



The Castro Valley Connection

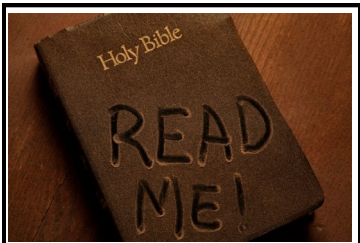
Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene

February 4, 2016

"Facing the Future with Faith"

In this Newsletter—

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- * Roaring Lambs Schedule
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READ MORE ABOUT THE ESSENTIAL NATURE OF FAITH.

- Matthew 17:1-9
- 2 Peter 1:16-18
- Hebrews 11:6
- Matthew 17:20
- 2 Corinthians 5:7
- Matthew 13:58

"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else." C.S. Lewis

Encouragement from Pastor Steve

I am so intrigued about the idea of faith. When I read the Bible I see faith on display over and over again. I see Noah building an ark without ever seeing or experiencing rain. I watch as Abraham leaves everything he ever knew to take a journey without knowing the destination. I see Moses crossing the Red Sea and Joshua marching around the fortified walls of Jericho. I read about Gideon fighting a massive army with 300 men and David's decisive win over Goliath. I consider how the disciples of Jesus were able to be so effective as "ordinary,



uneducated men" and how Paul, transformed as he was, engaged the Gentile world experiencing miracle after miracle. But I also discovered when the **lack of faith** held back the work of God. Even Jesus was limited (somehow) by the lack of faith among his family and friends. (Matt. 13:58)

And so, I have been fascinated by this amazing, God empowered characteristic that all believers should live by.

I must confess to you that very few

people understand faith's practical nature, including me. I can define it, and make an attempt to describe it. But when it comes to the practical nature of faith, most of us are at a loss.

More and more our world, our culture demeans faith because they have been taught to look at everything with reason, proof and empirical evidence.

And so, the Church is caught trying to figure out how a key tenet of Christianity expresses itself practically in a

Prayer Concerns:



Prayer is the foundation of power in the life of the Christian. Please keep the following items on your prayer list this week:

Jerry Nelson

Stella Riojas' son and Tina Frey's brother. The doctors discovered spots in a scan and it greatly concerns the family.

Wisdom in Decisions

There are those who have important decisions to be made. Pray for wisdom.

Grief Support

Pray for those working through the grief journey.

Sandy Guidry

Continued recovery from surgery. Quite a bit of pain still.

Mickey Stephano

Continued healing and health.

Bonnie Bovee

Health: Tests being run this week.

Elizabeth Lopez

Going to U.C. San Francisco for biopsy.

Church Leadership and the Master Plan

Wisdom and favor in the task.

Friends of Bovee's

The Bennett Family. Their niece has an inoperable brain tumor. Trusting the Lord for help.

Ashleigh Colburn

Prayers of protection from influences.

Martha Castleman

Recovery from a mild stroke.

Leadership Board

Monthly meeting will be held Sunday, February 21—after the morning service.

Prayer Team:

For critical items of prayer contact Pastor Steve or Bonnie Bovee to activate the prayer team.

Answered Prayer - An Expression of Thanksgiving



Pray for Missionary Harmon Schmelzenbach Sr. who was hospitalized recently after exhibiting signs of a stroke.

Did You Know....

...that Stacie Redmond was accepted into a practicum program with Sharp Hospital in San Diego? Congratulations!

...that Elayne Powell is planning a move to Montana? We will miss her.

...that Darrell Shinette got a good job with the Golden Gate Bridge Authority?

...that several came to help us

spruce up the church facilities?

...that Michael Copp will be working at the AT&T Pebble Beach Tournament in Monterey on the laser tech crew?

.....that Giving Reports for your 2015 tax preparation are available in the Church office?

Any other news? Keep us informed so we can celebrate with you!

Thank You's

Work Day Participants

Dick & Ester Bellefeuille, Greg Copp, Pat Crum, Zola Schantin, Marilyn Cole, Ed Bovee, Dave Hartshorn, Dennis & Arlene DeVore, Jen, Haley and Ryan Copp, Paul Olsen,

Announcements and Calendar Updates



February	4	7:00 p.m.	Men's Ministry Fellowship—Game Night (Every Thursday)
	10	6:00 p.m.	“Souper Bowl Party”—Evening Bible Study Soup Fellowship
	14	10:45	Alabaster Sunday – A Valentine to Jesus Kids' Wookiee Cookie Day—Dress Up & get a Star Wars Treat
	17	7:00 p.m.	Grief Support Group
	21	12:15 a.m.	Monthly Board Meeting Single Women's Fellowship—El Rancho Steakhouse
	28	10:45 a.m.	Annual All Church Celebration—Reports and Elections
		6:00 p.m.	Community Gospel Music Celebration

Celebrations

February Birthdays

10 Marcelino Hernandez
12 Valerie Bloemink
16 Cole Kosciusko
25 Debbie Mendoza
28 Michael Hartshorn

If your birthday or anniversary are not listed, let us know.

Roaring Lamb's Schedule

February 7: Sarah & Maddie Redmond
February 14: Rick & Linda Cole
February 21: Valerie Bloemink
February 28: Patty Copp

Connected Ministries

Wednesday Walking Group, Meet at the Lake Chabot Marina Exercise Equipment by 9:15 a.m.

Men's Ministry—Thursdays at 7:00

Grief Support—Feb. 17, 7:00 p.m.



The Church of the Nazarene is actively involved in the Jesus Film Project, sharing the story of Jesus to tens of thousands of

people all over the world. The testimonies are amazing.

“A Southeast Asian Campus Crusade for Christ® staff member visited a restaurant where, unbeknownst to him, the owner had been showing the JESUS film for several years. The owner said approximately 30 people—including some from the dominant religion—had come to Christ as a result of watching the film in their heart language. Despite the very real threat of radical groups in the town, the owner said he continues to show the film when there is no indication of danger.”

Pray for continued blessing in this ministry.

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Connection

Visit us on
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Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene
A Welcoming, Affirming Congregation, Dedicated to Becoming a House of
Prayer, a Place of Worship and a Vehicle for the Healing of the Entire
Person

www.castrovalleynaz.org

Sunday Worship Prep

February Sermon Series

"The Practical Nature of Faith in a Faithless
World."

Faith is a strange character, and we struggle understanding it and how it is applied in the Christian life. In this series we will be looking at the practical aspects of faith and how faith works in the life of the believer in Christ. As we prepare for God's blessing in 2016, the one thing we need more than anything is FAITH!

Pastor's Message: Practical Faith in a Faithless World

world that denies it. So, what is "faith" and how does it show itself practically in our lives?

Hebrews 11:1 reads, "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see"

Faith is belief! Faith is trust! And faith is active hope! God takes our simple belief, our absolute trust and our active hope and begins to work through us as we operate in faith. Faith is cooperation with God to do His will.

It is critical that we cooperate with God as He builds faith within us personally. It is critical that

we exercise our belief, our trust and our hope moving toward the mission and vision of our church.

**It is critical
that we
cooperate
with God**

I believe faith is a discipline, it is a process of growth in belief, a journey of trust and the empowerment of hope. It is **not** something we do, nor a commodity to own. Its essential and practical character are that

which we live by and operate in. It is an environment, a mindset, a way of life.

Over these next several weeks we will study this together. Be in worship at **10:45 a.m** as we grow together in Christ.

JANUARY GIVING REPORT

Tithes/Offerings

January Budget: \$14,000.00

January tithes: \$9,959.00

Can you help us?

Please continue to give generously, in faith to fulfill the call of God on our Church.

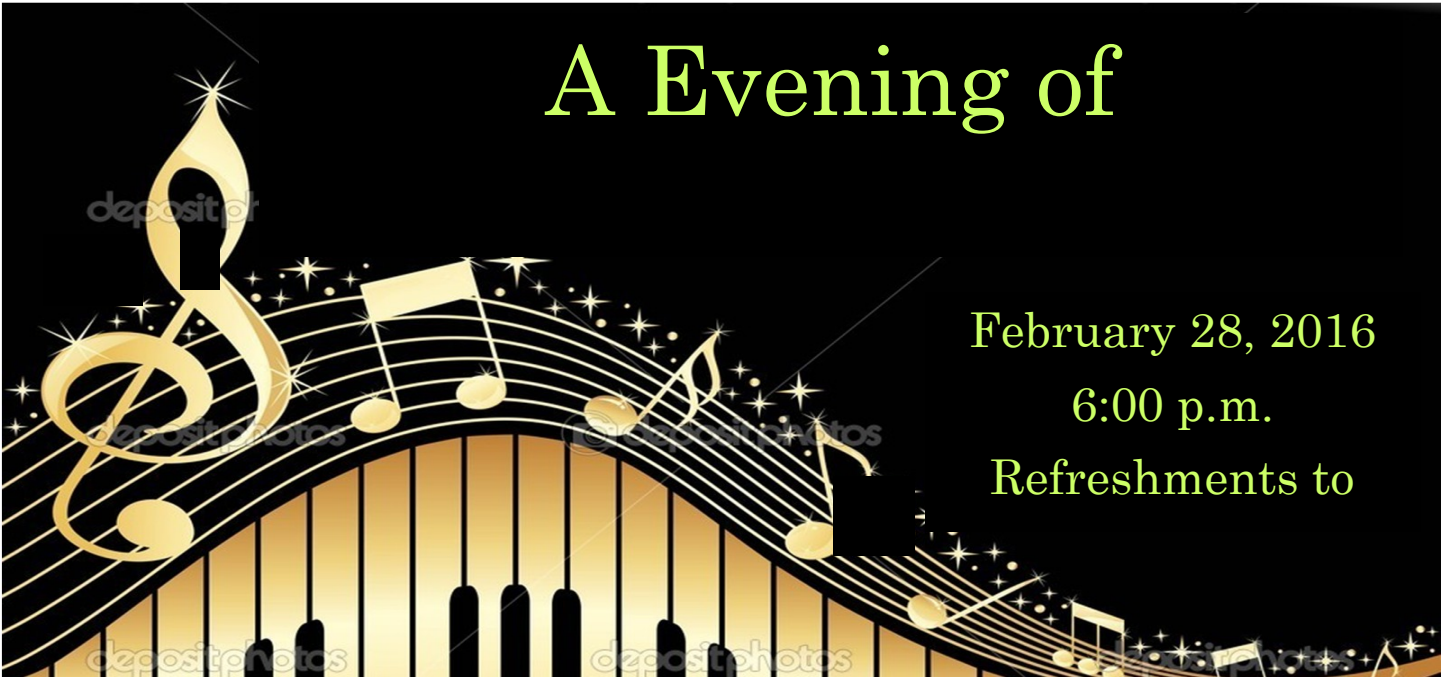
The Castro Valley Connection is published twice monthly with updates sent weekly. For announcements, articles and items of interest email the church office at cvoffice@castrovalleynaz.org.

A Evening of

February 28, 2016

6:00 p.m.

Refreshments to



Church Master Plan

We are moving forward in the next steps of our master plan. What we do depends on your financial support.



Parking Lot Beautification—Plants, Lighting, and Sign Upgrade

Possible Projects—General Repair, Flooring, Painting, Children's Center and Welcome Center

Staff Acquisition—Families with Kid's Pastor

This is very important to the future of our church. Along with staying faithful to regular tithes and offerings, please give toward our 2 funds that make this possible:

Shared Ministry & Building Fund.

February is a critical month for our future. Stand in faith; give trusting the Lord and invest in your church and its future!!!