



The Castro Valley Connection

Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene

April 27, 2016

In this Newsletter—

- * Encouragement from Pastor Steve
- * Prayer Concerns
- * Calendar Items
- * Announcements



READ MORE ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD

- Proverbs 4:23
- Luke 17:21
- Matthew 22:37
- Romans 14:17
- 1 Peter 3:3-4

Colossians 3:15-17

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.”

Encouragement from Pastor Steve

What if I told you that you have a heart condition? What would your reaction be? Most likely you would respond with concern and make a phone call to your doctor.

But, what if your heart's condition is a spiritual problem? What would you do then?

Here's the reality, the *Spiritual Heart Condition* is the greatest challenge in the Church today. The greatest challenges of this world would find resolution if the people of God

would keep as the number one priority of their spiritual life the spiritual health of their heart. Proverbs 4:23 says, “Above all else, guard your heart, for out of it comes everything you do!”

An injured, sin-sick or troubled heart affects your thoughts, your actions, your attitudes and ultimately, shape the deepest part of your being.

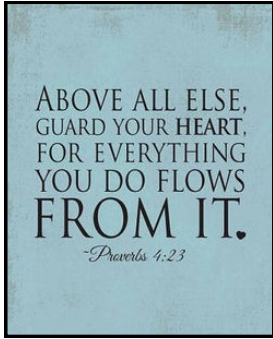
I once bought a gasoline powered pressure washer on Craigslist. The owner said it worked but after I got home it

would start but then quit every time. When I took it apart I found the problem: the oil inside was rancid and nearly made me nauseous. After changing the oil the sprayer worked just fine.

So, if you heart is not healed, if it is not healthy, it will affect your spiritual health as a whole.

But, if you heart is right, no matter what the circumstances on the outside, you're going to be okay.

This is what Jesus is ultimately talking



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:

Jessica Bellefeuille

Having surgery today to correct an issue with her leg. Her legs will need to be broken in two places to fix the issue. Prayer for her, her parents and her grandparents, Dick and Ester Bellefeuille.

Elizabeth Lopez

Although she is doing as well as expected, the aftermath of radiation is causing pain and struggle. Keep her in your prayers.

Bonnie Bovee

Bonnie's pacemaker replacement was a success, but recovery has been slow still with some challenges. Pray for a quick recovery and strength.

Tylenol Needed!



We are collecting unopened Tylenol to help support hospitals in Papua New Guinea that are desperately short on supplies. Please bring your Tylenol over the next two Sundays.



Mission's Convention May 12 District Assembly May 13

In San Jose at the Point Church. Delegates see Pastor Steve for preparation and information.

90th Birthday Celebration

The family of Martha Castleman would like to invite all of the church family to her 90th birthday celebration, May 21, 2016 from 1:00—5:00 p.m. If you plan to attend R.S.V.P. to her son Rob at:

**castlemanr56@gmail.com
or (530) 301-7372**

Mother's Day Celebration

May 8, 2016 at 10:45 a.m.

A special event will take place the morning of Mother's Day. Worship, Special awards as well as special guests the Covenant Players Ministry in Drama.

Prayer Team:

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

**Pray
without
ceasing!**

"Prayer does not fit us for a greater work. It is the greater work."

Charles Spurgeon

Did You Know....

...the Jack Schantin Memorial Golf Tournament was a big success? Thank you Jack Stephano for making it happen.

...Bellefeuille's are visiting family in San Diego? Safe journey.

...that John and Krizia Porter's new arrival, Kimberly Nicole came into this world on March 10 at 7:15 a.m. weighing in at 7lbs 9 oz? Congratulations.

...the flowers in the parking lot were provided and are being maintained by Mark & Valerie Banning? Thank you.

...Our church invested more than 15% towards ministry to others?

...that nearly 100 people attended our monthly Gospel Hymn Celebration with Wayne and Elizabeth Goodine? What a great evening it was. Thank you to all who made it a great success!

...that nearly 20 children participated in the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday? Thank you to everyone who brought candy and surprises.

...that 8 people were anointed at a healing prayer on the 17th? The presence of the Lord was there.

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

Announcements and Calendar Updates



Celebrations

May Birthdays

- 7 Lou Heffernan
- 9 Melissa Walter
- 12 Martha Castleman
- 15 Lynne Rose
- 17 Chris Kosciusko
- 21 Bob Bloemink
- 27 Josie Hernandez
- 29 Bob Frey
- 30 Debbie Olsen
- 31 Maddie Redmond

May Anniversaries

- 9 Greg & Patty Copp
- 27 Don & Rita Cote
- 28 John & Krizia Porter



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

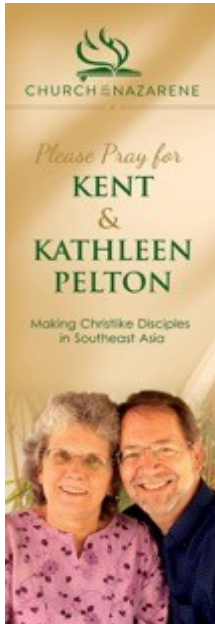
APRIL GIVING REPORT

Tithes/Offerings

April Budget:	\$14,000.00
Received:	\$7,283.00
Still Needed:	\$6,717.00

Can you help us?

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



Missionary Celebration

This Sunday, May 1 at 6:00 p.m.

Kent and Kathleen Pelton
Missionaries from Thailand.

Western Theme

Barbecued Hamburgers and Hotdogs
Bring a favorite bbq topping
And a dessert to share.

Castro Valley Community of Faith presents...



A celebration of faith and unity.

Mary 29th @ Castro Valley High School Stadium

This is a great opportunity to come together and celebrate the unity of the Body of Christ and the celebration in worship and praise. Our church is co-hosting this event and need everyone's support.

We need choir members and 12 ushers. See Judy Carlos or Pastor Steve to volunteer.

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Connection

Visit us on
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The Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene

19230 Lake Chabot Road
Castro Valley, CA. 94546

510 581-8377

cvoffice@castrovalleynaz.org

www.castrovalleynaz.org



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

May Sermon Series

The Kingdom Message

Message 1

"Savior and Lord?"

Steps toward a Sanctified Life!"

Colossians 3:15-17

Pastor's Message: "The Heart Examination"

about when he is addressing the Kingdom of God. Jesus says, "The Kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:21).

He knew the heart to be the center of all spiritual success. He knew the heart to be the center of our desires and spent a lot of time teaching about this condition. Jesus restates the greatest commandment when he says, "Love the Lord your God with all of your **heart**..."

This is also why Jesus spent so much time after His resurrection teaching his disciples about the Kingdom, addressing their heart condition. He knew they wouldn't survive his leaving

without it. For His disciples, it was time for their heart condition to change in



preparation for the work of the Holy Spirit.

Why was this so important to Jesus? Why so essential?

Well, it's actually quite simple. You have to start with the condition of the heart before you can address the conditions of life.

There's nothing more important than your inner

life—what's in your heart.

Life is not your circumstances: the kind of house you live in, the kind of job you have or how much money you have. You can have the best of these things and still be miserable.

But, it's amazing how in the middle of the lousiest circumstances, including the turmoil that's going on in the world today, you can find peace if you keep your heart in the right condition.

Here it is. The "Kingdom come," is a Kingdom of the heart where Jesus is Savior **and** Lord.

How's your heart?

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 Tribute to Marie

From an article in the Castro Valley Forum.

There are so many people in this world, quiet and unassuming citizens who have a way of making this world a much better place simply by their presence in it.

At 4' 7" and weighing in at 80 pounds Marie Fowler was a long time Castro Valley resident who certainly fits that bill. And without a doubt, she made this world a much better place for many people.

Marie was a walker; she was a Castro Valley walker. You may have seen her clad in her signature purple visor and light jackets making her way to Lake Chabot for a daily walk. When Lake Chabot Park opened

in the 1960's Marie and her husband Emerson were there the day the park opened for their first walk. Emerson and Marie would walk at the lake together every evening for many years - passing by the old Nike base and then back down to the lake before heading home. After Emerson passed away in 2006 Marie would continue to walk to the lake every day, even into her late 90's. It was a daily routine. At 98 years old she would still stop at the marina and hang from the exercise bars, swinging for a minute or two before heading home. And along the way, she could be caught picking flowers to fill the vases in her living room.

Here's the thing, more than anything Marie inspired so many people throughout the years; she would constantly hear people say, "I walk here because of you!" or, "If you can do it, so can I." She always felt blessed to be a role model. Even as dementia began to take its toll, walking was so much a routine that she continued to put on her purple visor and her light jacket and head to the lake, even forgetting that she had already been there earlier that day. Neighbors would tell her family she walked to the lake 3 or 4 times that day. It was then that her family would keep track of her on her keychain GPS and sometimes watch as she walked to Castro Valley Blvd, stop to have a glass of water with strangers, or hitch a ride from the Alameda County Sheriff's Deputies, just to make sure she got home safely. They knew her by first name and as one of the sweetest ladies they had ever had the opportunity to meet. She never met a stranger; she'd stop to talk to anyone, especially if they were little children. And on those occasions where she would make the wrong turn - neighbors would invite her in, carry on a conversation and help her home.

From Volga German descent, her parents owned a farm in Castro Valley where they raised chickens and sold eggs on from their home on Grove Way. Born on Easter Sunday, April 8th, 1917 she lived in the San Leandro area for awhile before marrying Emerson and eventually moving to Castro Valley in 1957. She attended Faith Lutheran Church, taught Sunday School for many years and became a vital part of the Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene congregation. Through the years, she saw a lot of changes in Castro Valley, in the world.

There are a lot of people in Castro Valley who know her. She was a part of the fabric of Castro Valley. She wasn't afraid to stop and talk to anyone that had the time. Even County Workers, Waste Management truck drivers and the Alameda Country Sheriff's Deputies all knew her by first name.

Walking was her life. On April 8, 2012, the Chabot Walkers club threw her a 95th birthday party; someone picked her up at her home as a special guest and brought her to their annual picnic. What would a celebration among the Lake Chabot Walking Club be without their charter member?

Marie took her final walk toward the lake April 2 and the next walk she would take was into eternity. Yes there are quiet, unassuming citizens around town, people who have a way of making this world a much better place simply by their presence in it. Marie Fowler was one of those. She will be missed.

Marie was a beautiful part of our great congregation and was so happy. She would sing the praises of this great church with all of her heart.

There will be a memorial picnic in her honor on May 14 at Lake Chabot Park. Everyone from the congregation is invited to attend. Keep watch for information and logistical details.