

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2018
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The First Baptist Church of Granada Hills
11011 Hayvenhurst Ave. Granada Hills, CA 91344

Pastor's Corner – *Pastor Jack Rager*

FBCGH Research Team

During our last Quarterly Business meeting, we approved a formation of a Research Team (RT) to investigate what we need to do as a congregation to fulfill the Great Commission. The RT will use as resources the California Southern Baptist Convention, San Fernando Valley Southern Baptist Association and North American Mission Board. The RT will not be limited to just our denominational resources but will be looking at many different best practices for a community church like ours. Why are we doing this? What we are experiencing, decline in Sunday school and worship attendance and not enough leaders stepping up to help fulfill the mission of the church is not unique to FBCGH. These declines and challenges impact most churches in our denomination.

In 1988, about 6% of the U.S. population were members of a Southern Baptist church. In 2016, the percentage dropped to 4.5%. What this means is we, as the largest Protestant denomination in the US, have been falling behind population growth. This means as a denomination, we are in decline

and have been for at least 30 years. According to the Pew Forum, the age group that has declined by the greatest percentage from 2007 to 2014 has been ages 30-49. These are the prime years for fulfilling both profession/vocation responsibilities and raising children. It is also the prime ages when people take on leadership responsibilities in the church. What is interesting about this is we have been told young people are dropping out of church but in reality, it is also their parents.

The RT is very motivated to be as thorough as humanely possible; as they are led by the Holy Spirit. They will try and give you updates as they move the research process along. You can expect in the near future, a survey for the congregation to get as much input from you as possible. We will also be conducting a community survey. This means we will have to go into our neighborhood, talk to our neighbors and try to find out how we might best serve their spiritual needs. Research will help us identify the challenges and chart a better path to renewal.

Bro. Jack



WMU NEWS

Upcoming WM&M Events:



Feb 15th - WMU Rinaldi Convalescent Ministry
at 10:00 a.m.

Feb 17th - WMU Meeting & Luncheon at
10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Have you ever wanted to be involved with missions in your community?

Here are some mission ideas for you:

Coffee House – This is a great place to hang out and build relationships. Go there the same time and day of the week, notice the people, interact, be friendly, engage in conversations and share stories that could lead to deeper spiritual conversations such as prayer requests, answered prayers and so on. Continue this ministry each week at the same time.

Blessing Bags – Fill with soap, wash cloth, socks, toothbrush & toothpaste, tissue, fruit cups and spoon, lotion, chapstick... be creative. This winter seems colder so hand warmers would be great too. Then distribute to people in need.

Miscellaneous Acts of Kindness – Pick up groceries for a neighbor, help someone with yard work, bake cookies and take them to a neighbor or a clerk at the store, take flowers to someone who is having a bad day.

Upcoming Dates...

Feb 03 Discipleship Course 10:00 a.m.
Feb 04* Discipleship Course 10:00 a.m.-10:45a.m.
Feb 04 Church Council Meeting 5:00 p.m.
Feb 10 Discipleship Course 10:00 a.m.
Feb 10 Chin's Baby Shower 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Feb 11* Discipleship Course 10:00 a.m.- 10:45a.m.
Feb 15 WMU Rinaldi Conv. Home 10:00 a.m.
Feb 17 Discipleship Course 10:00 a.m.
Feb 17 WMU Meeting/Luncheon 10:00 a.m.
Feb 18* Discipleship Course 10:00 a.m.-10:45a.m.
Feb 19 President's Day (Church Office Closed)
Feb 24 Men's Breakfast 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Feb 24 Discipleship Course 10:00 a.m.
Feb 25* Discipleship Course 10:00 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
Feb 25 Deacons' Meeting 6:00 p.m.

**For those who are unable to attend the Saturday class.*

PRAYER MEETINGS are held Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Please email your prayer requests to us at admin@fbcgh.net so we can be sure to pray for you during this time.

CHOIR PRACTICE is held Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Wee Chin for details.



2 - 01	Susani Couto
2 - 07	Earlene Pyle
2 - 08	Cory Izquierdo
2 - 12	Loretta Barnwell
2 - 13	Amanda Brewer Johnson
2 - 14	Marilyn Koziatek
2 - 14	Jessica Salian
2 - 16	Lydia Diaz
2 - 19	Diya Salian
2 - 21	Irene Bernardo

FBCGH Sunday School Department
invites you to join us in learning God's word by attending one or more of the following:

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Sunday morning 9:45 am to 10:45 am.

Classes for all ages:

Nursery – Loretta Barnwell/ Len Wong (Teachers)
Children – Eugenia Rodriguez (Teacher)
Youth – Eli Avege (Teacher)
Young Adults – Sarah Rager (Teacher)
Middle Aged Men – Richard Sepulveda (Teacher)
Middle Aged Women – Loretta Barnwell (Teacher)
Senior Men – Tom Peabody (Teacher)
Senior Women – Loretta Barnwell (Teacher)

CHILDREN'S CHURCH – Sunday morning from 11:10 am for ages 5-10. Children are dismissed to class during offering time. Teachers: Sarah Rager/Karla Couto/Marilyn Koziatek.

SMALL GROUP:

Men's Life Group - breakfast every fourth Saturday of the month from 8:30 am – 10:00 am.

Come and be a part of our Christian family!

1 Corinthians 13: 4 - 7

*Love is patient Love is kind.
It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
It does not dishonour others, it is not self seeking,
it is not easily angered, it keeps no records of wrongs.
Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.
It always protects, always trusts,
always hopes, always perseveres.
1 Corinthians 13: 4-7*

