



# 2021 *be engaged*

Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene

Engage Jesus, His Word, Worship, Prayer, Fellowship and Service

August 2021 Newsletter

## Are You Ready for God to do a New Thing in Your Life?



There are many things that can bog us down and we can fall into a rut. We can fall into the rut of the past. Not every decision we make in our lives turn out to be the right decision. However, we must learn not to stay in that mode because it will absolutely ruin the day, making us completely unproductive and discouraged. We can fall into the rut of routine. Routine can help us be productive but it can also crush initiative, creativity, adventure and joy! It can blind us to open doors and what God wants to bring into our lives. We can fall into the rut of circumstance. Perhaps you're going through something that you cannot see a way out. Or we can fall into the rut of complacency. We get so comfortable with where we are that we don't really see a need for anything new.

God loves you just as you are but loves you too much to keep you the same. It is God's desire to continually transform us. You might be asking, "Can God really do a new thing for me?" The answer is an emphatic "YES!"

This is a very important message for our world today. I get the feeling there are a lot of people wondering where the good in life is. Every day we seem to wake up to bad news: pandemics, economic challenges, political unrest and daily uncertainty. That's the way of the world. God's way is that of confidence, joy and peace.

Believer, we are at the right place at the right time! Get ready for God to do a new thing in you, in us and in the world around us.

## WHO ARE YOU STANDING WITH?

Has God laid someone on your heart? It's time to stand with someone to assist them in their God designed calling. Who will that be for you?



# The Castro Valley Connection

## Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene



1 John 1:9.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Psalm 103:12-13

<sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west,  
So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

<sup>13</sup>As a father pities his children,  
So the LORD pities those who fear Him.

**Need to get out and have a little light exercise?**

Beginning on August 3 join us for a 13 week Tuesday morning leisurely walking group.

8:30 a.m. at the Lake Chabot Marina Café. It's a 3.3 mile, easy walk. Bring water and comfortable shoes.

**Contact Suzanne Redmond for information.**

### Updating Church Family Photo Board

We would really like to get the photo board back up by getting new photos of everyone, each family or couple. Many of the photos we had were getting pretty out of date.

*Is there someone who would be willing to take the pictures and print them up for us in the next month or two? If so, please see Pastor Steve about getting this started. We so appreciate any help you can give.*

Of course, that means we all need to stand still for a minute and allow that picture to be taken!

The Photo Board helps newcomers learn names, and helps "oldtimers" figure out the names of the newcomers. Isn't it great when people know your name?



**We Are Set Free from Bondage to Sin**

**We are Forgiven for All Sins, through Christ**

We can rejoice because the Holy Spirit in us, who comes when we accept Christ, has given us discernment and wisdom and guidance to live for God and not for ourselves. We can resist sin and live lives of abundance, full of God's love and care.

We can let go of all shame and fear because God's forgiveness is complete— He forgets our sins. We are meant to live free from sin, old and new.

The Castro Valley  
Connection

Visit us on  
facebook

## 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

### Food Program at CV Naz

Every Saturday at about noon, we receive food to share with the needy. If you are in need, or know anyone who is, please come pick up some food to share. There is a variety of food items available. *Come and be a part of this blessed ministry.*



Sunday, August 22 at 6:00 p.m.

# celebrations

### August Anniversaries

- 3 Mark & Becky Amedio
- 18 Dave & Debbie Hartshorn
- 20 Mike & Beverly Roche
- 24 Bob & Valerie Bloemink



### August Birthdays

- 1 Marilyn Cole
- 1 John Porter
- 3 Bonnie Bovee
- 4 Jack Stephano
- 12 Donna Gerhke
- 13 Elizabeth Austin
- 18 Patrick Alvarez
- 24 Al Thornell
- 26 Jacque Hauser
- 26 Ross Martinson

### July Giving Report for Tithes and Offerings

#### Monthly Income Goals:

Needed Ministry Budget for July:	\$ 18,000.00
Received for July:	\$ 21,970.88
Needed for August:	\$ 18,000.00

Thank you for being faithful *to the Lord and to His church.*

### PASTORAL PRAYER SUPPORT

August 2021

Pastor Steve and Suzanne

Stacie, Allison, Ross, Sarah, Madison

Prayer Support from the Castro Valley Church of the Nazarene church family

Happy Birthday

Ross Martinson August 26

Point Loma Nazarene University- New beginnings Madison Redmond

How then shall we pray? Pray as God leads you, and here are some ideas:

Pray that:

*Messages from the pulpit, Sunday School, Bible studies would continue to be led by the Holy Spirit, anchored in the Word of God, guiding us to Truth in Jesus Christ.*

*The Lord would be their Shield and Deliverer from assaults of the enemy*

*The Lord would equip them for what He calls them to be and to do.*

*The Lord would be Sovereign over their health concerns and Provider for all their needs*

*The Lord would bless them as they commit their marriage(s) to Him*

*The Lord would give them healing rest, deep laughter, honest tears*

*The Lord would show Himself faithful and strong as they encounter challenges and hardships designed to test their faith*

*The Lord would give them a deep hunger and love for the Word of God*

*The Lord would be their Strength in times of weakness*

*The Lord would direct their paths*

*The Lord would give them questions that only He can answer*

*The Lord would be blessed by their praise and worship*

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.*



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.

## Church Directory Changes

→ We are beginning to work on updating the Church Directory. Please note whether your information is included in the current 2021 Directory, or if any information needs updating or correcting. If inclusion or changes are needed, please send that information to the Church E-mail, topic "Directory Changes." And if you don't mind, please also give us your information on a piece of paper. *Thank You !!!*

## Missions Report

Hello church family!

As I was thinking about what to write this month, the Lord brought to mind the armor He has given to us for protection against the "wiles of the devil" (Ephesians 6:11). Specifically on my mind is verse 15 which says "And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." Every Christian has the responsibility to share the Gospel wherever they go. I am convicted as I think over my busy days...do I share Jesus? Of course the Light of the Gospel is always shining through us, but having "your feet shod" denotes action and purposefulness. Part of the armor we are to put on every day is the Gospel...it's for our protection! As we share the Gospel, the devil will have less and less influence over us and those around us. We want him to be afraid of us!! I want this protection and power from the Holy Spirit, don't you?

This month let's focus our prayers for our missionaries. Pray that...

1. They would sense God's presence in a new and fresh way with the assurance He will never leave them  
*Be strong of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the*

*LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you - Deut. 31:6*

2. They would sense our prayers for them  
*Pray without ceasing - I Thess. 5:17*

3. They would experience God's comfort  
*Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, Who has loved us and give us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work. - II Thess. 2:16*

*Casting all your care upon Him; for He cares for you - I Peter 5:7*

4. They would see God open doors to evangelism  
*Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak. - Col. 4:3*

5. They would be rooted in God's

Word

*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. - II Tim. 3:16-17*

Next month I hope to bring you an update on our focus missionaries, Esdras and Scarlet Jiménez. We are working with them for the possibility of partnering together on a missions project. Let's lift them up in prayer in the meantime!

Thank you for your prayers for our missionaries!

Becky  
CV Naz Missions



**Prayer Concerns:**

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

**Mike Roche:** Mike has received good news; his leukemia levels are so low the doctors say he is in remission! We Praise God for that! But he is still hoping for a bone marrow transplant. He just went through 5 days of chemo to qualify. Please continue for a miracle for Mike, for complete healing. Thank you!

**Bob & Valerie Bloemink:** Thank the Lord, Bob is recovering from hip surgery and gaining strength. Just in time, as Valerie is facing 2 surgeries soon. One in August will be for hip replacement. Please keep them both in prayer!

**Barbara Cook:** Please continue to pray that she will gain much more strength and that the medical efforts to improve her

oxygen levels will be very successful. We're so grateful for her improvement and pray for more!

**Jim Correia:** Please pray for Jim as his cancer has returned and is inoperable. He is currently in Hawaii and is scheduled to return in November. May the Lord give him peace and trust, and comfort for him and his family.

**Cindy Eastman:** Cindy's brother is seriously ill and in the hospital. And her mother has also been ill. Please pray for encouragement and wisdom for Cindy and family and for healing according to God's will.

**Marlene Patten:** Pray for complete healing from serious eye surgery.

**Unspoken Needs** There are many needs not expressed but the Lord knows. Please pray for those who have not shared their needs.

**For our Country and World:** May God's hand guide and the Spirit lead us into all truth and may revival begin in the Church of Jesus.

## Prayer Ministry

For critical items of prayer contact Pastor Steve or Bonnie Bovee to activate the prayer team. **If there are other prayer concerns, please let the office know. Prayer updates are sent out via email and phone notification.**

### Thing to know ...

You might have noticed the floor in the Fellowship Hall is in "transition." We will be having new floor coverings installed in there, and soon, there will also be new floor coverings in the Hallway and Foyer. We thank God for His provision!

**COVID Guidelines:** As you have probably heard, there has been a resurgence of new cases. Masks are now required inside. For us, please wear your masks into the church building. Let us be

aware, be cautious and considerate of others. God bless you all.

**\*Stay home if you don't feel well or have been in contact with a sick person.**

**\*If vaccinated and in good health, come to church with confidence but do keep a social distance and refrain from direct contact**

**\*Do use antibacterial wipes and lotion which are available through-out the building.**  
*Thank you!*

### Men's Bible Study

#### Fellowship

Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room, and on Zoom.

### Women's Fellowship Bible Study

The second and fourth Thursdays of each month. See Dana Cintrone or Judy Pierce for information.

### Adult Sunday School

Sundays  
Fireside Room in person (or available on Zoom)  
9:00—10:00 A.M.

### Saturday Fellowship and Hymn Singing

Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.  
many have joined together for an hour of fellowship, coffee and singing. Join us!

### Looking Ahead

It's AUGUST already; how this year has flown by. The news is confusing, so back and forth on where we are, what we are to do in our communities as we deal with the "Pandemic." But, praise God, we are in His hands. Therefore, we look forward to His plans for us. Meanwhile, CV Naz is anticipating another BBQ at the end of September, and then more Church Family Activities.

We Love You All

## **Next Hymn-Sing Along Night**

**Sunday, August 22nd**

*In July, we had a great turn-out to our Hymn-Sing Along. This has always been a time of refreshment and joy, as well as an outreach. Please consider bringing a friend or family member. It could be just what they need to feel encouraged and refreshed.*

*Very great thanks to all who participate with their instruments and voices. It makes for a wonderful blessing for all!*

*You are appreciated!*

## **Sunday School via Zoom (Join Us)**

We're continuing as we have been doing during Covid days, by meeting on Zoom for Sunday School. But we can also be together, now, too (for now... We'll see what comes up.)

Join Pastor Steve and others in the Fireside Room at 9:00 a.m. if you can come in person.

For Zoom(ers), Pastor Steve sends out invitations to join on Zoom from the comfort of your home, *via his updates on Email*. Keep a lookout!

The more the merrier for Sunday School! It is a *great* time of learning and fellowship.

## **You Can Be A Helper!**

- - If you could help, with flower arrangements— please see Valerie Bloemink, she does it all alone every week!! Valerie will be having surgery in August and will not be able to do the flowers for a while. Is there someone who has a talent or even just a desire to help our in church? If so, please speak to Valerie about how you might help. Thank you!!
- - Thank you so much Billie Stevens and Elizabeth Austin for filling the gap in card writing. We appreciate you! And heartfelt thanks to Barbara Cook and Zola Schantin who faithfully sent cards for so long. AND to Diane Reed who has done and continues to bless us in this kind manner.
- - Thank you Dick and Ester Bellefeuille for all of your work in preparing the fellowship hall for paint and then reassembling the blinds to get the room back up and running!
- - Interested in helping the homeless? We send food and supplies to 3 encampments every week! Would you like to be a part of the team? The serve Saturday afternoons. Here's your chance.

## **Saturday Morning Meet & Greet**

With the new Covid resurgence, things might change. But hopefully the following can continue..... As many of us meet at the church Saturday mornings between 10-12 a.m., to check out the Food Distribution and to see our church family in a casual atmosphere, music often springs forth from several talented members who get the piano humming and others with instruments join in... and we have a great singing time, often from 11 till noon. Bring your voice or and instrument and join the fun! You'll be glad you did. See you there!

But also, please be aware of any new mask and health mandates from the government. We trust God but are obedient citizens as well.

## ***Well, NORMAL seems to be postponed, again...***

Let us be strong in the Lord, and patient with circumstances and one another.

If you are vaccinated or have already had Covid, you are probably safe. But, there are those who are not or might be fearful. Please consider the feelings and comfort of others in church. Let's wear masks if we are asked to, and keep the distances suggested. We need to put off the hugs we had begun to enjoy, and even hand shaking. And, let's use the disinfectant wipes!

## “What is the Sabbath?”

From our Sunday School Series on “Biblical Sabbath.”

This was shared at the end of a Sunday School session in which we have been delving into.

**Consider this:**

**Sabbath is the vehicle through which Completeness is Attained by a Christian**

“It is in this state of perfection that the Holy Spirit works many marvelous things in our souls. In such a condition, our whole being lies perfectly still under the hand of God; every faculty of the mind and will and heart are at last subdued; a quietness of eternity settles down into the whole being; the tongue grows still, and has but few words to say; it stops asking God questions; it stops crying, “Why has Thou forsaken me?”; the imagination stops building air castles, or running off on foolish lines; the reason is tame and gentle; it stops debating and quits all dogmatism; the will ceases from its own activity; the bluster and zeal of self-action is taken out of it; the choices are annihilated; it has no choice in anything but the purpose of God. The affections are weaned from all creatures and things; it loves nothing but God and God’s Will in any given thing; it has no private ends to serve; it has no motives except to please God; it is so dead that nothing can hurt it, nothing can offend it, nothing can hinder it, nothing can get in its way; for, let its circumstances be what they may, it seeks only for God and His Will, and it feels assured that God is making everything in the universe, good or bad, past or present, work together for its good. Oh, the blessedness of being absolutely conquered! Of losing our own strength, and wisdom, and goodness, and plans, and desires, and being where every atom of our nature is like placid Galilee under the Omnipotent feet of our Jesus.”

Watson, G.D. “Soul Food,” Chapter 7, “The Benefit of Deep Crucifixion.”

To  
everything  
THERE IS A SEASON  
AND A  
TIME TO EVERY  
PURPOSE  
UNDER  
Heaven  
ECCLESIASTES 3:1