



The Castro Valley Connection

Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene

March 2020

Inside this Edition

- * Encouragement from Pastor Steve
- * Calendar Items
- * Special Announcements
- * Did you know?
- * Sunday Worship Prep
- * Discipleship Resources

Becoming A Devoted Follower of Jesus



Get into the Word

Take a Look!!!

- John 14:15
- 1 Samuel 15:22
- 1 John 5:3
- Jeremiah 7:23



Today's Message

"The Life of an Obedient Follower of Jesus."

Judges 7

It's Been a Very Good Year!

From Pastor Steve

This past year we focused on Growing Together and being connected in the Life of Devoted Followers of Jesus. What a good year it was.

And so, we do everything we can to equip our people to be what we need to be, engaging our community, sharing compassion and serving for Jesus

2019 was a very good year. I want you to know and believe that 2020 holds greater opportunity than ever before. God is ready, are we?

I am asking God to renew my passion, to build in me a vision for this new year, to challenge me to step out in faith, in confidence, in boldness and allow Him to lead

me wherever He desire. Will you join me?

THANK YOU

I want to take a moment to thank those who gave so much to make this such a good year.

Thank you **Rev. Salvador Zavala** and **Rev. Simon Lam** and **your teams** for your faithfulness in leading the Spanish and Chinese language ministries.

Each chapter of our church's history has been guided by the hand of the Lord and we are thankful for all He does. But we could not do it without a long list of dedicated leaders and volunteers.

To our corporate secretary, **Debbie Hartshorn** and our corporate treasurer, **Greg Copp**, I want to express my profound appreciation not only for the task you do but for the encouragement

you give to walk in faith.

Thank you for your faithful service to this church, for your integrity in keeping us reasonable and on track.

To our 2019-2020 Leadership Board: **Judy Pierce, Dana Cintrone, Ed Bovee, Wylie Davis, Marilyn Cole, Matt Tuter, Karen Anderson and Mike Roche**—thank you for your faith, your vision and confidence in the task God has given to us. You have operated in faith and have seen that faith rewarded.

To **Judy Pierce** our bookkeeper and your finance team for years of faithful service and integrity in finances.

Thank you to **Linda Cole** and her Mission's team for keeping us connected to God's work around the world. To our ministry leaders, **Suzanne Redmond** (Women's Ministry) **Al & Jane Thornell** (Senior Adult Fellowship), **Linda Cole** (Mission's

Prayer Concerns:



Please keep the following items on your prayer list this week:

Ed Bovee has been improving and should be home by now, if all goes as predicted by the doctors.

Bonnie Bovee had another surgery on Thursday, Feb. 27th. Pray that it has been very successful and that she'll heal quickly.

Richard Oregon is mending from his broken leg, but still can't put pressure on that leg. Pray for his full healing and for Penny as she cares for him.

Mike Roche continues to deal with the complications of fighting leukemia. Things change constantly. Please keep praying for them both.

Ruthine Boddie sent a beautiful card to Bonnie, asking her to tell the church that she misses everyone and sends greetings and love. She has lost most of her eyesight. She'd love

to have visitors or cards (which someone would read to her).

Unspoken Needs: There are people with pains, worries and illnesses which haven't been shared, but the Lord knows about them. Let's ask His blessing and help for those unspoken needs.

Our Country and its Leaders: Our country needs to be united we need our leaders to be looking towards God for help and answers. Let's pray that the Lord will draw them to Him and that He will guide them. Our country needs to turn back to Him!



Those who don't yet know the Lord Please remember to pray for all of those who have not yet found the joy and salvation of relationship with the Lord. Pray the Lord will lead you to someone with whom you can share, and that He will give you

Please Note

- **Membership Sunday and Elections.—Today, March 1st**

Membership Sunday is today. We celebrate the past year and look into the year ahead. Leadership elections will take place at the end of the service.

- **Leadership Announcement**

Today we'll be nominating leadership for the next year. We have need for strong, committed leaders in our church board and in ministry.

- **Start a New Ministry**

If you have an idea for a new ministry or have it in your heart to lead, please see Pastor Steve. We are the church. You and all of us are the body that moves to share who God is and to serve Him together. Get involved!! It is always rewarding.

Prayer Team:

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

Prayer is essential for the life of the believer, for in it is the vital connection with God.

If there are other prayer concerns, please let the office know. Our prayer chain is ready and willing to pray!

Did You Know....

- CV NAZ has *gentle* "Stretch and Strong" classes (free) for ladies on Wednesdays from 1-2 p.m.
- The Pierce Small Group meets every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m.
- Every Thursday evening at 7:00 there is a Men's Bible Study Fellowship here in the Fireside Room.
- Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday morning at 10:00, there is a Ladies' Bible Study at church.
- Every 3rd Thursday we have a Senior Luncheon at church.
- We have a beautiful sign outside our front doors on which we can "announce" activities. Wouldn't you like to be the person who puts the announcement on the board, as a ministry? It's a great outreach!

- **ROARING LAMBS SCHEDULE**

March 2020

- 1 Valerie Bloemink
- 8 Gerry Hauser
- 15 Jane Thornell
- 22 Valerie Bloemink
- 29 Gerry Hauser



Announcements and Calendar Updates

Let's Get Engaged!



March Calendar

- 1 Celebration/Fellowship Sunday *and*
- 2 Gospel Music Night
- 3 Pierce Small Group—7:00 p.m. (*every* Tuesday evening)
- 4 Ladies' Stretch & Strong Exercise 1:00-2:00 (*every* Wed.)
- 5 Men's Bible Study—7:00 (*every* Thursday evening)
- 7 "Getting to Know You" Women's event (*each* first Saturday)
- 12 Women's Bible Study at church (*each* 2nd/4th Thurs.)
- 19 Senior Luncheon (*each* 3rd Thursday of the month)
- 21 Fellowship Activity—Game Night at 6:30
- 29 Gospel Music Night—6:00

March Events

- 1 Fellowship Sunday *and* Gospel Music Night
 - Every Tuesday Evening, Pierce Small Group
 - Every Wednesday—Women's Exercise
- 7 "Getting to Know You" Women's Gathering
 - Every Thursday Evening—Men's Bible Study
- 29 Gospel Music Night—6:00 p.m.



Celebrations

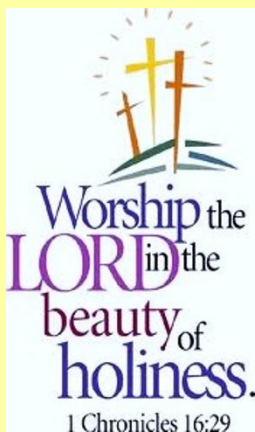
March Birthdays

- 4 Arlene Devore
- 4 Adrianna Porter
- 11 Karen Anderson
- 17 Virginia Lam
- 17 Don Walton
- 19 Mike Roche
- 21 Ron Gehrke
- 24 Rolan Kosciusko
- 25 Penny Oregon
- 28 Sue Little
- 31 Ralph Hauser

March Anniversaries

- 7 Darrell & Hongyan Shinnette
- 27 Ivan & Debra Mendoza

If your birthday or anniversary are not listed, let us know. We want to stay updated.



Monthly Fellowship Activities

We're planning a "Game Night" for Saturday, March 21st starting at 6:30 p.m.

Bring your favorite game or choose from those we'll supply. We'll start with a couple of rounds of Bingo, and then move on to your own choices. Snacks will be provided.

In APRIL we'll have another Movie Night. We're hoping to show "If Only" on April 11th.

March Senior Luncheon

The March Senior Luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 19th.

Be sure to sign up on the sheet on the wall outside the office the Sunday prior.

Thank you!

Senior Luncheons

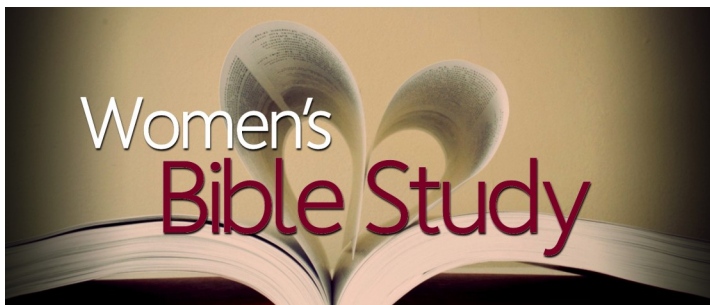
On the 3rd Thursday of each month the Seniors all gather in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck luncheon at 12 noon. There is generally a great variety of delicious food to share. There is wonderful visiting, and sometimes there's a theme led by Pastor Steve.

Bring your singing voice for a few minutes of singing the great hymns we grew up with, and bring your smile to light up someone else's heart. Friends are always welcome.

Many warm thanks to Jane and Al Thornell who get everything up and running each time, and to Barbara Cook who brings and sets up exquisite decorations.

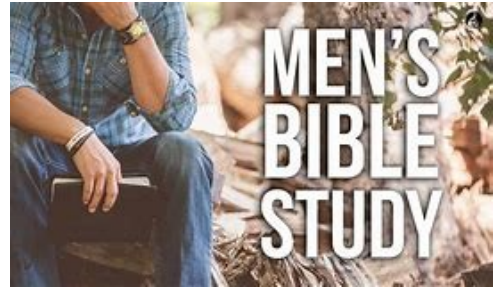
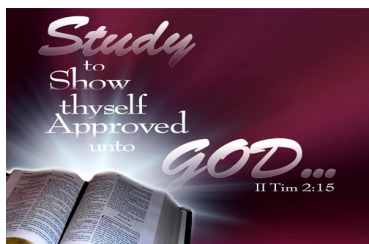
COMING UP SATURDAY, MARCH 21ST

Our next "Fellowship Activity Night" will be a "Game Night" on Saturday, March 21st. We'll begin at 6:30 p.m. with 20 to 30 minutes of Bingo, and then move on to other games. Please bring your favorite game to share, or try out those we'll have here for you. Snacks will be provided. **PLAN TO COME and BRING FAMILY, FRIENDS and NEIGHBORS.** It's a great way to get to know one another better.



Women's Bible Study

Ladies, you are invited to join the Women's Bible Study gathering each 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. For detailed information, please contact Dana Cintrone at (510) 367-5264. Searching the Word with Christian sisters brings joy to your life! Next gathering is March 12th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.



Men's Bible Study Every Thursday Night

The men gather every Thursday evening at 7:00 in the Fireside Room for Bible Study with Pastor Steve. If you haven't tried it, make an effort to come and see how great it is!



FREE Ladies' Stretch & Strong Exercise Class meets in the Fellowship Hall every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00 to 2:00. It is a gentle, yet serious workout, led by Penny Oregon. Invite your friends or anyone to whom you might want to reach out!

Food for Thought

"Stewardship is the act of organizing your life so that God can spend you" Lynn A. Miller, author.

"I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all. But whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess." Martin Luther (1483-1546) German reformer and theologian.

"I never would have been able to tithe the first million dollars I ever made if I had not tithed my first \$1.50 per week." John D. Rockefeller, Sr. (1839-1937) American industrialist and philanthropist.

"When we give to God, we are just taking our hands off what already belongs to Him."

"Give to God what's right— not what's left."

Gospel Music Nights—2 in March!



This month, we're having Gospel night tonight, March 1st, at 6:00 p.m. which is in lieu of having had one in February. *AND* we'll be having the usual Gospel Music Night for March on the 29th. Double the fun!

Be sure to invite friends and family for what is always a very special and fun time, and a time of worship as well.

Members, please bring finger desserts, or finger snacks (fruit, cheese crackers, etc.) Thank you all !!

The Season of Lent Has Begun

Beginning on Ash Wednesday (this year, Feb. 26th) Lent lasts for 40 days and is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebration of Easter. By observing the 40 days of Lent, Christians replicate Jesus Christ's sacrifice and withdrawal into the desert for 40 days.

Church Blood Drive Coming Up

On Saturday, April 18th, Suzanne Mason will be spearheading a Blood Drive on behalf of the American Red Cross. Complete details to follow, but please put the date on your calendar.

Food Program

Most of you already know we have been receiving and redistributing food from Trader Joe's for the last few weeks.

Each Saturday, somewhere between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., we are making Food from Trader Joe's available; to church members, their families, friends and anyone you know in need.

Penny Oregon is managing a team of volunteers who are able to help set up and clear up. Every hand is a blessing, as this food ministry is a blessing to us and a chance for us to bless and reach out to others.

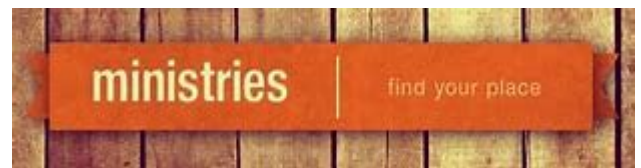
Sunday Worship Leaders



We are so happy to have Jaraed and Jyra Bello leading us in worship! They have an adorable 1 year old son, Jacob. Please take a moment to welcome them. What a blessing they are to us!

2019 Giving Reports (for taxes)

The 2019 Charitable Giving reports have been ready and have *mostly* been handed out or picked up. If you don't have yours, please check the office where we have a few remaining. Thank you for your commitment to the ministry of this great church by your faithful giving.



Serving in Your Church Ministry Leaders are Needed

Anyone who has served in church can tell you it's a blessing to the server as well as to those being served. There are many needs! Ask Pastor Steve what we need, or consider the following:

- Our Church Sign Message Board (we need someone to put up messages as activities change.)
- Sunday School Teachers for Roaring Lambs and for Junior High level.
- People willing to be on a "team" for setting up and taking down decorations and food for Gospel Music Nights. If we get enough steady helpers, no one should have to work every month.
- Someone willing to *lead* the team of Gospel Music Night workers.
- Do you have ideas of your own? Some area of giftedness or desire to serve in a capacity we don't have? If there is a ministry you'd like to start or lead, check with Pastor Steve. Maybe we can get it up and running!



The Castro Valley Connection

Visit us on
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The Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene

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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

Sunday Worship Prep
Today is Fellowship Sunday. Be proactive in investing in each other and encouraging each other in the faith.

Getting to Know You-Women's Event-March 7th

This coming Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m., please plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall for a wonderful time—for women only-

Bring a brunch food item to share, and your heart for others as this is a time to share, to pray for each other and to enjoy Christian Sisterhood.

If you like to read, "Bring a Book and Take a Book." We have a table full of books to choose from and here's your chance to pass on good reads you enjoyed but don't need anymore.

This is also an outreach, so consider inviting a friend, neighbor, co-worker or family member.



Pastor's Message: Celebration of a Really Good Year (continued)

Connection and Roaring Lambs), **Bonnie Bovee** (Cookie Ministry) and **Gerry Hauser** (Roaring Lambs) for your dedication to the ministry and to God's people here.

Thank you **Darrell Shinnette** for keeping our facilities looking beautiful every week.

To our greeters and ushers, our prayer chain, Sunday School and small group teachers, to those who serve as Bible study leaders, host homes for small groups, ushers and greeters, who help organize musicians, play in the worship band, sing in the worship team and ensembles and support the Gospel Music Night Outreach, those who care for our facilities and grounds, bake and deliver cookies, take pictures, work in our new Food Outreach, purchase supplies, serve in Senior Home Ministries, and those who give generously and regularly to the funding of this church: A **HUGE** thank you to all!!! We cannot do it without you. You, the volunteers, the ones who contribute without being asked, God bless you in incredible ways.

God has blessed us with all of you. I cannot thank you enough for your unwavering dedication to the Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene.

You are wonderful people who are willing to allow God to use you to bless His church.

As Pastor, it is exceptionally important that I have a safe place to go when I'm not on a ministry assignment. Thank you **Suzanne** for making home a good place, for being my confidant and the best wife ever! I am blessed.

I am confident that if we are ready and willing God plans to bless and will do so in ways that we cannot imagine.

It's time for everyone to live in expectation of another great year and let that expectation empower our engagement and service. Let's step out in faith and ask, "What is it that God wants of us?" Here we go!

Monthly Giving Report

Tithes/Offering

Income Goals:

Ministry Budget:	\$ 18,000.00
Received in February	\$ 13,418.40
Needed for March	\$ 18,000.00

Thank you for your faithfulness !!

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

For the Ladies — GETTING TO KNOW YOU

When? - This coming Saturday Morning at 10

Where? - In the Fellowship Hall

Bring? - A brunch item to share

A book to leave (and take one that's new to you)

Your heart to share with other women

And your love for the Lord

What? - A lovely time of gathering, sharing, getting to know one another, encouraging, being encouraged, learning and maybe a craft. Prayer? Yes!

Who? - YOU and anyone you'd like to invite.



For Everyone - Tonight - 6:00 p.m.



Tonight we welcome church members, friends, neighbors, family—everyone, to joins us for a night of the songs we grew up with, favorite hymns and an evening of joy.

Plan to come; bring a finger treat to share. Warm up your singing voice and let's sing together!

