

FREE INSPIRATIONS

Used to Build Healthy Believers

A Newsletter for Hesperia Evangelical Free Church

Come...Catch My Vision

Patti Bryan



very very long time ago, Pastor Steve asked me and my family to consider writing a church newsletter. To myself, (how do I put this politely) I laughed in his face. How in the world could he believe that the Bryans were suited to publish a church newsletter? He had to be out of his mind.

Now if you have been a Christian for any length of time you know that God does not do things the same way we would. Where we would shrink back, God pushes us forward saying, "You can do this... with My help!" Let me assure you that when God sets things into motion be prepared to jump in with both feet..... running. I have accepted this challenge... with great fear and trembling and am asking for you all to do the same.

I believe that as a church body, we are only scratching the surface of ministry opportunities. My goal for this newsletter is to be an avenue of growth for ministry for our church body. My greatest fear is that the newsletter becomes a glorified church calendar. My vision is that these pages are filled with God's inspiration for our spiritual growth, worship and service.

Last November, I contacted as many ministry leaders as I could think of to contribute ideas and information about their ministries. Their response to the idea of a newsletter was very positive. Their response to contribute ideas and information was....let's say, weak. Believe me when I say that I do not mention this as a criticism, but as a fact. It is a symptom of our time. Let me ask you some questions. Are we, as a church body, doing everything we can for the cause of Christ? Are we doing a fraction of what we can for the cause of Christ? How involved are you at ministry at Hesperia Evangelical Free Church (HEFC)? Are you satisfied with the level of ministry you do at HEFC? Are you satisfied with your response to any of these questions?

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Enclosed is a bookmark with memory verses and daily Bible verses to read through the Bible in a year. First, everyone should know John 3:16. The other three are the first of twelve verses are known as "the Romans Road to Salvation." These verses are useful in leading a person to Christ.

Women's Ministry

January begins a new year and a new Jenifer Rothschild Bible study for our women. *Fingerprints Of God: Recognizing God's Touch on Your Life* is a study that teaches us to recognize six things we can experience because of God's touch: honor, intimacy, shelter, guidance, redemption, and refinement.

This 7-week study begins Tuesday nights, starting on January 18th. They will be meeting at the church, 6:30 to 8:00pm.

See Susan Allen or Jana Alduenda for more information. Sign-up ASAP on the clipboard in the church foyer.



Our ladies enjoyed a wonderful evening of fun, food and fellowship during this year's Christmas party/cookie exchange.

Men's Ministry

Our men, currently, have a Bible Study that meets the first and third Saturdays of the month at the church. It starts at 8:00am and they are studying the book of Acts, chapter by chapter, verse by verse.

On those months that there is a 5th week, the men have breakfast together. They generally meet at a local restaurant for a time of fellowship.

They will not be meeting the first Saturday in January since it is New Year's Day, so plan on joining them on January 15th.

B.O.B. (Bunch of Believers)

Youth Ministry

Formerly known as Under Construction, B.O.B., or Bunch of Believers had an exciting year! Starting with the 30-Hour Famine, the kids fasted for 30 hours, whetting their appetite (sorry guys) for more!

During the summer, the group had a leadership change and John & Jodie Almojuela stepped up to the challenge. After getting to know the group, they've had an exciting lineup for the rest of the year.

The kids went to see Toy Story 3, did a photo scavenger hunt on Halloween (fully costumed, of course). Then in December, the kids went to Knott's "Merry" Farm and bought gifts for Toys 4 Tots. Despite the rain that might have put a damper on the day, rides worked on and off and crowds were kept to a

minimum. Finally, BOB got to go down to Pasadena to work on the floats for the Rose Parade. Working from 3 - 11pm, the kids got to climb on and around the floats, placing flowers, seeds and petals on several of the floats. The kids were also asked to come back and help the Lions with their float next year! Way to go guys!

What's next? Exact times TBA, but the Almojuelas are planning an ice skating trip in the near future. Stay tuned for the exact times!

Also, February 25-26th is the 30-Hour Famine. Prepare for another opportunity to impact the lives of children and communities in countries where water and food are almost non-existent.



30-Hour Famine

Becky Bryan

It's time again for our youth to start preparing their stomachs for the 2011 30-Hour Famine! That's right, February 25-26th is right around the corner!

Every year, the kids learn about a different part of the world and for 30-hours, they discover what it's like to be hungry. They also raise money beforehand to send into World Vision, the company that sponsors the Famine.

Many people laugh when they hear about this, saying things like, "That's impossible. Teens can't go for more than 30-minutes without eating."

My friends, this is not true. All of our participants for the last two famines have successfully completed the 30-hours of fasting. On top of this, they also completed the fundraising goal that we set for each group.

Our first year, we had no clue what to expect. For this reason, we set the goal at \$500 dollars. After the famine, we had raised just over \$1,500 dollars. Praise God!

Because they did so well, we set the bar higher. The kids had to raise \$2000 dollars and I would have to dye my hair. Afterwards, we had raised over \$2500 dollars and I arrived at church the next week as a brunette.

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Kid's Club

Last September, Dan Reyes stepped into some pretty big shoes. He filled the leadership role for Kid's Club, left vacant after Jana Alduenda stepped down.

For the last three months, Dan and his team have been using the Keyword Learning System to teach our 4—12 year olds the books of the Old Testament. They also spend time memorizing Bible verses, playing games, making crafts and eating yummy snacks.

Kid's Club meets Sunday evenings at the church from 5:00 to 7:00pm.



The Kid's Club team wishes for you to consider inviting your friends and family to join them each week. Help them reach our community, one child at a time.

Of course, if you are interested in joining the Kid's Club team, Dan would love to answer any questions you may have.

Children's Ministry

Nursery

Our ever growing baby and toddler population is lovingly cared for by a dedicated group of adults and youth helpers. Each week, volunteers hug, kiss and supervise our pint-sized members.

Are you interested in joining this privileged group? Contact Laurie Zimmer for more information

Children's Church

As Pastor Steve stands to preach each Sunday, a herd of noisy squirming little ones head out the sanctuary doors to a classroom. Accepting the joy of teaching Children's Church is our group of wonderful teachers.

Each Sunday, our pre-K to 2nd graders enjoy a time of Bible lessons, games and crafts.

We are always looking for a few good teachers. Would you consider learning the joys of teaching God's Word to children? Contact Laurie Zimmer for more information.

"As Pastor Steve stands to preach each Sunday, a herd of noisy squirming little ones head out the sanctuary doors to a classroom."

Come...Catch My Vision

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Every Sunday, when I watch Diana Racobs and Diana McCarthy walk into the church service way after the service begins, I know that I have missed another ministry opportunity. Why don't I help them clean up, so that they can participate in the singing and announcements? Who locks up the church after worship on Sunday? Who cleans the back of the seats in the sanctuary? Who comes up with the craft for Kid's Club each week?

My hope in confronting you with these thoughts and questions is not to condemn you, but to inspire you. God is looking for "a few good men". Personally, I know that HEFC is full of "a few good men", women, youth and children. I have watched you all, time and time again, do great things for each other, the community and the world. I have personally experienced the miracles that God gives to each of us through my church family. Thank you.

As Editor of this newsletter, I ask two things of you. One, please use this newsletter to seek ways to grow spiritually and find ways that God shows you to serve Him. Two, as you find ways to minister to others in this church, help others come alongside of you. Inspire and share with others, through this newsletter, how they can help you help the cause of Christ.

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Building Healthy Believers

This newsletter
comes in 3 forms:

- * Paper
- * Large print
(paper)
- * Online

Getting to Know You

In each edition of Free Inspiration we will be profiling a different family or individual in our church family. For our first, we are highlighting the Alduenda family!

Danny and Jana first moved to Hesperia from West Covina in 2006. While in West Covina, they attended an EV Free Church. This led them to search for another EV Free church after they relocated – us!

Danny and Jana have been married for 13 years. During their marriage, they received a tiny bundle of joy, Sierra who is now 13.

Danny has 2 adult sons from a previous marriage: David – 42 and Jason – 32. Jana also has an adult son and daughter from a previous marriage: Josh – 32 and Heather – 29. Heather has 2 yr. old Lucy, whom Jana and Danny babysit every Thursday.

Before they met, Danny was raised in a Catholic home, while Jana was raised Church of Christ. Danny grew up learning about God but sought for something more: a relationship with God. Because of this, he began attending Christian churches during his first marriage.

Within the church, both Danny and Jana serve on the Worship team. Danny tears it up on the drums while Jana sings. Jana is also a part of the women's ministry leadership and has started a Bible study for girls in grades 5th through 7th, called CGGG (Christian God's Girls Group). The girls meet at their home on Wednesday from 6-8:30 pm. Sierra volunteers regularly in the nursery and Danny is a deacon for us here at the church.

30-Hour Famine

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This time around, we will be learning about Haiti and the poverty that has this country in a iron grip. That's all I'm going to tell about the famine for now. Look for updates as we get closer to the date!

Wondering how you can help? World Vision has several ways for you to help out our kids.

* Hand a kid a check. We can't send in money, and checks make everything easier. Make your check payable to *World Vision*, if you use this option.

Check out the Facebook

www.facebook.com/wv30hf.com Here, you can read about World



Vision and what they're doing with your money.

* Hire a teen slave/ laborer. (We made this one up) But really, put

our kids to work! They would LOVE to help you out around the house or in the yard. Wouldn't you, guys?

* As we prepare for the Famine, I ask for your help with more than just money. I ask for your prayers as we plan out the Famine. For the teens that will be participating, that this will light a fire for ministry in them. For the lives that our groups fundraising will touch. That they will be welcome to the gospel and that many lives will be saved both physically and spiritually.