

MAYHEW TORCH

THE NEWSLETTER OF MAYHEW COMMUNITY BAPTIST

VOLUME 55 ISSUE 3 MARCH 2018

PASTOR MIKE'S MUSTARD SEEDS...

For my article this month I'd like to give you a part of my research that I used for a recent sermon. It is important for those of us who have loved ones who do not know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. I get requests from people who ask what can I do for my loved one? So here is a prayer that can help you in your great quest. God bless you!

How to Pray for an Unsaved Loved One

People often get discouraged when praying for the salvation of loved ones and begin to wonder if their prayers ever really help. Well, guess what? Yes! Your prayers can be a powerful force in the lives of your unsaved relatives and friends if you know how to pray for them according to the wisdom and Word of God.

The problem is that most Christians don't know how to pray with skill. They just throw prayers in every direction and hope something comes of it. That's especially true when it comes to praying for the lost. It's not uncommon to see believers praying for friends or loved ones to get saved for 20, 30 or even 40 years without results.

What exactly are these people praying? It usually boils down to something like this: "Oh, God, please save my brother. He needs to be saved." (Don't you think God knows he needs saving?) Then they might go a step further and start rehearsing their brother's sins: "Lord, he got drunk again last night and we had to bail him out of jail again. If You don't save him, he's going to drive us all crazy!"

That may sound funny—the example is a little extreme to make a point—but many of us have prayed prayers that sounded something like that.

What we haven't understood is this: There's nothing wrong with your unsaved loved one (or any other unsaved person) except the devil. No human being who truly understood the salvation Jesus has offered to us would reject that salvation of his own free will. No one!

Why, then, are so many people still unsaved? II Corinthians 4:4 tells us it is because "the god of this world [the

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devil] hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”

Once you realize it's the devil (not your loved one) who's the real problem, your first prayer step becomes clear. You must get the devil out of your loved one's way.

As Jesus said, “How can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man?” (Matthew 12:29). You can't! So bind him.

Say, “You spirit operating in the life of my loved one, blinding _____ to the gospel to keep _____ out of the kingdom of God, I bind you now. I belong to the Lord Jesus Christ. I carry His authority and righteousness, and in His Name I command you to desist in your maneuvers. I spoil your house according to the Word of God and I enter into it to deliver my loved one from your hands.”

Now, you may not be able to cast that devil entirely out of the situation, because your loved one may invite him back in faster than you can cast him out. But you can bind that spirit and keep it bound. It may keep you busy for a while, but you can do it.

You'll find your next prayer step in Matthew 9:37-38. There, Jesus was looking out at the multitudes who needed ministry and He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.”

It's the Word of God that brings faith for salvation: “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). So you need to see to it that the Word gets into your loved one's heart.

“How?” you say, “My loved one won't listen to me!”

Probably not, but God knows who your loved one will listen to, and He'll send that person halfway around the world to talk to your loved one if necessary.

So pray to the Lord of the harvest: “Father, I'm asking You to send laborers across _____'s path, laborers who are equipped with the Word of God about salvation, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, healing and deliverance. Send laborers who can communicate effectively with _____ so Your Word can reach his/her heart.”

Once you've prayed for your loved one like that, from then on, put your faith in action by treating your loved one like he's/she's saved. Don't treat your loved one like he's/she's not good. On the contrary, every time you see your loved one, say, "Praise God! Isn't it good to know Jesus?" Then just stand back and watch how things change. You'll be amazed.

It's happened many times. And it can happen that way for you and your loved one. So don't give up. Get smart! Start praying according to the Word and praying by faith...and you will see the salvation of the Lord!

Here is a sample prayer for your unsaved loved ones. As you speak God's Word, remember that it will not return to Him void. It will prosper in the thing where to it is sent (Isaiah 55:11):

"Father, I come before You in prayer and in faith, believing. Your Word says You desire all men to be saved and come into the knowledge of the truth, so I bring _____ before You this day.

"I break the power of Satan from his assignments and activities in _____'s life in the Name of Jesus. Now, while Satan is bound, I ask that You send forth the perfect laborers to share the good news of the gospel in such a way that _____ will listen and understand it. As the truth is ministered, I believe _____ will open his/her eyes to the gospel, come out of the snare of the devil and make Jesus Lord.

"Father, I ask that You fill _____ with the knowledge of Your will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. As I intercede in his/her behalf, I believe that the power of the Holy Spirit is activated, and from this moment on, I shall praise and thank You for _____'s salvation. I am confident that You are alert and active, watching over Your Word to perform it. It will not return to You void. It will accomplish that which You please and prosper in the thing whereto it was sent.

"Therefore, my confession of faith is: 'God has begun a good work in _____'s life and He will perform it and bring it to full completion until the day of Jesus Christ, in Jesus' Name.'"

Scripture References from *The Amplified Bible*: II Peter 3:9; Matthew 18:18, 9:37-38; II Timothy 2:26; Jeremiah 1:12; Isaiah 55:11; Philippians 1:6.

Bible Verse for the Month of March



“Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ having been raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has dominion over him.”

Romans 6:8-9

MONTHLY CALENDAR

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

Children's Sunday School : 9:45 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.

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

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

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 7:00 p.m.

Band Practice: Morning service – 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

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Mayhew Community Baptist Church,

Mayhew Church would like to reach out to our community by helping those in need with their homes and lives. We have an exciting community service opportunity again this year to participate in a neighborhood improvement program for our Lincoln Village neighbors that is put on by Rebuilding Together partnering with Rancho Cordova City Hall, and the Lincoln Village Neighborhood Group, "ITLV"-It Takes a Lincoln Village.

This community outreach will be during the day on Friday, April 20th and Saturday, April 21st. We hope you can join in on one of these days, or if these dates don't work at this time, please join in for future community service opportunities.

Please contact Hope Nelson with the Community Service Ministry if you are interested in participating - anyone in church can do this event! We would like T-Shirts for our group to wear when we represent Mayhew. If you can please contribute toward your shirt it will also help the ministry.

Please let us know what day you want to participate (Friday or Saturday)--by Sunday, April 1st so we can order T-Shirts:

- We will need your full name, contact information, and T-Shirt size, if you want to participate, please.
- Each person needs to RSVP to the Community Service Ministry in order to participate for the Rebuilding Together Day for the Lincoln Village Community so Rebuilding Together can assign a home for us.

Please share this with your fellow church family members so we can all participate.

For each person participating, the Community Service Ministry will need the *below information, please:

1. *Your First & Last Name: _____
2. *Friday or Saturday? _____
3. *Phone/Cell#: _____
4. *Email: _____
5. *T-Shirt Size: _____

Rebuild Day 2018 returns to Lincoln Village in Rancho Cordova

April 20 &
April 21!



You are invited to Rebuild Day

Please join our fellow Mayhew members
as we help our local community for this special outreach
event on Friday, April 20 or Saturday, April 21, 2018.
RSVP by Sunday, April 1st if you would like to help.

Sponsored by
**Rebuilding Together
and Rancho Cordova City.**



For Questions or to RSVP, contact Hope Nelson :
(916) 813-9970 (call/text) or hope-nelson1@sbccglobal.net

Rebuilding Together is a nonprofit agency that
has improved homes since 1991.

rebuildingtogethersacramento.org

PASTOR JOHN ELLIS

In August, we reported that Pastor Ellis had been in declining health since the beginning of 2017 and requested your prayers for him and his wife Phyllis, who served at Mayhew CBC from 1970 to 1981. We recently learned that Pastor Ellis went home to be with Jesus. He had been suffering from Post Polio Syndrome, severe back pain and Chronic Pulmonary Insufficiency.

Before he became so ill, he loved to fly, which he has done since 1973. He also gave flight instructions since 1979. He and Phyllis are strong Christians and superior witnesses to the power of Jesus Christ in all circumstances.

Praise be to the Lord for the life of Pastor Ellis and Phyllis and for blessing Mayhew CBC with their friendship and service to the church and community. Please be in prayer for Phyllis, their family and friends.



WALL OF HONOR

By Tamaryn Crossman

Come see the Wall of Honor in Satow Hall.

The Wall of Honor is to recognize and thank Veterans and Active Members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard, for their time and services.

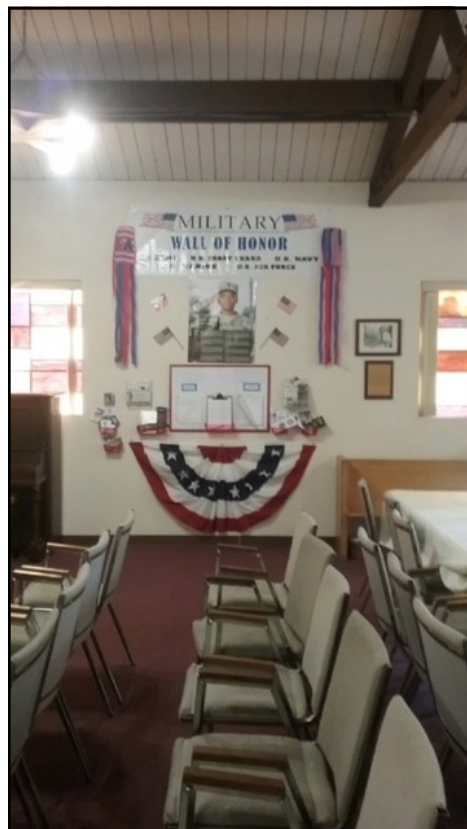
There are a number of resource books, pamphlets and handouts. Take what you need.

There is a sign-up sheet on the wall so please sign up if you are a Veteran or now Active or have a family member who is. We are praying for you.

The Rancho Cordova Library has a special area for Veterans and there is someone to help you.

* * *

Footnote: Thank you Tamaryn for keeping up this great tribute to our Veterans. Numerous people have commented recently as to how awesome it is.



MAYHEW CBC VALENTINE PARTY

ABWM again hosted a Valentine Party and Luncheon following service on February 11. As usual, the food was scrumptious and the cake delicious. Thank you Florene, Lodie, Becca and Ocille. While people were in line for lunch, prelude music was provided by Hope, Anne and Becca. Florene, event coordinator, gave the opening remarks. Floyd delivered the first presentation which included a tribute to Black History Month (February) with interesting facts about the origin of so many things we rely on each day, and who invented them.

Anne shared a story of the origin of Valentine's Day. Mabel read a poem her late husband, Bill, had given her. (Upon request, both the Valentine's story and Mabel's poem are reprinted in this issue.) One of our new parishioners, Philip, played a beautiful piece on the piano, "Waves," by Horstirrgang. Philip took the original theme and composed his own variations! Another new parishioner, Hanna, hand-made bookmarks for each person. (See picture.) They are very special and this had to have taken a long time. Satow Hall was packed and it was a time of great fellowship.

Thanks to all who helped with planning, decorating, cooking, serving and cleaning up.

HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

Although there are 3 Valentines who all were martyred on February 14, around the year 270, one in particular seems to be the most accepted, as you will see at the end of this story.

As the story goes, Valentine was a priest in Rome. At that time, the Emperor, who was a real bad guy, believed men were not joining his army because they were so attached to their families. Thus, he banned marriage. Because of the priest's strong conviction that this was wrong, he sought to ignore the Emperor's ban on marriage and continued performing ceremonies.

Needless to say, the Emperor didn't take kindly to this and threw him in prison. He later was beaten and beheaded, on February 14. While in prison, he became friends with the jailor's daughter. Prior to his execution, he left her a letter, which he signed "Your Valentine." It was after his death that he was designated Saint Valentine.

MABEL'S POEM
From Her Husband, Bill

I asked the Lord to bless me
With an angel in my life.
A woman I could treasure
As a loving friend and wife.

And so you came from heaven
As the answer to my prayer
And changed my world forever,
Through the precious love we share.



TREASURER'S REPORT

By Robin Alexander

I WAS JUST THINKING

As a born again believer, I view the world differently than secular people. I also read too much. In a recent Discover Magazine, I found an article titled "Quest for a Peaceful Death." The subtitle says "A cancer doctor studies the connection between spiritually and end-of-life care."

My wife Bonnie caught me arguing with the author while sitting on the toilet in the bathroom. I often do this to sharpen my arguments. The author does not distinguish between Religious people and Born-Again Christians. The author does distinguish between all religious people and spiritually minded people, but that is not a significant difference.

All the world's religions are filled with people who are doing something to be better or attain some state within themselves. In contrast, Born Again believers are not doing anything to earn their salvation. Rather they have done what Jesus told them to do. John 3:3 "Jesus replied 'Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.'" John 3:5 has these words, "unless they are born of the water and the Spirit."

Being born of the Spirit means you have God's Holy Spirit living in you. He is your teacher and your comforter. That fact makes you very markedly different from all the religious people and spiritual people who are trapped in Satan's world system. That means that all those people are not going to heaven and they will spend a thousand years in hell and will welcome the Great White Throne of Judgment and they will welcome being thrown into the Lake of eternal fire which will end their existence.

Satan shields the people of the world from the Gospel, the Good News of Christ's death that pays God His Father's price for our sins and our sinful estate (being the children of Adam and Eve). In contrast, God's Holy Spirit shields us from Satan's barbs and thorns. Have you ever thought of saying, "In the Name of my Lord Jesus Christ and in the power of his Shed Blood, I rebuke this disease (or anything, such as a doubting thought or a sinful thought or hatred of a person).

Of course, the world and its worldly people are blind to spiritual things and it is our hope to open their eyes to the truth of God's Love for them. But we must be in prayer regularly asking for God to open the eyes and mind of people. We cannot do spiritual jobs on our own. We have to seek the Lord Jesus' help, and He will do the heavy lifting for us.

PRAYER TEAM

For many years, Mayhew CBC has had a dedicated team of parishioners who pray for specific needs of the church's parishioners, their family and friends. We have no doubt that the Lord is attentive to the Prayer Team's petitions. As indicated in last month's Torch the prayer team is as follows:

Coordinator: Anne Chapman

Team Leaders: Paulene Conaway, Hannah Guro, Lan Ly, Bernice Ingram

Each of the above has a group of people to contact, which includes Diaconate.

The purpose of this article is twofold:

If you would like to make a prayer request on behalf of yourself or someone else, please let Anne know. It can be about any serious life situation, medical or other. Confidentiality is respected. Only specifics which a person approves will be passed on. A request can even be "unspecified, or unmentioned."

The Bible says we are to fervently pray for one another, giving thanks and supplication. If you would like to be a member of the prayer team, please let Anne know. The more prayer participants, the more team leaders that will be necessary so each group can be kept to a reasonable amount of contacts.

At any time, please feel free to call Anne. 916-505-5433.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD – BABY DESMOND

Congratulations to Nella, Derrick, Celine and the entire Schnase family on the birth of Desmond James Schnase on February 1. What a precious baby and he couldn't be in a more loving, Christian family. Celine, at 3 1/2 is a wonderful "big sister" who is already displaying mommy skills as she dotes on her little brother.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

This year Easter falls on April 1. Come join us in a Sunrise Service to commence at 6:30 a.m. outside by Satow Hall. **DOUBLE CHECK SUNRISE TIME!!!**

Announcements, Updates and Coming Events

Pastor's Breakfast – For the month of March the breakfast will be held on the first Tuesday, March 6th at 8:30 am. The breakfast will be held at Perko's Restaurant.

Torch articles for the month of April will be due on Monday, March 19th.
Articles are to be submitted by email to mayhewcbc@gmail.com.

March Birthdays

3/1– Ann Guro
3/7– Don Doolittle
3/8– Marquita Arnold
3/10– Robin Satow
3/17– Ed Jones
3/19– Lois Kramer
3/22– Jodi King
3/23– Robert Ingram
3/26– Roy Boyd
3/26– Andorful Gaisie
3/27– Becca Viola

3/28– Julia Natsuhara

3/30– Anne Chapman

March Anniversaries

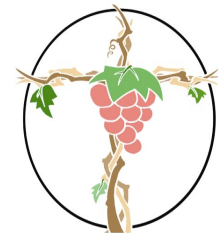
3/21– Bill and Ruth Kitigawa



In Memory Of...

Nelson and Nancy Akabori IMO Dave Kawamura

Lillian Kawamura IMO Roy Ota



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Church Hours:

Mon—Thurs: 9am—2pm

Fri.: Closed

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Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Dated Material