus commands us to make disciples of all nations by "teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you". Matthew 28:20

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## CHURCH EVENTS

- JULY 2<sup>ND</sup> – CLOTHING EXCHANGE
- JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> – INDEPENDENCE DAY
- JULY 9<sup>TH</sup> – THOMAS' LEADING MUSIC  
DURING MORNING SERVICE  
- PRIME TIMER'S @ FIRE ISLAND
- JULY 12<sup>TH</sup> – ELDER MEETING
- JULY 16<sup>TH</sup> – MIKE BACON UPDATE  
MORNING SERVICE  
- FAREWELL POTLUCK - NOON
- JULY 17-21<sup>ST</sup> – VBS
- JULY 21<sup>ST</sup> – COMMUNITY PREGNANCY  
CLINIC WORSHIP FOR LIFE
- JULY 30<sup>TH</sup> – HOME FELLOWSHIPS
- AUGUST 5<sup>TH</sup> – MEN'S BIBLE STUDY  
& BREAKFAST
- AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> – PRIME TIMER'S  
@ HOOK BURGER
- OCTOBER 27-29<sup>TH</sup> – IRONWOOD COUPLES  
ADVANCE

# PASTOR'S PEN (CONTINUED)

Whether they know it or not, people are starving for God's Word. It's your job to give it to them.

There's nothing you do (aside from fostering your own spiritual life) that is more important for leading your church.

- Biblical & relevant preaching will lead more people to Jesus.
- Biblical & relevant preaching will inspire more people to be more like Christ.
- Biblical & relevant preaching will help your church grow.

Why do we continue to waste so much time on the mundane details of ministry, when our preaching is the thing that makes the biggest impact?

Making phone calls, visiting hospitals, managing the budget and changing light bulbs are all important. But not more important than preaching.

You can't spend all your time on sermon preparation, but you cannot afford to neglect your call to preach.

People come to your church every week wanting and needing to hear from God. Your job is to allow the Holy Spirit to speak through you as you teach God's Word to your people in a way that resonates with their lives.

There are too many dying churches plagued with dull sermons that barely teach the Bible. If you want to grow as a preacher, you owe it to yourself and your church to improve your sermon preparation and delivery.

Here's the point: If the reason why people attend church is preaching, they will choose whether to attend your church primarily because of your preaching. It's a fact.

## PROVERBS 22:17

*"A merry heart does good like medicine"*

# MAKER FUN FACTORY

*Vacation Bible School: Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>  
6:15PM – 8:30PM*

The sun is out, days are getting longer, it's the time of year where everyone feels like a kid again! One way we like to celebrate the children in our lives is by providing a Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is *Maker Fun Factory*. Through songs, skits, games, projects, crafts, videos, Bible experiences and more, children will learn that they are created by God for a purpose. It's such a simple truth, yet its implications are profound, even for the most mature adult. Here are a few ways you can support VBS at our church:

1. **Pray.** Pray for all the preparations that need to be made. That God would bring children who need to hear the gospel. That He would bring the volunteers needed. Strength and wisdom for all the volunteers in working with the children. That the gospel would be clear, and that God would be glorified in it all.
2. **Serve.** We still need volunteers for various areas. Whatever your gifting, we can use you!
3. **Invite** the kids in your life. Think beyond the family and friends you see regularly. How about those neighbors down the street? Don't forget your mechanic who has three kids! Grab a few fliers from the church foyer this week or invite people to our Facebook event.
4. **Donate.** If you feel led to donate supplies, there is a list of items needed in the bulletin or at the Lobby Desk. Another way to contribute is to put money marked for VBS in the offering box, or even a gift card from Joann's for supplies.

# GET INVOLVED!

## CONGRATULATIONS RANDY & MONICA DRAKE JUNE 11, 2017



# YOU WANNA AWANA PROGRAM NEXT YEAR?

We need the following positions filled in order to offer AWANA in the fall. Please prayerfully consider the positions below. We will need to know by July 15<sup>th</sup> to prepare for 2017/18. Harry and Christina Rivera will assist you in setting up in the summer and ongoing throughout the year.

## **AWANA COMMANDER**

Needed immediately – undeniably the easiest job at AWANA.

### SUMMER

- Create a schedule and prepare registration information
- Arrange to hang the AWANA banner in front of the church
- Initiate flyers and contact churches that do not have AWANA programs
- Recruit leaders and directors
- Purchase curriculum

### CLUB YEAR

- Be ready the 1<sup>st</sup> week in Oct. to welcome our clubbers
- Play with clubbers all year long!

## **AWANA TREK & JOURNEY DIRECTOR**

Needed Immediately – undeniably the MOST fun job in AWANA.

### SUMMER

- Create a schedule and check the number of books for club year
- Pass out flyers and other online info from commander about calendars and registration info
- Purchase curriculum if needed

### CLUB YEAR

- Be ready the 1<sup>st</sup> week in Oct. to welcome the students
- Teaching can rotate between director, leaders and commander throughout the year.
- Keep track of memorization for each student.

Thank you for considering!  
Harry Rivera  
805-531-0303

## FAREWELL POTLUCK

**SUNDAY, JULY 16<sup>TH</sup> FOLLOWING THE SERVICE**

*An early "Good-Bye" to the Pedersen Family, Jon Kim, Erik Keeler, Josh Hill, Phillip Willis, Derek Singer and Anna Nuss.*

LBC will provide polish dogs, condiments, and drinks.

**Families A – P: bring a side dish (chips, potato salad, green salad, fruit, beans, etc).**

**Families R – Z: bring a dessert**

# GETTING TO KNOW OUR DEACONS



*The Brian Turner Family –  
Brian, Kathy, Rebecca, Gabe, Elayna,  
Noah, Sara, Isabella & Silas*

Brian and Kathy met at Valley Bible Community Church in 1994 and were married in 1998. They have been blessed with seven children; ages 2-17.

“We own a family business; Turner Air Conditioning & Heating. Our older two kids help in the office and in the field when not doing their school studies or playing soccer.

Brian is a count and lock-up helper and has helped in other ministries over the years. Kathy is an AWANA leader in Cubbies as well as a Communion set-up helper.

We love the families at LBC and thank the Lord for all of you.

God Bless!”

# JULY 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST
2 CLOTHING EXCHANGE	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 PRIME TIMER'S LUNCH	10	11	12 ELDER MEETING	13	14	15
16 FAREWELL POTLUCK	17	----- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 'MAKER FUN FACTORY' 6:15PM-8:30PM -----				22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 HOME FELLOWSHIP	31					

# AUGUST 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST
6	7	8	9 ELDER MEETING	10	11	12
13 PRIME TIMER'S LUNCH	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### COUPLES ADVANCE – IRONWOOD

Friday, October 27 - Sunday, October 29

In addition to spending time and making memories with your spouse, there are oodles of things to do at Ironwood. Some possibilities are:

Old West photos, kayaking, paintball, trail rides, fishing, shooting, campfire, hiking. Stage coach ride and so much more.

Ironwood is a unique western oasis just 2 ½ hours from Simi. Join us for a relaxing weekend to renew your relationship with your spouse and rejoice in God's goodness.

The cost is just \$325.00 per couple and includes everything. Set aside \$21.00/week or \$82.00/month and you are there! See Pastor Roger for more details.

