

FIRST EDITION

Newsletter of First Baptist Church, San Mateo

OCTOBER 2019

PASTOR'S LETTER

PASTOR MARC HEINZ

In the Book of Hebrews, the author makes a very powerful statement in chapter 10, verses 24-25. He says, "*And let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the Day drawing near.*"

As you read this section of Scripture, several things become readily apparent. First of all, we need each other. While there are those people who think they don't need any help in order to live a life in Christ, or who say they are doing just fine in their lives in Christ on their own, God knows otherwise. We need to minister to others & be ministered to. And there is simply no place where this will happen outside the Body of Christ. That's just the way God put things together.

Secondly, as we grow in our faith in Jesus, we need to reach out & help those brothers & sisters in Christ who are just starting their lives in faith. We may be far from complete in terms of our own maturity, yet we should be much further down the road of development than those who have just met the Lord. Thus, we need to reach out to them & help

them grow. It may just be that the teacher really does learn more than the student. As we help others to grow, we grow more ourselves.

Third, the closer we get to the time of Our Lord's return, the more difficult it is going to be to live out our faith in Him. Practically speaking, that is all the more reason we need to work at deepening our relationships with others in the Body of Christ. All of this, then, brings me to the point that we need to be growing together in our commitment to Christ, our love for one another & for those in the community around us who don't know Him yet.

This Fall, as we begin a new season of ministry, I encourage you to get more involved with your brothers & sisters in our church family, so that together we may grow deeper in Christ. There will be a number of opportunities for fellowship, growth & service so please don't just sit there, get involved & plugged in! May we be united in Spirit & one in purpose as we move forward in Christ & serve our great & Awesome God together!

WORD OF THE MONTH: ENCOURAGE

παρακαλέω parakaleó

(from pará, "from close-beside" and kaléō, "to call") – properly, "make a call" from being "close-up and personal." – to call to or for, to exhort, to encourage

Key Verse: Hebrews 10:24-25

"...and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but **encouraging** one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near."

The Lord is truly blessing the ministry here at Awana this year. We have grown in numbers as we have **over 100** children and youth attending on Wednesday evenings. If you enjoy working with children, this just may be the place for you!

It is wonderful to come alongside the children as they hear Bible Stories and/or Stories of Great Christians and/or participate in Bible Study, depending on their age group. The children also worship the Lord in song, spend time in memorizing and reciting Bible Verses, and engage in fun and active games.

The Lord has been bringing new help, and we are very thankful for that. In the past two years He has given us a leader for our Sparks games, a Club Secretary, a music leader, and new leaders in our T and T Clubs. We can still use more leaders as we have 40 in our Sparks Club (K-2nd grade) and 36 in our T and T Clubs (3rd-6th grade). We need more leaders just to help listen to the children recite verses in Sparks. And leaders make a difference: they are the ones who encourage and inspire as they interact with the children. They help keep order and model God's love and care. They can share their own faith as they come alongside the children in all of the activities.

Being a leader at Awana does not require preparation time outside of Club Night. If you think God is calling you to be with us each Wednesday from 6:30-8:00, we would welcome your assistance. Please contact Ron or Cathy Thomas or email us at awanaronthomas@yahoo.com.

HARVEST FESTIVAL NEWS

BRENDA CORZANTES

Join us in sharing the light of Jesus with our community!

October 31 ▪ 4:00-6:00 pm

Pony Rides ▪ Petting Zoo ▪ Video Games ▪ Face Painting ▪ Crazy Maze ▪ Crafts ▪ Cupcake Walk ▪ Family Pictures ▪ Food ▪ Candy ▪ Raffle Prizes ▪ And More!

So many opportunities to volunteer. Sign-ups will be in the narthex.



OCTOBER EVENTS

Hay Maze Youth Event

Tuesday, October 1 ▪ 4:00-8:00 pm

Men's Retreat at Mount Hermon

Friday, October 4-Sunday, October 6

Harvest Festival: Church Cleanup

Saturday, October 19 ▪ 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Movie Night: An Interview With God

Friday, October 25 ▪ 6:30-9:00 pm

Men's Breakfast in the Chapel

Saturday, October 26 ▪ 8:30 am

Harvest Festival Setup

Sunday, October 27 ▪ 12:30 pm (after Second Service)

Lunch Provided

Harvest Festival

Thursday, October 31 ▪ 4:00-6:00 pm

Maze Night: Tuesday, October 1, 4:00-8:00 pm

Come join us for a night of FALL FUN in Half Moon Bay. We'll meet here at church and head over to the Arata Farm's Hay Maze, have some pizza and come back. Bring \$15 for the maze and pizza. Contact Doug for more info. Great event for new kids... invite your friends!

Big Questions of Life Series: Begins Tuesday, October 8, 7:00-9:00 pm

Life presents everyone with questions: *Who are you? Where do you come from? How did you get here? Is there a God? Is there life after death? Can we know right from wrong?* and so much more.

Many believe that these questions have no absolute answer or that you are left to define the answers on your own. But we believe there are real, concrete and discoverable answers to these questions.

Come and explore these questions with us for the next few weeks at our Tuesday night youth meetings. Open to all youth, Junior High through College.

Youth Game Night (Following Harvest Festival): Thursday, October 31, 7:00- 9:00 pm

After we finish cleaning up from Harvest Festival, we'll have pizza and a fun game night for our Junior High & High School youth. We'll be here at church together and we'll provide a pizza dinner, fun costume contest, candy (since you won't be trick-or-treating), games, and a powerful message. Call Doug if you have any questions or you'd like to participate with us! :) (*Note: because of this, there will be NO regular Tuesday night youth this week.*)

Turkey Bowling: Tuesday, November 26, 7:00 pm

Fun night of games, food, and Thanksgiving worship and message. Great event for new kids.

WEEKLY YOUTH EVENTS

Youth Service

Sundays, 11:00 am-12:15 pm

College/Young Adult Fellowship

Alt. Sundays, 12:30-2:00 pm

Youth Group

Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00 pm

COLLEGE HUME TRIP MEMORIES



NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES

What is the Proper Response to God's Grace?

A new Bible study will begin Sunday, October 6. You are invited to go deeper into Scripture to understand more about God's amazing grace. It is a study on various passages in the Pentateuch, First Samuel, First Kings, Luke, and the Epistles.

The class will meet after the first service in the choir room.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

SANDY MURRAY

It is the beginning of another school year and the 7th anniversary of the New Women's Ministry here at FBC. Anniversaries are always good times to reflect back and look ahead. Looking back we have tried to minister these last 7 years in accordance with our Vision Statement. In that statement we define our Vision as... all who participate in this ministry will grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We have offered many opportunities to do just that. Through Bible Studies, retreats, and other events, we have learned together the Word of God and how to apply it to our lives.

Last year we began to implement another of our goals, which is to participate in outreach to the community. God brought us into contact with Teen Challenge and we were able to reach out to them in several different ways. We are looking to expand that ministry this year. In October, the women and the children living at the Alum Rock Teen Challenge Center will be invited to attend Harvest Festival. In November we will be having a food drive to help out with the Center's Thanksgiving Dinner. In addition to Teen Challenge, we will also be exploring other ways to reach out to the community around us. Please be in prayer as to how the Lord would want you to participate.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Oct. 6 Sandy Squire
Oct. 7 Pat Coffey
Oct. 16 Greg Andrews
Oct. 17 Sandy Murray
Oct. 17 Tim Dufficy
Oct. 23 Katherine Chen

First Baptist Church of San Mateo
2801 Alameda de las Pulgas
San Mateo, CA 94403

Visit us online at
fbcsanmateo.org