



AUGUST 2009
fbcmodeledo.com

Monday Night Church: Alive And Well

Monday Night Church continues to welcome, feed and minister to all who come. The economy may get sicker, but Monday Night Church is alive and well. Word travels on the streets of Modesto that dinner is served and all ages are welcome, and often there are 200 – 300 present. In the winter the numbers grow.

Pastor Claude Terry says, “We have such great, committed people involved on Mondays,” he says with a healthy pride, “and it’s such a blessing to see them serve the poor with grace and humility like Jesus would.”

Early each Monday morning, the volunteer kitchen team meets, to pray for the day and all it holds, begin preparations, eat together and begin cooking. Assisted by Flip Bravard, Kris Battisfore, Jack Blood and many others, the team prepares delicious, nutritious food and sets tables. Before dinner, the security volunteers are in place, welcoming guests and helping keep everyone safe. It takes between 50 and 70 people to make this ministry happen weekly. Individual volunteers, home groups, families – even businesses and scout troops arrive to serve the guests dinner just as they would serve them in a restaurant. “Many groups feed the poor,” says

Claude, “but in a soup kitchen fashion. We like to treat them as guests and they appreciate that so much.”

Guests enjoy dinner at MNC with no pressure to hear a sermon first. The “church” in Monday Night Church meets before dinner in the Garden Level and is completely optional. The only perk for worshipers is that they are the first to be seated and served at dinner. Through the years, this church has formed its own choir, worship team, prayer team and children’s ministry. Currently First B’s Randy Youngman leads worship, and some of our singers participate on the worship team. Often there are about 100 at the service. There is childcare during the service, and then the parents and children go downstairs and eat together. Life change is happening among the folks in this church body.

“We are consistent in our Bible teaching,” says Claude, “going through the Bible systematically and tying it all together. Al Newman is currently doing most of the preaching and I do some. Sometimes Shepherd’s Garden guys or people from God’s Way Out give their testimonies, and the Holy Spirit’s presence is so strong that you can hear a pin drop. Judy Groft works with the kids, and recently she brought two girls

by Terry Holliday

On July 5th our church family descended on Davis Park, for our all-church picnic. The set-up

team arrived early, decorating and arranging activity areas:

volleyball nets , horse shoes and even a rock climbing wall and bounce houses.

The barbeque team arrived and soon the smell of hot

dogs cooking filled the air. The service team

organized the food, while the park was a

sea of people talking, laughing, smiling

and enjoying the cool breeze God provided. With tables

full of food and desserts, people couldn't wait to start eating.

Why all the trouble to put on an event this big? I asked

the same question. But as I mingled through the crowds, I realized this is a special time, not just because we are Americans, but because we are part of something bigger. We are the body of Christ, God's family,



from the smallest lying in their mothers' arms, to the children as they

laugh and play, from singles to marrieds, and, of course, the seniors with their smiles reflecting wisdom and experience.

Yes, I was looking at the many faces

of God. Sometimes as we go about our busy lives, whether at home or church, we forget about what God's doing outside of our ministries, Home Groups and friends. But it's times like these, if we are willing to look, we will see where God is working and the many faces of God.

Monday Night Church: Alive And Well Continued

who had memorized Scripture. They recited verses and people clapped."

Those who want to help at MNC arrive at 5:30 pm, check in with Chris Billy and get put to work. The Deacon's fund pays for the expenses of most of this ministry. "Chris Billy is a genius," says Claude, "at finding good food at great prices and creating meals on a budget."

It's a joy to be part of such a generous church family.

"Wild Wild West" Summer Camp

Our Tweenage Summer Camp was on target with over 130 campers entering the 4th through 6th grades away for five days of great fun and much, much more.

Was it worth it? You bet! Besides the fun aspects of camp, our focus was for the kids to set their sights on many of the identities of God. Paul Mollett did an awesome job speaking and getting to know the kids. He helped them to see and experience God as our Shepherd, Healer, Forgiver, Sacrificial Lamb and Father. He did a super job at campfire each evening giving our campers an opportunity, to share with the entire group what God was revealing to them. His mom, Barb, led worship for us. They formed an excellent team!

Each day our campers competed in Bible quizzing. It is very satisfying to see our elementary students

participate as they "hide God's Word in their hearts" in this fun and competitive way.

For me, the climax of camp was our campfire the last night. Our staff and counselors did an outstanding job influencing the lives of our campers! Life change took place. We had over five campers pray to receive Christ, and over 30 more rededicated their lives to Him.

Thank You, Lord, for making this an incredible week.

by Tom La Core



A Camp Of Firsts

Do you treasure a special childhood trip even years after it occurred? What made it so special? Perhaps it was the location, activities, company or something else. For the junior highers who attended “Wipeout” summer camp, they may have come home dog-tired, but the trip was a huge

by Justin Cohea

success in so many ways.

For most of the junior highers, this summer camp brought completely new experiences, such as being on a long trip away from their family for the first time. Many had never been to the ESPN Zone, Disneyland, California Adventure, Knott’s Berry Farm and/or the beaches of Southern California.

For some kids, it was an opportunity to accept Christ into their lives for the first time. Many more kids rededicated their lives and found new ways to understand their faith, making it their own. “There was some tough stuff in kids’ lives that came out

during camp,” said Junior High Pastor Matt Moore.

“In the 10 camps I’ve done in ministry, this has been the best one with so many lives changed,” Matt said. “It was special. They were getting more and deeper healing.”

Even the kids were noticing how big an impact the week in Southern California had on them. “I loved camp!” said Kayla Aquino-Gualderama. “It was a perfect opportunity to get closer to God and make new friends. The program at junior high group is easier to understand for us compared to regular church [service]. I was glued even though my friends tried to bug me a couple times.”

Every morning, students had 30 minutes of quiet time where they had a chance to go through a devotional, memorize Scripture, pray individually or peruse the

Bible. Camp speaker, Matt Cohen, told the stories of Bible characters and brought it back to Hebrews 12 for application. It reads:

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders us and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus ...”

Kayla specifically remembered the story of David’s teenage boldness for God especially when he fought against Goliath. She loved

the way Cohen retold these stories in exaggerated, memorable ways.

Not only did our junior highers get to experience this camp together, they were able to share camp with the kids from Church of the Valley, San Ramon, also a first. New friendships developed across churches while others deepened during camp.



Asian Congregation Growing

Since our Chinese church began several years ago, leaders have been praying for a pianist who could play for worship. The Lord has brought two! One is an accomplished accompanist, the wife of a physician. The other is a concert pianist who teaches at MJC.

The church has the Lord's favor, as between 40 and 50 are now attending services Sundays at 10:45 am. Led by Pastor David Yau, the congregation is doing some very creative community outreach projects, demonstrating Christ's love and hospitality, and people are coming to faith in Him!

College Ministry Update

As we bid farewell to Pastor Mike Emmert, the college ministry will continue to thrive under Gary Kuhlman. Gary will serve as interim college pastor, bringing years of ministry experience to the college area, plus the gifts of wisdom, teaching, encouragement and exhortation and a heart for people. If you read the June issue of *Around The Rock*, you'll remember that Gary also leads our Shepherd's Garden ministry.



Gary and Nancy are parents of two college students and one high school student, and they have great love and concern for young people. College students can look forward to a warm, accepting environment, great teaching, lots of fun and fresh opportunities to serve together with the Kuhlmans.

East Asian Outreach

For security purposes, we cannot list details or locations.

As you read this, nine members from our church will have joined 30 others, again venturing to an unnamed country in East Asia on the fourth such trip in the last five years. Taking advantage of the talents and gifts of team members, they will work with a leading high school there, focusing on ESL, volleyball, soccer, basketball and cheerleading – yes, cheerleading! American cheerleading fascinates youth there, and we have an accomplished cheerleader on our team.

Our goal continues to be one of establishing deeper and broader relationships with students, teachers and city officials. Our long-term hope is that we will help lay groundwork for long-term workers who come to work in that area.

What Happens In Slovenia Doesn't Stay In Slovenia

Todd and Sarah Hunnicutt are our missionaries in Slovenia, where they have served since 2001

Previous teams from First B have come to Slovenia to minister through music and drama, help create a ministry to drug addicts, encourage pastors and help church planters. This summer Sarah and I were pleased to work with a team of 13 from First Baptist

by Todd Hunnicutt

joined by a young lady from Oregon who had been part of many of these

camp. Together we staffed the youth English camp of students from Kranj, Slovenia.

At our campground at the edge of the Alps, each day included English classes, sports and plenty of opportunities for relationship building. Evenings featured theme nights, lively music and games with a short story from the Bible which students discussed in their English class groups.

The evening Bible stories proved to be quite controversial, with some questioning God's judgment of man in the Garden, Noah's flood and so on, but through it all students wrestled with God's holiness, man's sinfulness and Christ's perfect sacrifice on the cross. One night I shared

that time, Greg Davis talked about the negative results of choices he'd made as a young adult and how God got his attention, and one of the Kranj students told us how she has become more interested in spiritual things through the youth group. While the students had balked at the Bible stories, the Holy Spirit chose to move through our testimonies of God's grace in our lives. There were tears and vulnerability and clearly each was at a different place on their spiritual journey.

Connor Johnson had already come to Slovenia three times with the music group, New Hope, and was excited

to have his mom, Terri, on the English camp team. One week before the camp, the Johnson home was broken into,

and among the things stolen were irreplaceable family heirlooms and even

Terri's wedding ring. One camper was brought to tears as Terri told her the story. Terri said of that moment: "Through her tears, she said, 'If I could, I would buy everything back for you. Why would someone do this? I hope



Our team on pirate night

Chris Weiss and Greg Davis row campers



Greg and Nancee, Terri (center) and Janine on western night

the story of my battle with cancer and how God became more real to me during

that you get everything back.' The word "hope" grabbed my heart; I told her that my hope is in something much bigger and shared with her the belief that I have in a God Who restores, provides and refines through difficult circumstances. We both cried and hugged, and I challenged her to ask Connor about how God was using this

Continued on page 7

Reasons To Celebrate

“The Share Your Faith class is such a blessing – even when I am tired, I am renewed by the end of the evening.”

“It is so rewarding to go into the community and hear positive comments such as: ‘How wonderful that your church sends caring people to visit us.’ Often these casual visitations result in life-changing decisions.”

“... it is exciting to see people come to know Christ personally and experience new life.”

These are some of comments made during the celebration meal at the last Share Your Faith class meeting. Marveling at how God had used him, one class member shared his excitement at having gained a greater confidence in sharing with people. Previously shy, now he is elated that he will be able to talk to people about Jesus without the awkwardness he once felt.

Highlights included awe at the ways God used them to bring the Gospel to other people. They were excited about the visit to a mother and her daughter, a single mom, which resulted in both of them praying to receive Christ. The daughter had said, “I was very surprised, in a good way (that someone came to visit).” After

receiving Christ, she commented, “It was like a weight was lifted from my shoulders and I sensed a great peace. I felt refreshed, relieved and positive about my future.”

At the party, the class remembered the Christian couple who recently moved here from out of state and were looking for a church home. The team answered their questions about our church. The husband had been a concert pianist and on a recent weekend, he played the piano for all three worship services!

They were encouraged by the man who commented, “It was neat to have someone care enough to come to our house – we wanted them to stay longer, but they had to go.” He prayed to receive Christ during that visit, was recently baptized and is now a new member.

As the teammates sat around tables, they were amazed and encouraged by the number of people they had visited – 80 homes representing 94 people, 11 of whom prayed to receive Christ. They were both shocked and delighted by the way people welcomed them into their homes. It was an experience they will never forget.

by Jackie Tharpe

What Happens In Slovenia Doesn't Stay In Slovenia Continued

in his life as well, which she did.”

Thanks to e-mail, Facebook and telephones, the relationship with this girl and other students continues. So what happened in Slovenia crosses the ocean many times a week as new friends continue to communicate. May the Lord build the youth group here in Kranj through this camp and the ongoing relationships that started here in Slovenia and between Modesto and Slovenia!



Janine Runnels and Lily Hunnicutt teach Slovene girls to cheer



AUGUST 2009

Attention Veterans

BBQ For Veterans & Their Families

- Sunday, Aug 16
- 12:30 pm, Pavilion Concourse
- R.S.V.P. by calling the church office or email Matt Schrader at mschrader@fbcmoesto.com
- No cost for this event
- Invite veterans you know

Veterans BBQ questions?
extension 2330

World Outreach

Reception Sunday, August 2

Don & Joan Heck - Spain

- 5:30 pm, Pavilion Garden

Reception Sunday, August 9

Joni Strohm - China

- 5:30 pm, Pavilion Garden

Night of Prayer For The World

- Monday, Aug 3 (first Monday each month)
- 6:30 pm, 1325 11th St

Chinese Ministry • Sunday

- 9 am, adult Sunday school, The Point, upstairs
- 10:45 am, worship service, The Point, upstairs

Laotian Ministry • Sunday

- 10:45 am, 1325 11th St

Cambodian Ministry • Sunday

- 10:45 am, Office Bldg, rms 207 & 213

World Outreach questions?
extension 2320

First B Saturday Night

Worship Service

- 6:00, Chapel
- Music with a guitar-driven feel
- Live teaching brings practical information from the Bible that will make a difference in your life
- Children's programs

First B Saturday Night questions?
call 521-0181

Recovery In Christ

Ministries Support Groups

Substance abuse, dysfunction and dependency

Search For Significance

For Women

- Thursdays, 7 pm
- Pavilion Garden

Thursdays

7 pm, Pavilion Garden

Childcare provided, birth-sixth grade

Various groups available for men and women. Our recovery ministry is designed to help people work through difficult issues that cannot be worked through alone.

Recovery In Christ questions?
extension 2350

Home Groups

Home Groups – A place to belong

- Connect with other adults
- Study God's Word
- Various groups and locations
- Call or go to fbcmodesto.com

Home Group questions?
extension 2370

Monday Night Church

Meal & Service

- Monday, Aug 10, 17, 24, 31
- 6 pm, Pavilion

Volunteers Welcome

- Assist with students
- Call for details

Monday Night Church questions?
extension 2350

Military Prayer Wall

Prayer Cards Available

- Remember to pray for those who are serving in the armed forces
- Pick up a prayer card in the Worship Center lobby on Sundays, next to the Military Prayer Wall

Let Us Know

- If there has been a change in the status of your friend or loved one
- Forms available in the lobby next to the wall or go to fbcmodesto.com

Membership Class Begins

New Five-week Class

- Sunday, Sept 13, 9 am
- Pavilion Garden, rm 931
- Taught by various pastors
- A basic introduction to First B and how to get connected, no need to pre-register for this class

Membership questions?
extension 2370

Park Cafe

An Opportunity To Have Fun And Serve At The Same Time!

- Be a part of this hospitality ministry during the second hour on Sundays
- It's fun and training is provided
- Sign up in the Park Café on Sunday

Park Café questions?
extension 2373

First Impressions

An Opportunity For You To Show Hospitality

- Welcome guests and help them find their way around the church campus
- One service, one Sunday per month
- Sign up at fbcmodesto.com or call the church office during the week for more information

First Impressions questions?
extension 2806

fbcmodesto.com

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Junior High

Fusion Sundays - Center Stage

- 9 am, Chapel

Summer Sports League

- Wednesdays through August
- 6:30 pm, Chapel

Check Out Fusion Online

- fusionjrhigh.com

High School

The Deep End - Sundays

- 9 am, Pavilion Concourse

128/Fuel Groups

- Wednesdays
- 6:45 pm, Pavilion Concourse

Santa Cruz

- Saturday, Aug 8

Car Rally

- Wednesday, Aug 19, 6 pm

School Year Kick Off

- Wednesday, Aug 26

Check Out 128 Online

- 128online.com

College Ministry

18-20 Somethings

IGNITE - Sundays

- 7 pm, Pavilion Concourse

Facebook - The Plex

- See what's happening at The Plex

Check Us Out Online

- fbcignite.com

Student Ministries questions?
extension 2506/2508

Single Adults

Single Focus

- Sundays, 9 am, The Point, upstairs
- This month *Emotions: How Crazy Can They Get? Let's Talk About It*

BBQ At Graceada Park

- Sunday, Aug 9
- 12:15 pm, following the service

Movie Night

- Friday, Aug 14
- 8:30, call for details

San Francisco Zoo Trip

- Saturday, Aug 22
- Details coming

Single Adult questions?
extension 2373

Young Marrieds & Young Families

Sunday Summer Workshops

- 9 am, Pavilion Garden
- Sundays, Aug 2-23
- Topics include: *Books of the Bible, Personal Finance, Love Languages, Newlyweds, Raising Kids and The Bible & Evolution*

- 100% interactive workshops with real-life application
- Sign up Sundays in class

Camp Chinquapin

- Friday-Sunday, Aug 28-30
- For the whole family
- Sign up Sundays in class or during the week in the church office

Young Marrieds & Young Families
questions? extension 2373

Family Dynamics

Marriage • Family • Parenting

Sundays

- 9 & 10:45 am, The Point, downstairs
- *The Difference Makes All the Difference* – how men and women relate differently to God

Family Dynamics questions?
extension 2373

Women's Ministries

Encouragement & Prayer Groups

- *Perfect Gifts* moms of children with special needs
9 am, Ark, rm 703
First Monday of each month

MOPS Summer Fun Days

- Thursday, Aug 6, 10 am
Ustach Park, 2700 Hilgen Ave
- Saturday, Aug 8, 10 am
Pinecrest Lake for the family
Look for the blue canopy
- Wednesday, Aug 12, 10 am
Stockton Children's Museum
402 West Weber
\$4.75 (free for ages 2 years and under)
- Thursday, Aug 20, 10 am
Mistlin Park, Ripon

Summer Small Groups

- Various days, times and locations
- Call for details

Chick Flick Night Outdoors

- Friday, Aug 14, 8 pm
- Space limited, call to register

Summer Stroll For Moms & Children

- Wednesday, Aug 19, 9 am
- Meet at The Family Room
- Walk the Virginia Corridor and back

Women's Ministries questions?
extension 2316

Men's Ministries

Men's Small Groups

- Various times and locations

BattleZONE Breakfast

- Saturday, Aug 1
- 7:30 am, Pavilion Concourse
- Guest speaker, Michael Pouliot
- Donation at the door

Black Hawk Museum

- Saturday, Aug 22
- Details coming

Men's Ministries questions?
extension 2355

Pacesetters

Sundays

- 10:45 am, Pavilion Garden
- *Luke, Christian Ethics* and *A Christian's Closer Walk With Christ*

Monthly Prayer Meeting

- Monday, Aug 3, 3:30 pm
- Office Bldg, Fireside Room

Movie & Salad/Dessert Potluck

- Friday, Aug 7, 5:30 pm
- Office Bldg, Social Hall - dinner
Chapel - movie

Sunday Lunch Bunch

- Aug 9, noon
- Pavilion Garden
- Single adult women 55+

Bowling Meeting & Sign-ups

- Wednesday, Sept 9, 12:30 pm
- McHenry Bowl, Modesto

Annual Concert & Dessert

- Friday, Sept 25, 6:30 pm
- Gospel music guest: Lillie Knauls
2007 Dove Music Award winner and
Gaither Homecoming musical artist
- \$12, tickets available Sunday, Aug 9
in the Pacesetters group or Monday,
Aug 10 in the church office

Pacesetters questions?
extension 2355

Believer's Baptism

Sunday, August 30

- 9 & 10:45 am
- An opportunity to express your faith in Jesus Christ publicly and allow others to share in your joy

If you'd like to be baptized, please call the church office

Baptism questions?
extension 2370

Welcome New Members

Jeannie Aukerman

Penny Belus

Sean Colt

Mary Coyle

Michael DeGuzman

Tera DeGuzman

Keven Dobbin

Cole Hancock

Sarah Hancock

Kari Harvick

Albert Heer

Bailey Johnson

Gordon Lasiter

Andrea Miller

Kimberly Moore-Davenport

Tara Morton

Amanda Paim

Thomas Paim

McCall Perry

Angelina Rafatti

Karen Swain

Sue Walls

Louise Wilson

Penny Youngblood

Sydney Youngblood

Online Giving Available

Visit fbemodesto.com

- A safe and secure way to give
- Pull down the "Resources" menu to begin

Online Giving questions?
extension 2360

Worship

Worship Choir

- Taking break during the summer
- Watch for upcoming events and news

Worship Orchestra

- Thursdays, 7 pm, Worship Center
- High school age and up

Worship Ministry questions?
extension 2113

Kid Country

Totally Tweenage Family Pool Party

- Friday, Aug 7
- 1-4 pm, Johansen High School
- \$1 per child

Kid Country 2009

- Many opportunities for you to help children learn more about Jesus
- Fill out a 2009 Kid Country helper card and turn it in Sunday

Christian Martial Arts Class

- Ages 8-17
- Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 pm
- Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 am
- The Family Room
- Small monthly fee

Good News Bible Clubs In City Schools

- You can provide prayer support, give supplies or teach

Kid Country questions?
extension 2120