

# IN GOD WE TRUST

TRUST YE IN THE LORD FOR EVER: FOR IN THE LORD JEHOVAH IS EVERLASTING STRENGTH. -ISAIAH 26:4



## Mainland Lighthouse

### Overcoming Life's Greatest Challenges

March 2013

Volume 13, issue 3

By Pastor Dean Bult

*"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."  
- Ecclesiastes 12:13*

When we stand before the Lord in His righteousness will our lives here on earth have been considered a success? The scriptures have told us that the whole duty of man is to fear God and keep His commandments. The Lord alone knows how many years, months, days, hours, minutes, and seconds we have to live on this earth. We will give an account of our lives after salvation. The unsaved will also give an account but to no avail except to realize how they have come short of the Lord's standards and deserve judgment. In my opinion, the Lord will show the born again believer that the indwelling Holy Spirit enabled him to be victorious in living God's standards. Success will not be measured by how many things we accumulated but if we were good stewards of what was given us. In the process, did we become what God wanted us to be and overcome the challenges that were set before us?

Romans 12:1-2 says, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." The greatest challenge is not to let our lives be a waste but to have victory in Christ. This month we will examine God's law and see how we as individuals and as a nation are measuring up. Life's greatest challenge is to live successfully in God's eyes and give Him the glory for enabling us to do so. This is the whole duty of man.

### Upcoming Events

- |         |                                      |         |                         |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| 3.2     | Men's Breakfast                      | 3.15    | Keenagers               |
| 3.3     | Teen/Parent Meeting                  | 3.27    | Pastor Bult's Birthday  |
| 3.7     | Get Acquainted Mtg. Vineland         | 3.27    | Grandparent's Day @ CBA |
| 3.8     | CBA-No School                        |         | CBA-Noon Dismissal      |
| 3.12    | A.C. Rescue Mission                  | 3.28-29 | CBA-No School           |
| 3.13    | Absecon Manor                        | 3.29    | Good Friday Service     |
| 3.13-15 | Encourage the Discouraged Conference | 3.31    | Easter Sunrise Service  |



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## Places in the New Testament

D	N	Z	K	F	B	E	P	H	E	S	U	S	J	Q	E	M	O	R	X
U	Q	M	G	H	A	E	I	R	O	J	H	O	S	M	T	J	C	H	K
L	J	V	S	W	Y	N	U	C	V	G	C	M	V	R	L	P	O	M	I
N	X	M	I	Y	R	U	P	V	Q	M	O	F	H	S	V	R	L	Y	D
B	I	T	P	Q	U	A	M	L	E	I	I	Y	G	Y	X	F	O	X	Q
N	Z	E	E	V	U	B	S	M	F	V	T	P	Z	U	Z	E	S	V	O
Y	S	G	P	B	Q	F	N	Y	B	F	N	D	F	W	H	R	S	Y	E
S	R	Z	J	Z	P	G	E	P	C	J	A	J	C	P	F	M	A	G	I
I	J	H	X	W	A	T	H	I	I	Y	S	M	N	B	E	U	E	D	W
B	X	L	J	L	Q	Y	T	R	K	Q	R	H	T	R	V	A	M	M	P
I	K	A	A	A	P	H	A	H	T	A	E	Y	E	J	N	U	E	A	
W	V	T	V	A	C	I	N	O	L	A	S	S	E	H	T	R	M	H	R
P	I	O	U	V	R	S	P	H	Z	Y	U	B	D	N	H	E	A	E	T
A	B	Y	U	N	S	U	C	S	A	M	A	D	A	L	G	P	G	L	S
O	U	K	T	C	W	B	Z	T	S	B	V	Z	M	S	Z	A	R	H	Y
X	Z	J	E	R	V	F	K	L	H	L	A	H	L	A	O	C	E	T	L
H	C	N	A	U	O	B	Z	C	U	R	C	M	D	G	I	I	P	E	M
M	W	B	E	N	M	A	R	U	E	P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I	B	O
L	S	A	R	D	I	S	S	T	P	R	U	C	O	R	I	N	T	H	W
D	P	T	I	E	Y	X	H	M	I	L	E	T	U	S	A	P	P	O	J

Antioch  
Athens  
Bethlehem  
Capernaum  
Colossae  
Corinth

Damascus  
Ephesus  
Galatia  
Joppa  
Lystra  
Miletus

Nazareth  
Pergamum  
Philippi  
Rome  
Sardis  
Thessalonica  
Troas

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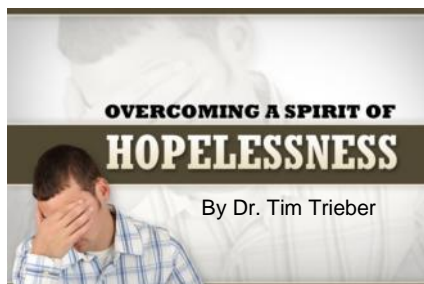
# Spanish youth ministry

## Teen Parent Meeting

Sunday night, March 3  
After the evening service

# SPANISH MINISTRY

The Spanish Ministry has been helping others to get closer to God. Praise the Lord we have been able to add Spanish Ladies' and Men's Sunday School Classes. New Converts have been growing through the lessons taught in these classes. We are thankful for the souls that have been saved. A couple of weeks ago we were able to lead two children to the Lord (picture). Praise the Lord for the many blessings given to the Spanish Ministry! If you are interested in speaking to someone about this ministry please contact Pastor Javier Vega.



We live in an amazing era, a time of nearly limitless possibilities and potential. Most of our homes, schools, hospitals, offices, and automobiles, regardless of how dated we ascribe them to be, parade technology that would have baffled even some of the greatest minds of the last millennium; and to contemplate what advancements lie in store for our children and grandchildren can be absolutely mind-boggling. Computers, laptops, and smartphones now grant us unlimited access to virtually anything or anyone, for that matter. With those same resources, a church in the heart of the Silicon Valley can continually beam without censure God's message of love and redemption across America and around the world. All of this we enjoy in the United States, truly the land of opportunity, whose citizens and residents are assured a permanent "freedom of speech and expression, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear." Nevertheless, amidst all of these abundant blessings, the spirit of hopelessness is sweeping the country and has invaded even the New Testament local church. Hope is

the anticipation of good in the near, unseen future. It is the candid expectation that blessings are yet to come; however, because of financial reversals, family matters, health issues, loss of pensions or retirement, loss of employment, and other situations beyond man's control, I find that many of God's people succumb to despair.

May I remind you that hopelessness stems from within; "for as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." (Proverbs 23:7) As we dwell on defeat and discouragement, this feeling of anxiety will edge its way into our lives; but we must remember that "God hath not given us the spirit of fear." (II Timothy 1:7) We need not worry about the day ahead; our Lord has promised that He will never leave or forsake us. The same God Who wrought victories in our lives is the same God Who can bring His people through the trials they endure now. Hopelessness also comes from without. We consider the lives of others and perhaps see how our blessings pale in comparison while our injustices and burdens supposedly outweigh theirs. We convince ourselves that we are the only ones suffering and then lose all hope.

The devil also provokes feelings of hopelessness, from both within and without. On the inside, he plants negative thoughts within our minds and, on the outside, tempts us to believe that there can be no hope for our lives. Subsequently, people turn to drugs and anti-depressants, all readily available at the local pharmacy. They turn to the flesh and try to assuage their hopelessness with carnality, thus further entrapping themselves. They surrender to fear or dependency. They turn to Eastern religion or to anything else that can provide some reprieve, however temporary and garbled. The list can go on and on. God's people must understand that hope is built on God, God's presence, God's Word, God's house, and God's peace. May the words of this songwriter find an echo in our hearts:

*"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ the solid rock I stand, All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand."*

Dear Christian, I do not know what you face today; but please do not yield to a spirit of hopelessness. In our Lord, we may renew our hope and anticipate good in the near, unseen future.



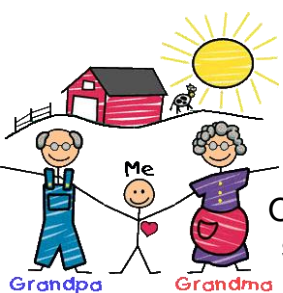
## GSACS Spelling Bee

Congratulations to

Joseph Marchese (3rd grade) - 1st prize

Ayotoye Oguntuase (3rd grade) - 4th place

Ayolola Oguntuase (5th grade) - 5th place



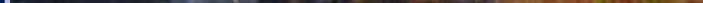
## Grandparents Day

Wednesday, March 27  
10:00 am

Our students will be having a special service for our grandparents with a lunch following.

## OVERCOMING

### *Life's Greatest Challenges*



Sunday AM 3/3 - Challenge to Keep God First

Sunday PM 3/3 - Challenge to Keep Our Worship Pure

Sunday AM 3/10 - Challenge to Keep His Name Sacred

Sunday PM 3/10 - Challenge to Keep the Sabbath

Sunday AM 3/17 - Challenge to Develop Family Honor

Sunday PM 3/17 - Challenge to Keep Life Sacred

Wed PM 3/20 - Challenge to Keep Pure

Sunday AM 3/24 - Challenge to Keep Integrity

Sunday PM 3/24 - Challenge to Keep the Truth

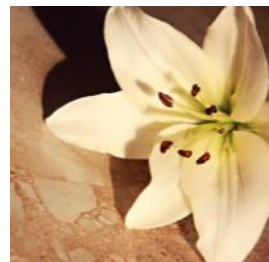
Wed PM 3/27 - Challenge to Be Content

## *March Sermon Series*

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

3.1 Chong Hillard  
3.8 Dennis Perna, Sr.  
3.11 Michael Leeds  
3.14 Al & Sally Watson  
3.20 Damon Grego  
3.23 Patty Warriner

3.25 Shirley Michael  
3.27 Pastor Bult  
Bill & Lori Ruiz  
3.30 Loreta Wescott



## Get Acquainted Meeting

In Vineland

**Thursday, March 7th**

From 6:30-8:30 pm  
Service @ 7:00 pm

We will be meeting at the Days Inn in Vineland to introduce Shining Light Baptist Church to the community.

Sign up sheet is on the table in the foyer.



## Good Friday



Friday, March 29  
@ 12:00 pm

## *Easter Sunday*

March 31 @ 7:00 am



Join us we reflect on Jesus' resurrection.



# HYMN STORIES

STORIES OF PSALMS, HYMNS, AND SPIRITUAL SONGS OF THE FAITH

## *Fill My Cup, Lord*

Written by Richard Blanchard

Life was never to be a bed of roses for Richard Blanchard. A severe lung problem developed, and Blanchard was left with one-third of his lung capacity. But a diminished physical well-being did not stop young Blanchard.

In 1953, he became the pastor of a church in Coral Gables, Florida, and one day, was asked by a young couple to perform their marriage ceremony. However, the couple was quite late for their counseling appointment.

Blanchard told his secretary, I will wait for thirty minutes and I'm leaving. He then went to a nearby Sunday school room and sat down to play the piano for a while. He later said, When I was not in the mood to be used of God, God was in a mood to use me. In less than thirty-minutes, as he waited for the young couple, God gave him the inspiring song *Fill My Cup, Lord*.

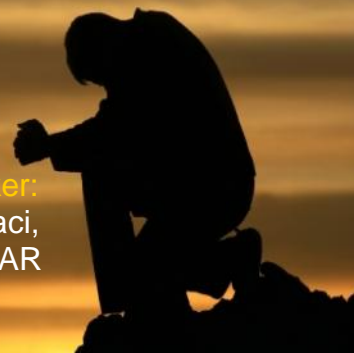
As Richard Blanchard looks back over his life, he declares even though God chose in his providence to impair my physical being, he has in so many other ways 'Fill'd My Cup.'

## *Encourage the Discouraged* conference

March 13-15  
7:00 pm



Guest Speaker:  
Dr. Eric Capaci,  
Hot Springs, AR



*"Let not your heart be troubled ye believe in God, believe also in me." - John 14:1*



Camden native George Wingate reflects that growing up there "prepared me well for joining the Marines at the age of 16." As a child, he attended a small neighborhood church with his brothers and sisters. Sixteen years in the Marines brought George to places like the Philippines, Japan, Australia, Okinawa, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. As a young recruit in boot camp, he was a Chaplain's assistant and allowed to "say a prayer before lights out." In 1984, while studying the Bible with a fellow Marine in Okinawa, Japan, George trusted Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. Three years later he met and married his wife Kim. God has blessed them with three beautiful children.

George admits, however, that, "all the while I was battling a drinking problem that I developed in the Marines and specifically after the war in Kuwait." Last August, Kim walked into Mainland Baptist, "needing God to restore our marriage and her sanity." Ironically, their son Christopher had been invited to MBC by Damon Grego. Shortly thereafter, George began attending the Reformers Unanimous Addictions Program on Friday evenings and the Sunday morning service with his wife. Through the discipleship programs of RU and Mainland Baptist, this grateful Marine, whose favorite verse is Ecclesiastes 11:9, has "rediscovered that God can deliver you from situations and addictions that man will only punish you for." George Wingate is "very thankful to my new family here at the church and Reformers Unanimous."

