



# Saints Alive

October 2008

## Pastor's Message

Tell Me One Good Thing About Diversity

By Jim Burdick

I was raised in Sacramento, California, elevation 24 feet. Less than 90 miles due East of Sacramento, on US 50, is the beautiful Lake Tahoe, elevation 6,260 feet. The 6,236 feet that you climb during those 90 miles is some of the most beautiful country I have seen. Huge mountains of granite, cliffs, pine forests, deep canyons of the American River, twists, turns, and grades keep a driver on their toes.

The route Highway 50 follows is virtually the same one followed by early settlers before and during the Gold Rush. It is complicated and far from direct. Sometimes a mountain is on your left, then ahead of you, only to be on your right, and back to your left before you pass it. It would be so easy to get lost.

However, those mountain peaks, many taller than 10,000 feet, are a constant source of landmarks. They are not the destination; they simply help the traveler find their way.

Life is like that. I love the diversities of old and young, liberal and conservative, orthodox and free thinker, explorer and resident. If, during its founding, our country was made up of all Loyalists, we never would have become independent. And, if we were made up of all rebels, we would be the results of thirteen individual mini-nations - if we survived! But we were a mix of Loyalists and rebels and this mix developed a democratic republic with a Federal government above the 13 colony/states. And that diversity has served us pretty well since 1789.

[By the way, become informed and VOTE. Vote for which ever candidate you desire, but VOTE! And get your neighbor to become informed and VOTE!]

I pray that in my Christian journey, some life-travelers might look and see my part in the big social landscape and not view me as a destination, but might look at You and Me and use us as landmarks to point the way to the true destination, Jesus Christ!

### October Greeters

5—Patty Walker  
12- Carol Burdick  
19-Doris Jackel  
26-Patty Walker

## Afghan Raffle

Brian Fuller has crocheted an afghan approximately 108 by 74 inches to be raffled off with the proceeds going to the church building fund. The afghan will cover a queen-sized bed. Tickets are one dollar each and will be available every Sunday until November 9th when the drawing will be held. Your support for the building fund is greatly appreciated. The afghan is on display in the educational building.



## Shenandoah Business Meeting

Shenandoah Congregation held its business meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup> following the Pot Luck dinner. The purpose of the meeting was to elect delegates and alternates for Mission Center Conferences and also to elect a Pastorate and Secretary for 2009. The Pastorate Team of Jim Burdick and Richard Cole will begin serving our congregation on January 1, 2009 and Ruth Callier will serve as Shenandoah's Secretary. The names of delegates and alternates that were elected are listed for your information in the next column.



## Mission Center Conference – Oct. 25 & 26 – Camp Sionito

The names for the conference delegates and alternates are:

### Delegates

Edna Workmon  
Kelly Patten  
Carol Deane White  
Jim Burdick  
Carol Burdick

### Alternates

Ray Jackel  
Doris Jackel  
Kathleen Cole  
Ginger Walker &  
Emily Walker (from  
the Pasadena  
Congregation)

## Oct 4th – Church Clean-Up Day

We need all hands (including our youth) on deck for a Fall Clean-Up Day. The recent Temple School class on Stewardship got me all excited about taking care of our church home. Come to church on Saturday, Oct. 4th, and bring a “work” attitude; we’ll get our church home in good order. Some of the duties that I’ve noticed need attention include:

1. cleaning gutters
2. washing children’s playground equipment and making sure all working parts are safe
3. bagging leaves
4. relocating music and other items from back choir loft pews
5. making Ready Room orderly
6. tidying up outside area around the Ready Room door

Have you noticed any other area that really needs our attention?

We will have a pot of soup, hearty bread and anything else anyone wants to volunteer to bring to our table. Come! Join the work party and fellowship together. Please let me know if we can count on your help on October 4th at 9:00 a.m. until around 1:00 p.m.

Thanks, Carol Burdick

## **Sionito Work Party**

Fifteen (15) volunteers attended the September work party. Mike Thrutchley has filed the following report:

We put the tin roof up on the 2nd floor of the Barn and started the ridge cap. We cleaned up rocks along the old roadbed and replaced them with mulch, set up for the RV Association coming in October and replaced 50 ceiling tiles and repaired lights in the Dining Hall. We fixed the smoke detectors in the Lodge, checked plumbing and toilet seats throughout the campgrounds replacing several seats and repaired a leak in the main bath house. We made a cover for the water heater at the Laundry Room, changed out the orifice for the dryer from natural gas to LP, took down and stored the tarps and pool furniture and toys, and oiled the wood on all the beds in the Lodge first floor. All light bulbs throughout the camp were checked and replaced as needed.

Dates for upcoming work parties are:

October 18 – 19

November 15 – 16

December 6 – 7

January 10 – 11

February 14 – 15

We have jobs for all ages, sizes and skill sets.

See you @ Sionito.

## **News from the Pews..**

A clipping was forwarded from Fred and Sylvia Ayers with news that their oldest son, Sam Ayers, has been named the 2008-09 Region 17 Outstanding Middle School Principal of the year. The honor was accorded by the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

Dr. Ayers had been principal of Hutchinson Middle School in Lubbock, Tx., for the past three years, but currently is assistant superintendent for elementary education in the Lubbock Independent School District. Sam Ayers attended the Shendandoah congregation through his high school years in San Antonio.

Ayers will be honored next June at Associations Summer conference in Austin.

## **Month-long Visitor**

Kim Williams, Lafe and Evelyn Williams' son, will be visiting most of October. Kim lives in Oak Harbor, Washington and is retired from the Navy. He'll work on Lafe and Evelyn's computers and just enjoy some down-time.

## **Potluck Plans**

**Be sure to mark October 12<sup>th</sup> as the monthly Fellowship Meal, which will be held immediately after the morning worship. Host families are Dottie and Dalton Klaus and Ray and Doris Jackel.**

## **October Birthdays**

**1—Patricia Thomason**

**2—Elizabeth Spiekermann**

**3—Wayne Talcott**

**4—Kealani Marquez**

**5—Dee Marquez**

**7—Patty Walker**

**9—Michael Meales**

**14—Kathleen Cole**

**17—Rozella Sixt**

**17—Matthew Theisen**

**22—Brad Torkelson**

**26—Sylvia Ayers**

**28—Lenore Melenyzer**



Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt." Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."

## Victor Hatch

World Church Appointee Victor Hatch, a long-time resident of San Antonio and active member of the Shenandoah congregation, died unexpectedly on September 25th in an Austin hospital. He was born and raised in the state of Maine.

Vic, who was 79 years old, had undergone a successful knee surgery, but died of a heart attack while in the recovery room. He spent many years as a missionary and administrator in Mexico and in the Dominican Republic. His career included service in many parts of the United States including Orlando and Miami, Fl. and Mobile, Al. He and his wife Barbara were both fluent in Spanish.

He was a relentless scholar and Bible student and teacher, and had an appealing "folksy" pulpit style. After he and Barbara retired and moved to Kyle, Texas, they were frequent visitors to Shenandoah and both contributed to our pulpit ministry.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara, of the home in Kyle; daughter Diana Solorio of Austin, and son Stephen Hatch, in Mesa, Az, and three grandchildren. Steve, who once served as a pastor of Shenandoah, is the president of the Phoenix Community of Christ Mission Center.

A memorial service will be held on October 2nd in Independence, Missouri with burial in Independence. The family has also scheduled a Memorial Service in Austin on October 19th.



## CELEBRATE FALL

Again this year, the Shenandoah Church Family will be sharing a Fall Festival in the spacious yard of Richard and Kathleen Cole's family home in north San Antonio. There is plenty of parking and the activities will start in the late afternoon at 19915 Park Ranch on Saturday November 1st. We are anticipating that directions to the Cole address will be posted on the bulletin board in the Educational Building.

There will be games and activities for the younger set and for adults and, if you like, bring your own yard games, or board games to share. Hot dogs and marshmallows will be roasted/toasted so bring your appetites and be prepared to celebrate that period between the end of summer and our brief South Texas winter. Last year the weather was ideal and we are expecting the Coles will provide no less for the Festival in 2008.



Shenandoah youngsters and a few young-at-heart adults had opportunities during the heated days of August to cool off on a fantastic water slide made available by Sergio and Darcie Farrell. Sergio brought the heavy plastic structure and inflated it, turning it into a water adventure with a fast slide that appealed to the youngsters. They also had fun soaking each other with spray guns.

The Farrell's water slide was first unveiled during the afternoon of August 10<sup>th</sup>, following the family Potluck Dinner. The next time the slide was set up was at the ice cream social and game night later in the month.