



Billie Bishop

On Monday, May 21st, Sister Billie, released her bonds to earth and woke up at the feet of her Savior Jesus Christ. Please remember to keep the family in your prayers. The memorial service will be held on Monday, July 16th at 11:00 am here at First Southern Baptist Church of San Lorenzo. There will be a reception following the service.



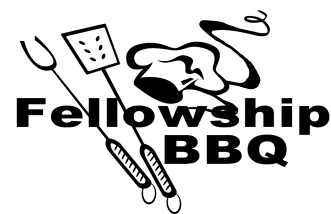
Need a Mission Project This Summer?

We've Got Just the Thing

One of our East Bay churches has a mission opportunity for you right here close to home. Pastor Port Wilburn has asked for volunteers. Please consider his need, and see how you can help. God will bless you for it!

Rock Harbor Christian Fellowship which is a restart church plant in San Pablo is starting on Monday July 16th - July 27th doing renovations to their building and they need your help. We will be doing light construction (sound booth and nursery window). Some flooring, clean up, interior and exterior painting are planned. We could use a few extra hands.

If you are interested in helping please call the church office at 510-276-3688 and we will get you on the work schedule for this summer.



One of the five purposes of the church is FELLOWSHIP, and we at First Southern are pretty good at it! Jean Johnson hosts an annual Memorial Day BBQ at her home, and the goal is not just great food, but also bringing people together. Several churches are represented at the BBQ, so we are always making new friends.

There was plenty of good food, as always. After the meal, everyone was challenged to learn the names of as many of the guests as possible. Prizes were given to those who could name the most. Then, probably the most memorable and special moments came as people praised the Lord in song. Anyone who wanted to could share a favorite song. Some remembered the words and some didn't – the sharing and the praising God was what mattered.

It was a wonderful afternoon of food, fun and fellowship, and a great time was had by all.

Team Report

The Gold Team has been on the job for the month of June. Our slogan is "Jesus wore a Crown of Thorns so that we could wear a Crown of Gold."

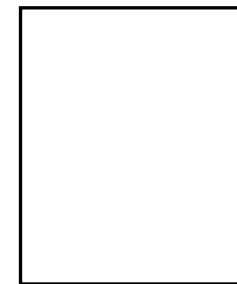
Currently the Gold Team doesn't have a deacon for a leader. Mike Fortner was asked to lead them till a deacon has been chosen. Pastor Chris has been helping out also with the leadership.

We had our first social together in May. There is another in the planning mode for end of June.

We want to thank Lucille Halbach, one of our members, for helping us with our display up in the front of the church. She sewed and put together the table cover and flag.

Several members of the team have been involved with cleaning and getting the church ready for worship. There is a lot to do to get God's house ready for worship.

Kim's Corner



First Southern sponsored a parking lot sale on June 2nd to support *Come and See Africa International*. Many people participated in this fund-raising event, by donating items, and by collecting, sorting, and pricing items.

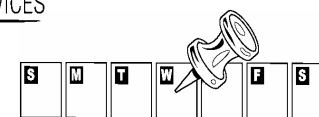
On Thursday, we set up 8 tables in the social hall. Many volunteers came during the two days of preparation. We filled tables with dishes, glasses, and kitchen items. Our social hall looked like a Good Will store. Early on Saturday morning, men from the church carried out overburdened tables onto the parking lot. I was amazed that not even one piece of glass was broken.

At the end of the day, when I heard that we raised only \$1450, my first reaction was, "there has to be a better way to raise funds". I considered all that work by so many people for so many hours. Chris reminded me that the parking lot sale is not just about making money. He pointed out several things that I had not thought of. Many friends and supporters came out to help this fund-raiser. I was so happy to see them and spend the day selling and chatting with them. Part of their heart is going with us to Africa this summer. I also know that they will be praying for the four of us who will be going to Rwanda this summer.

Also, our church had an opportunity to reach out to our community through the yard sale. We met dozens of people from the neighborhood. We made several shoppers happy by providing great stuff at a great price. One church member who volunteered gave this testimony about his experience. "I was going to help set up, and then disappear. But I stayed whole day. Yea, it was hard but it was sweet". As much fun as it was, I'm glad that we are not planning another yard sale until June of '09.



Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm



Wednesday Evening Family Fellowship
5:00 p.m.



New Hope

I read one time that the best thing that a new pastor can bring into his new church is "new hope". I'm not talking about the theological virtue of hope. As the hymn tells us "our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' Blood and Righteousness". I'm talking about hope for the future well-being of the congregation.

This HOPE is "a desire for something to happen, while expecting that it will come true". HOPE is a stronger word than WISH which means "a desire for something to happen". For a while our church had been wishing, but now I see the expectation that it will happen.

Do you sense the new hope at First Southern? I sure do and I'm thankful to God for it. I see new members, new leaders, new children, new energy – NEW HOPE. Now the thing about "hoping" is that it falls short of "happening". All of us who call First Southern our home must join together as a one body to transform hoping into happening.

I recall one of my favorite childhood Sunday School lessons. It was about Ezekiel and the dry bones. Do you remember the old song, "Ezekiel spied dem dry bones"? God commanded Ezekiel to prophesy directly to the bones; to call them back together; to call in the life-giving spirit; and to give them new hope. This is God's work. This is the Holy Spirit renewing His People. "I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD." [Ezekiel 37:14]

I invite all of you reading these words to stop by First Southern Baptist Church in San Lorenzo. You won't find dry bones! Listen to the buzz. Inhale deeply. Look at the new faces. Can you detect the New Hope?

"Pray for Our Men and Women in Uniform"

Mike Brown – Son-in-Law of Al & Jane Thornell
Branch – Marines Rank – Master Sergeant
Assignment – Stationed in Miramar

Nate Fielding – Grandson of Lillian Fielding
Branch – Army Rank – PFC Medic
Assignment – Iraq

Jenny Merritt – Great Niece-in-law of Jean Johnson
Branch – Marines Rank – Corporal
Assignment – Iraq

Kevin Seigal – Son of Elliott & Teresa Seigal
Branch – Air Force Rank – Sergeant
Assignment – Travis Air Force Base

Todd Shaw – Son of Bob & Caryl Shaw
Branch – Army Rank – Staff Sergeant
Assignment – 101st Airborne Special Forces

Devon Henesley – Grandson of Jean Johnson
Branch – Navy Rank – Petty Officer 3rd class
Assignment – Overseas

July Calendar

- 4th - Wednesday Evening Family Fellowship - 5:00 pm
- 9th - Driftwood Ministry - 11:00 am
- 11th - Wednesday Evening Family Fellowship - 5:00 pm
- 14th - EBBA Men's Fellowship - 8:30 am
at Halcyon Baptist Church
- 15th - Lord's Supper - 10:45 am
- 18th - Wednesday Evening Family Fellowship - 5:00 pm
- 21st - VBS Distribution of Flyers - 9:00 am
- 22nd - Quarterly Business Meeting - following am
worship service
- 23rd - EBBA Men's Fellowship - 8:30 am
- 23rd - Driftwood Ministry - 11:00 am
- 25th - Wednesday Evening Family Fellowship - 5:00 pm
- 26th - Open Door Mission - 6:15 pm
- 28th - Men's Breakfast - 8:30 am
- Women's Fellowship - 10:00 am
- 29th - Vacation Bible School - 6:00 pm
(through August 3rd)



- 6th - Don Thornburg
- 8th - John Kopet
- 9th - Gerri Lance
- 12th - Eva Emerson
- 14th - Lorna Prickett
- 17th - Sue Abbott
- 20th - Betty Costa
- 23rd - Sita Abulencia
- 30th - Millie Brogdon
- Martha Housley



- 2nd - Bill & Millie Brogdon
- 5th - Jeff & Debbie Machetta
- 14th - Emil & Lorna Vinuya
- 16th - Alex & Lisa Villafuerte



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Glorifying God ~ Loving One Another ~ Reaching the World

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 29 – August 3, 2007
6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

for ALL ages



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PERMIT NO. 19

We are planning the “best VBS ever” at First Southern Baptist Church during the week of July 29 – August 3. **You** won't want to miss it, and whatever your age, that means YOU!

We have teachers for all ages from preschool to great grandparents! Every age group will have Bible study, music, crafts, snacks, prizes and lots of fun each evening. We are including adults this year because we want whole families to attend VBS together.

The theme this year is “*Game Day Central: Where Heroes Are Made*” and it centers around sports. We will need lots of sports stuff to decorate our church for that week. Any sports equipment, posters, etc. that you might want to lend would be welcome.

Please put the dates on your calendar and plan to attend VBS. Be in prayer for all the teachers as they prepare, and for every student, young and old. More people come to Christ through VBS than any other outreach activity of the church. If you have children in your neighborhood, start talking to them now. Let the church office know and we can pick them up with our church bus.

If we work together we can make this the best Vacation Bible School ever.

It's Not Just for Kids Anymore!



Return Service Requested