

MAYHEW TORCH

THE NEWSLETTER OF MAYHEW COMMUNITY BAPTIST

VOLUME 55 ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2018

PASTOR MIKE'S MUSTARD SEEDS...

The traditional Mustard Seed will resume in the February issue. After many weeks of non-stop activities which were topped off by the long hours of work on the float and all that went along with getting ready for the Christmas parade, Pastor Mike is not able to prepare a Mustard Seed for this issue.

Report from the Diaconate Board

The beginning of 2017 was an interesting transition for Diaconate team. Everyone in leadership did their best to represent the Lord to the best of their capacity from past members to current members of the team. The group was short handed of members at the start of the year but we managed to fulfill all duties. During this transition time, Darnice Thacker became our secretary in the meetings, made sure we had the necessary things and warm water for people baptized. Ocille Perry and Lan Ly always helped arrange and plan functions like sports Sunday, communion services and so on. Pastor Mike was always there in the meetings contributing great ideas, and as the Shepherd of the church, had focus on evangelism. There were about 3 baptisms a new members class is underway and will conclude in January. In the last quarter of the year the Lord helped us work swiftly and accomplish all that was needed to be accomplished. Morena Holmes-Reynolds joined the team and always helps with the sign-up sheets for ushering. The Diaconate helped replace some of the cushions on the pews, with special thanks to Mabel. We also replenished many of the sacraments used in the service and rearranged the old cabinet. New things were added to the cry room to aid services and the order of service was changed due to growth to accommodate needs.

Overall the devotion and commitment of the group was great and everyone helped in areas that needed the most assistance. I can say with all confidence as the holy scripture says:

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common". - Acts 2:42-44 ESV

All glory to God who caused us to triumph this year.

Kojo Gaisie
Chairman, Diaconate Board

Bible Verse for the Month of January



““Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

Morning Worship Service: 11:00 a.m. every Sunday

Children's Sunday School : 10a.m. Sunday mornings

Adult Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings

Pastor's Breakfast – 1st Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m., Perkos

Diaconate meetings: 1st Sunday of the month following morning service.

Trustee meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month following morning service.

Cabinet Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Women's Bible Study: 5:30 p.m. each Wednesday

AWANA, every Tues (except holidays) 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Casa Coloma Health Care Facility: 2nd and 3rd Thursdays: 9:00 a.m. sing-along;
10:00 spiritual message

Dress-A-Girl Around the World – 2nd Thursdays , 11:00 – 2:00

Quilting Group - 2nd and 4th Mondays, 1:00 -3:00

ABWM (American Baptist Women's Ministry) – 2nd Sunday after service.

AGAPE – College and Career Group: Every Friday 7:30 p.m.

Band Practice: Sundays 9:15 a.m.

Christmas collection in Foyer: 3rd Sundays after service.

NOTE: Periodically, a schedule change will occur. Check with ministry coordinators. If you don't know who to contact, ask Anne.

* * * CHRISTMAS PARADE * * *

Honestly, I don't know where to begin or even where to stop! This was something we had never done before and it was a learning experience from start to finish. One of the church's primary goals is to reach out to our community. When Hope told about plans being formulated for a Christmas Parade in Lincoln Village, it became a priority.

Initially, several of us attended a few meetings with Lincoln Village and the City of Rancho Cordova. We met the nicest people who share our values, and they wholeheartedly welcomed us into the group. We learned a lot about each other and the efforts in our individual Harvest Festivals. Next year, we hope to help each other out. We learned of resources available to us that we hadn't known about. We made friends and built relationships.

Then it was time to start planning for our float. Pastor Mike drove to Fresno and brought back a 26 foot goose-neck trailer a friend loaned him. Thank you, Jess! The question was, How do you put the whole world on the head of a pin? The answer: Just ask Pastor Mike, and he'll show you!!! From the beginning this was to be a joint effort of Mayhew CBC and Yattiy School. The school would be in charge of all decorations after the float was constructed.

The first part of the construction started on top of the goose neck, a V-shaped frame that is up high at the front of the trailer. A square platform was constructed on top. 2 x 4's were then cut and mounted vertically along both sides of the long bed. Rails were then attached and particle board run along the sides. There is no way to go into all the details, but there is one thing that can't be overlooked – the porta potty! Yes, a camping-type potty which Pastor enclosed in a little out-house he built!

Pastor, Doug, Patrick and Bob all put in time building the float. It was hard work, but piece by piece it came together.

We needed Christmas tree greenery. The place where Pastor and family get their trees agreed to give him all the greenery if he'd cut down and haul off a tree that had an issue. No problem! Pastor and Doug arrived with the chain saw and started working. Then the chain broke. Finally, with a new chain, they got finished and brought back what was needed.

Four generators were prepared to run all the electrical. A box fan was mounted to blow the fumes away. A noise barrier was constructed.

Meanwhile, there were lots of other things to be done. Banners for both sides were needed saying Merry Christmas from Mayhew Community Baptist Church & Yattiy Hybrid School. A Santa outfit was order. Margaret loaned her beautiful hand-made angel outfit. Joseph and Mary outfits were borrowed from Derrick and Nella.

We had new refrigerator magnets made, along with fountain pens to match. A color trifold was made with Mayhew CBC on one side and Yattiy School on the other. Diane's testimony was

copied. Diane and her family spent several days putting one of everything in plastic ziplocks, 1,000 in all. In addition to handing out at the parade, they will be used for other outreach events and visitors to the church.

Finally, it was time to decorate and add equipment. The kids at the school were nothing short of Amazing! No picture does it justice. They even wrapped the outhouse like a big present and hand-made a Huge bow for the top. Everything was beautiful and professional. The keyboard, drums, guitars, lots of speakers, music stands and colored lights on the poles were mounted. There was an amazing amount of electrical equipment and cables to attach. The sound board was in the back seat of the truck. Chairs were loaded, plus a special Santa Chair we got at Good Will (two for \$5). Rings were mounted on the very top of the goose neck platform. Each had a rope secured to it which was to be attached to a belt for each person up there so as not to fall off the float. The snow machine was put in place.

Time was getting short. Everyone knew their parts. Three of the kids (Domani, Laci and An-nah) were to be Joseph, Mary and the Angel, with a manger and baby doll. Derrick was assigned to run the snow machine. Yes, it was wet snow. All four were strapped to the upper platform. Carl was a magnificent Santa at the very back of the float, next to a 6-foot lighted Fosty the Snowman. All the musicians were in place (Pastor Mike, Becca, Nella, Hope, Doug, Tom, Moe, Josh). Jess (the trailer owner) was driving Pastor's truck and towing the float. The decorations were just finished. The lights were all on. The generators could barely be heard. The "walking crew" was ready with the handouts.

Now, just turn on all the electrical for the music and do a sound check of all the musicians, and we'll be off and running. *Silence!* This couldn't be happening! But it was, and it continued as cable after cable was checked. The extreme complexity was amazing, coming from the generators to all the equipment.

After some time, it was evident we were not going to get to the A. M. Winn School in time to line up. You can only imagine the emotions that were occurring at this realization, and time still kept ticking by. So much had gone into this and so many people were involved, and the community was out there for us to reach at this special opportunity. *This is where the rubber meets the road when it comes to Christian conduct.* Everyone was still working diligently to solve the problem. Bob came up to me and we prayed. No one said a discouraging word, but yes, there was tension. Then we heard a "pop," a sign of electricity. But there needed to be many more "pops" before everything was ok.

Cable by cable the work continued. We all felt a mixture of emotions. We were all in this together. I caught a glance of Pastor Mike. He was very quiet and methodically pursuing each cable. Periodically there would be another "pop." Finally there was full music and everything was so beautiful! But was it too late? Just then, Katherena called to say they and the kids were still at the school and ready to hook up with us. Pastor Mike said a prayer, thanking God for the difficulties which were to make us stronger, and to keep us safe and for it to be a success.

Away we went. Steven and Katherena led the way in their truck, with dozens of kids. Jim fol-

lowed in his car between them and the float. Another car with Christine from the school, and her mom, followed behind the float. Darnice, Bob, and I walked (and sometimes sprinted) to keep up, while handing out packets along the way. For over an hour we made our way through the neighborhood streets. People came out of their houses, stood on the sidewalks, ran up to us, and were so excited. One person said "I thought it was all over, and this is a Real Treat!"

The entire operation was 100% professional as the live band played and sang beautiful Christmas songs, with the live nativity scene on top. The wonderful Santa, beautiful Frosty, and real snow made all the kids scream with delight!

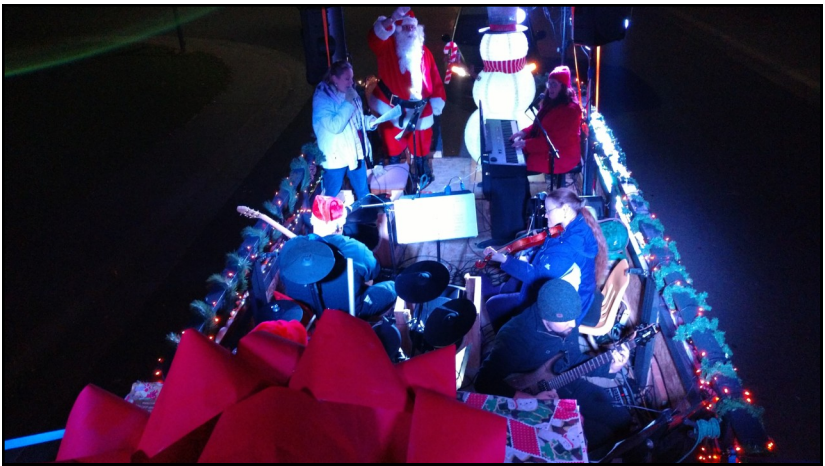
When we got back to the school, the other participants had closed up. We were the only float left and we parked in the semi-circle driveway. A huge crowd of adults and children suddenly appeared. People came from the fellowship building and who knows where else. Snow was falling on their heads. Santa was waving, and the music filled the night air. People were swaying and dancing around and signing. We kept handing out packets to happy people. One of the Lincoln Village leaders came out to watch and take pictures. It was a wonderful and miraculous night. Praise to the Lord, and tremendous respect goes to Pastor Mike for not giving up, and for "everyone" who participated and demonstrated what it's like to be a true Christian.

We can't wait to do it again!

Submitted by Anne Chapman

Footnote: Only a few mishaps occurred along the way. Tom (band) lost his wallet. Anne lost her phone, and Bob got bitten by a dog. All is well now. Pastor found Tom's wallet. Anne has a new phone, and Bob is ok. A few pictures are included here, although no picture can do this event justice. It was just too beautiful.





Happy New Year



From,
Mayhew CBC

FAREWELL TO JEANNE RAMER

Jeanne is moving to Oregon the end of December to be with her sisters. Jeanne came to Mayhew CBC in 2015. She has been a remarkable blessing to us, as a member of the Board of Trustees, Church Clerk and member of the Cabinet, and being in charge of the overhead screen operation during service and training others. She was also an integral part of the night service.

Jeanne has provided invaluable expertise in getting a new accounting system in place for the church's fiscal needs. She has spent hundreds of hours on the startup, refinement, and maintenance of this project. No task has been too large or small for her. She can solve the most complex matters, perform research and propose solutions to difficult problems, then turn around and take out the garbage cans, clean up the grounds, and perform various mechanical tasks that most people find difficult.

She is kind, humble, and lots of fun. She is a diligent worker who never gives up and she encourages others to keep going when the going gets tough. Jeanne is a true servant of the Lord and we will miss her tremendously. Thank you for everything, Jeanne, and may God's blessings be with you on your new venture. Let's keep in touch.

**TO OUR NEW PARISHIONERS
AND
TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE SUSTAINED A LOSS**

As we leave 2017 behind, we again are saddened by the loss of more of our parishioners who went to be with the Lord. Others have lost family members and friends. There will be more to come. I have decided to reprint an article I wrote years ago. Some of you may remember. It describes the conclusion of my husband's and my journey through the valley of the shadow of death and back into the light, where hope and peace reign. You can have this as well.

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY
By Anne Chapman

The new year is well on its way now. As I reflect on how many of us in the church have endured the loss of a loved one and how it affects us during the holidays and other times for the rest of our lives, I recall something else – something strangely wonderful.

When my husband Skip's condition had worsened to the point that we knew he had only days or weeks left, something happened. All of a sudden, I found myself looking around the house. Some of his clothes were wearing out and we'd need to get some new ones. Not any more! What!! There were many projects to be done around the house and yard that I couldn't do. Because he'd been so ill, some things had been put on hold and were getting out of control. He always had to take the responsibility for those things. Not anymore! He needed two serious operations for prior medical conditions, plus his artificial leg was no longer fitting and would require many weeks or months of appointments. Not anymore!

I considered the world. What a mess it was and it was affecting our country as well. Although we knew we were watching the Book of Revelations unfold, it was very hard for him due to his patriotism and loyalty to the country he loved. Not anymore! As a natural historian, elections, local and world news, etc. mattered a lot. Not anymore! Like others, he had been dealt with wrongly many times during his life, and now he was so sick. Not anymore.

Then it hit me, he was leaving all these troubles behind. Forever free! If retirement was great, This Was Fantastic! He had fought the good fight and was graduating to Eternity with God. I thought about Jesus. After all His suffering and pain here, He too became free from this earthly existence.

Then another thought came into my mind. I was Profoundly Jealous! He was getting to graduate and I had to stay behind. And then the Lord told me, Just for A While. I felt the joy of the Victory in Jesus. Yes, I could hang in there until it's my time. Just as God only left Jesus here until His purpose had been fulfilled, He would do the same with me. And all of us! Suddenly, I didn't want to miss that purpose. He had given me everything, including my wonderful husband. It was now my turn to give back to Him and to seek what He would have me do each and every day.

You know the rest. I love you, Mayhew CBC.

Footnote: Trying to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and listening to the Holy Spirit speak to my heart is a full-time adventure every day of my life, and I am so grateful that God has given me all of you and this wonderful church as my family. May He bring you many blessings during the coming year.

MARGARET, OH MARGARET!

If you have trouble believing what is to follow, let me assure you it “is” true! As some of you know, Margaret is an avid fisher-woman. As she often does, this night she was carting all her gear about 30 feet down a rocky slope to the edge of Lake Amador. She stumbled, but recovered, a few times on the first two trips down. On the third, however, she fell and broke her left leg above the ankle!

It was dark and no cell phone coverage. There was no one around. For 45 minutes she slowly dragged most of her gear up the rocky hill to her car. She had to leave some things behind. Then she drove herself home! Due to the swelling, she assumed it was broken, so she took a shower because she figured they’d have to set her leg.

Finally, Bill was able to take her to urgent care. The good news is the break is clean. She had a splint until the swelling went down and now has a walking boot for 6 weeks. Margaret is still going to work and came to Awana etc.

Plases pray for her quick and complete recovery, and give praise to the Lord for keeping her from further damage. She could have hit her head and been there for a long time. She does say, “I won’t be doing that again!”

Submitted by Anne Chapman



****** BABY SHOWER ******

A Baby Shower is being planned for Nella and Derrick Dietz on January 13, at 1:00. It will be at the recreation room in Mabel's park, Briarwood Mobile Home Park, 2950 Routier Rd. It is across the street from the church and on the north side of the freeway overpass. There is parking within the park and also along Horn Road. Everyone is welcome. Baby Desmond James Dietz is expected to arrive at the end of January. If you have questions, please contact Darnice Thacker.

THE FRONT FENCE AND GATE

You may have noticed the damage to the front gates and fence on both sides. Some time ago a car ran through it, damaging it and some of the concrete. Repairs have been made to the fence and gates. The concrete is pending. There is no charge to the church.

CHRISTMAS AT CASA COLOMA HEALTH CARE FACILITY

This year we again brought an hour of Christmas Music to Casa Coloma on the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays. There were lots of residents as well as our own volunteers. We passed out Santa Hats to those who wanted them and put snow globes on all the tables. Erin sent beautifully rolled and wrapped blankets with Ted for him to pass out to the patrons. There were more than enough and very much appreciated. Thank you so much! Pastor Johnny from the Korean church gave a great message. Our volunteers were Mabel, Ted, Diane, Jim, Marti, Bernice, Otha, Anne. Margaret helped bring in people and stayed for awhile. Thanks to everyone who helps with this important and fun ministry.

AWANA SUNDAY

December 17 was Awana Sunday. Quite a few children and their parents came to church. The kids are from our Awana program. They have practiced for about a half hour the last two weeks. Becca coached them in the song Do you See the Christmas Star which they stood before the congregation and sang beautifully. Nella and Derrick coached them in memorizing 3 bible verses (one very long one), which they stood and recited with confidence. It was amazing. Good job, everyone!



YATTIYR SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SHINE

After service on Sunday, December 17, Yattiy School produced its annual Christmas Shine. This is always an amazing time to watch the children sing and perform. Some of the songs were written by the students and choreographed by others. A craft and bake sale followed. Watch for the next Shine event and be sure to attend.



VISIT FROM THE GIDEONS

The Gideons visited us on November 26. As usual, they gave a powerful testimony about their mission. The donations collection during service for them will provide up to 212 pocket sized new Testaments with Psalms and Proverbs, or 54 Hotel Bibles to be placed where most needed locally and worldwide. Our very own Patrick Grant is, himself, a member of the Gideons.

MAYHEW CBC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 21, 2018, directly after the morning service. Only members of the church are entitled to vote.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

The new member class will be continuing as a few people missed a session. If anyone else wishes to participate in a class, please let the office know, or contact Pastor Mike.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

A short candlelight service will be held Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm.

Packets for Visitors and Friends

Please take packets to hand out to your friends. They are in a basket in the foyer. Each packet contains a tri-fold with information about Mayhew CBC and Yattiy School, Diane's testimony, a refrigerator magnet and fountain pen, with church information on them.



Announcements, Updates and Coming Events

Pastor's Breakfast – For the month of January, the breakfast will be held on the first Tuesday, January 2nd at 8:30 am. The breakfast will be held at Perko's Restaurant.

Torch articles for the month of February will be due on Monday, January 15th. Articles are to be submitted by email to mayhewcbc@gmail.com.

January Birthdays

1/1– Shannon Hayes
1/3 Yasuko Yoshino
1/5– Ocille Perry
1/12– Doug Holcombe
1/20– Miriam Sheppard
1/22– Bill Michels
1/28– Floyd Gipson
1/30– Glen Natsuhara

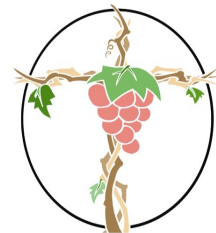
January Anniversaries

1/24– Ivan and Darnice Thacker



In Memory Of...

Jodi King IMO May Takeuchi



Mayhew Community Baptist Church
3401 Routier Road
Sacramento, CA 95827

Phone: 916-363-6145

Fax: 916-854-6104

E-mail: MayhewCBC@gmail.com

Website: mayhewcommunitybaptist.org



Church Hours:

Mon—Thurs: 9am—2pm

Fri.: Closed

Torch Editors: Jeremy Kanenaga,
Anne Chapman

Staff: Paulene Conaway



Mayhew Community Baptist Church

3401 Routier Rd.

Sacramento, CA 95827

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

U. S. POSTAGE PAID

PERMIT No. 43

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Dated Material