



THE FOUNTAIN

CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 9:00 AM— 4:30 PM

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2 Timothy 1:5

“For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that it is in you as well.”

A GRIEVOUS SPELLING ERROR

By Sam Sears

Thanks to my parents, I had a high reading level for my age in school, but replicating those words in the spelling and grammar portion of school never came as easily to me. I made B's and A's, but excelled more in history or science. I poke at myself for going to "public school in Kentucky" but I am thankful for numerous good teachers, and don't mean to belittle them; instead, I only mean to admit my imperfections and mix humility with humor. I know that I have made a few spelling errors that have embarrassed me over the years. Even recently, I accidentally wrote that one of our Elders, Tom Lewis, would still serve as he "exists" past his time on the board, instead of the intended, "exits." I meant to affirm that he would still be ministering in a different way, but a few church members quickly e-mailed me to let me know they were thankful that people were allowed to live after serving on our Elder Council. That one doesn't make the top of my embarrassing list, though.

There is one spelling test that I'll never forget. Our second-grade teacher gave us bonus words to spell that were well above our reading level. Thanksgiving was approaching, and she challenged us with the word "cornucopia." I've always had a stubborn streak, and there was something about the way she made it a challenge that ignited a drive in me. To the best of my memory, I can't recall normally getting the challenge words, or really trying to, but this time, I was determined.

The test day came — Friday, of course. I had prepared since the last week, and I had done my best to memorize "cornucopia," a word that I had to look up how to spell now, some 30 years later. She instructed us to clear our desks of everything but one sheet of lined paper and our pencil. She called out the words, and we wrote them down, spelling them by memory. I hesitated on a common word. How did you spell "of?" Again? I moved on, as she had a quick pace. The test was finished when I triumphantly wrote "cornucopia" as one of the bonus words. She graded the tests quickly, as we had moved on to some other assignment, and worked quietly.

Soon it was time to hand back our tests, and the teacher interrupted our quiet work. She congratulated us on a job well done. Then she looked at me, and asked, "Sam, how did you get "cornucopia" right and

"of" wrong?" The class laughed as my cheeks reddened. "How do you spell of?" I asked. "It's okay," the teacher hushed the class, "it's more common a word than you think to misspell, it's because you probably focused on studying the other words, didn't you?" I confirmed. I was embarrassed to have spelled "of" "u-v." I wasn't the only one to do so, but I was the only who spelled "of" wrong, and got "cornucopia" right.

I was reminded that the basics matter. I can't say I always remembered that lesson well, but when a similar scenario crops up, one where most people would think, "I knew better than that," I instantly picture that spelling test. Even though I got a hard word correct, my accomplishment was overshadowed by an easily preventable error on something more basic.

Getting the basics right matters in our walk with God. Even people who have impressive-looking accomplishments on the outside may get the most fundamental things wrong. Matthew 7:21-23 records,

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'" (NASB 95)

While we continue to pursue depth in truth by digging into Scripture, it's also important to get regular checkups on the basics. Who do we think Jesus is? Do our actions show that? Are we reading our Bibles, praying regularly, serving others, and sharing truths about God?



A 3-TISSUE NIGHT!

By Chuck Romer

We had a wonderful, unique Good Friday service this year, as we invited Elim Church to join us (Elim is the Spanish church that Chris and Romy Sagastume lead and that rents our facilities several times a week).

The Praise Team had members from both churches singing and playing together... and we sang in both English and Spanish.

There were four scripture readings (in English and Spanish)

from the Gospel of John, chapters 18 and 19 which tell the story of Jesus' trial... his journey to Golgatha... and his crucifixion. These were read by pastors Sam and Chris.

Both congregations shared Communion together... and Romy shared a brief devotion at the close of the service (translated into English or Spanish as needed).

And Rona Swanson's husband, Sam, played a trumpet solo – *The Via Dolorosa* – which is the story of Christ's journey to the cross and deep his love for us. It was beautifully played and warmly received.

But the people who attended weren't just from the two churches that shared the service together. A teacher from Golden West High School spoke with me after the ser-

vice, and shared that his family had some roots in Argentina, and how much he appreciated the service.

Vickie, a friend of Rona's, sent a note the next day:

What a beautiful, blest night! Here are a few of my highlights:

(1) The many scripture passages leading to the cross - woven with music with deep messages. (2) The community of Spanish speaking and English speaking believers (such a rarity). (3) Sam's trumpet solo. (4) Sitting with precious friends...and sharing Communion together. (5) Being greeted by our November retreat buddies – Carrie Guy and Heather Sears (Vickie had attended our Women's Retreat last fall). The list could go on and on – *It was a 3-tissue night!*"



My special thanks to all who helped make the evening possible: to Judy Jameson, Sheila Ronk, and Brent and Marsha Iden for working with the sound, projection and live-stream... to all the singers who lifted their voices and their hearts in praise... to the instrumentalists who provided a foundation for the 9 songs that we shared together. Thank you all for your heart to serve the Lord and His people.

I hope we'll be able to have another service like this again. If you attended, I hope you'll want to come again – and if you weren't able to attend, I hope you'll consider joining us next time. My only suggestion would be "to bring a few tissues" – just in case your heart is touched along the way.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

May 2022

Vincent Cheng.....	1
Oliver Ajluni	5
Logan Chapman	7
Kelli Stowers	8
Ignacio Garcia	11
Adalyn Hollis	12
Reagan Gunning.....	14
Lisa Brooks	15
Evelyn Hardisty	15
Kerrell Lewis.....	20
Benjamin Romer	23
Emerson Gunning	26

Romy Sagastume	27
Addisyn Sanchez	28

Happy Anniversary!

Tim & June Glick.....	7
James & Kacy Gatto	9
Ryan & Heather Ritter.....	11
Tom & Kerrell Lewis	12
Jim & Margie Barlogio.....	15
Ed & April Kesterson	17
Keith & Marcia Moore	23

CHURCH YARD SALE

While doing your spring cleaning please put those things that others might be looking for aside and bring them to the church the last week in May!

We will be raising money to go toward the "Centered Vision Project" so all contributions are welcome.

There will be folks in the parking area near the storage buildings on Sunday, May 29th for you to drop off your items or you can bring them by during the week. Office hours are Mondays through Thursdays 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

Thank you in advance!



A graphic for a ladies' breakfast event. It features a central image of pink, red, and white roses. Overlaid on the roses is a gold-bordered box with the text 'LADIES' breakfast'. Below the roses is a circular logo with a blue 'F' and the text 'Women of the'. To the right of the logo, it says 'Invites you to join us! RSVP BY MAY 4TH 9AM • SATURDAY, MAY 7TH IF YOU'D LIKE TEA, BRING YOUR OWN TEA CUP'. Below this is the contact information '559-732-6623 • CARRIE@THEFOUNTAINCC.ORG • THEFOUNTAINCC.ORG'. At the bottom, it says 'Come for a time of food, fellowship & devotional' and 'THEME: FEEDING THE HEART'.

PROJECT CENTERED VISION UPDATE

May 2022

We're delighted to share with you that \$7,500 has been received for PROJECT CENTERED VISION during the first two weeks of the campaign. This number includes the "Matching Gift Fund" amount which doubles each gift.

You may have had questions about how to give to this project. We will try and answer those questions here.

"What is Project Centered Vision?" If you didn't see our earlier communication about this, you can check out the **large banner in the Lobby** at church... or you can **download a copy of our April newsletter**. There is a good article on pages 8 and 9 of that issue.

"Can I give more than once toward this project?" Yes, you can give as often as you want. Some members of our church family are on a fixed income, and a monthly gift would fit their budget best.

"Will each of my gifts be doubled by the Matching Fund... or just my first gift?" Each gift that you give will be doubled until the funding for the project is completed.

"I often give online. Is there a way to contribute to Project Centered Vision on the web site?" If you go to the church web site (thefountaincc.org), you'll see a blue circle with a white "+" on the lower left of the first screen. Click the blue circle, and it will open a small page – and the third button is "GIVE". Click "Give" and then it will ask (1) how much you want to give, (2) what fund you want your gift to go to (Select "Special Building Fund") and (3) how often you want to give that gift (weekly, monthly or just one time). Then it will ask for your personal information as well as credit card or bank information. It is very clearly designed and easy to use.

"I give by check... what should I do?" You can mail the check to the church or just drop it in the offering box in the Lobby any Sunday. Please indicate on your offering envelope or the memo line on your check how much you want to designate for this special project.

Thanks for being a part of PROJECT CENTERED VISION as we seek to increase our ministry impact in Visalia.



PRAYER CONCERNS

May 2022

Pray for the desire and opportunity to effectively share your faith! Our Nation and Leaders. Teachers & Students in Visalia. Our Brothers & Sisters at Elim.

Health: Ana Morales, Brad Sears, Bonnie Henson, Donna Eastin, Heather Smith, Jean Lamb, Jeff Rolph, JoAnne Jordan, Kevin Guy, Marilee Douglass, Mary Stemkoski, Pam Shattuck, Fred Wilder, Sandy Zinger

Cancer: Ann Johnson, Bill Morland, David Thomas, Jiggy Greene, Jim Shackelford, Joe Grant, Keith Moore, Mike Gunning, Olly Ajluni, Sandra Campbell, Shannan Ajluni

Other Needs: Nina Suttles (Vision)

Military: Andie Richwine – Marine, Brett Boland – Virginia, Michael Reid – San Diego, CA, Preston Correa – Marine, Tyler Richwine – Marine

EGG HUNT FUN!

April 2022



ATTENDANCE & GIVING

April 2022

Average In Person Attendance

105

Total Giving

\$ 21,826.65

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Worship 10:30 Worship	2 10:40 Prayer Warriors 12:00 Women's Bible Study	3 10:00 Staff	4 6:00 Family Night	5 10:00 Berean Watchmen	6 6:30 Men's Group	7 9:00 Ladies Breakfast
8 9:00 Worship 10:30 Worship	9 10:40 Prayer Warriors 12:00 Women's Bible Study	10 10:00 Staff	11 6:00 Family Night	12 10:00 Berean Watchmen	13 6:30 Men's Group	14
15 9:00 Worship 10:30 Worship	16 10:40 Prayer Warriors 12:00 Women's Bible Study	17 10:00 Staff	18 6:00 Family Night	19 10:00 Berean Watchmen	20 6:30 Men's Group	21
22 9:00 Worship 10:30 Worship	23 10:40 Prayer Warriors 12:00 Women's Bible Study	24 10:00 Staff	25 6:00 Family Night	26 10:00 Berean Watchmen	27 6:30 Men's Group	28
29 9:00 Worship 10:30 Worship	30 10:40 Prayer Warriors 12:00 Women's Bible Study	31 10:00 Staff	<div> <div>*Family Night</div> <div> <div>Awana</div> <div>Youth Group</div> <div>Men's Bible Study</div> <div>Women's Bible Study</div> </div> </div>			



The Fountain
1023 N Chinowth St
Visalia, CA 93291



Coming Events

May 7th - Ladies Breakfast - 9:00 AM

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June 4th - Church Yard Sale - 6:30 AM till Noon

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Stop by our website for more information on Bible Studies
and coming events at www.thefountaincc.org