



SELMA
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Senior Pastor:
Student Ministry:
Children's Ministry:
Office Ministry:

Selma First Baptist Church
2025 Grant Street
Selma, CA 93662
559-896-5842

Pastor Seth Pankratz
Pastor Luke Chow
Marianela Rodriguez- Borbon
Tiffanie Harrell

Church Office Hours:
M 9:00am-12:00pm
T-TH 9:00am-3:00pm

Non Profit Org.

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PERMIT # 68

SELMA CA 93662

Mission of Selma First Baptist Church:

"To help make disciples of Jesus Christ, who love God and love others
in our community, region, and world."



SELMA
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

LIFT LETTER

May 2017 | Monthly Newsletter of Selma First Baptist Church

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- 5.8** CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TRAINING
- 5.9** VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING
- 5.11** JOY MINISTRY OLD TOWN SACRAMENTO TRIP
- 5.13** ALL CHURCH PICNIC @ HUME
- 5.14** MOTHER'S DAY
- 5.18** SERVANT BOARD MEETING
- 5.23** VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING
- 5.29** MEMORIAL DAY

FROM THE VINE: A CONGREGATIONAL BLOG

Spiritual Disciplines

Recently, Tiffanie Harrell gave an excellent presentation of our need for a close personal relationship with our heavenly Father and His son, Jesus Christ. And, she is absolutely right. Plus, she emphasized the role the spiritual disciplines play in that relationship. I hope to build on what she wrote.

We sometimes forget the importance of the spiritual disciplines (worship, solitude, prayer, watching, fasting, and study of the Word, to name a few.). First of all, the spiritual disciplines are foundational to our relationship to God. Second, Jesus, John the Baptist and the Apostle Paul all practiced the spiritual disciplines. Third, Jesus commanded his disciples (and us) to practice them. (See Luke 5:35 & Luke 22:45-46)

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FAITHFUL GIVING

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

WEEKLY BUDGET OBLIGATION (Includes Missions): \$6,681.00

	4-2-17	4-9-17	4-16-17	4-23-17
Offering/Tithing/Missions	\$14,797.54	\$12,270.35	\$5,311.00	\$3,659.67
Benevolence Fund	\$166.00	\$1.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Designated Funds	\$247.00	\$1,329.75	\$2,632.00	\$0.00
Building Expansion fund	\$2,130.00	\$2,170.00	\$470.00	\$105.00

LETTERS

Dear Selma First Baptist Church,

I would like to thank each and every person from Selma First Baptist Church that packed a shoebox this last season. Due to the partnership of churches like yours, our area collected 25,054 shoebox gifts. That's 25,054 opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus with children around the world!

This year, West Coast shoeboxes were sent to Indonesia, the Philippines, a "Sensitive Country" & the Ukraine. Millions of children around the world are – right now – hearing the gospel and coming to a saving knowledge of faith in Christ, all as a result of your partnership in 2016.

It is a great blessing to serve alongside you. The OCC volunteer team is here to support you in any way that we can. I look forward to keeping in touch with you and trust that your involvement with Operation Christmas Child will continue to be a blessing to you and your church in 2017.

Prayer is the lifeblood of Operation Christmas Child. If anyone in the congregation would like to partner with us in prayer go to: Samaritanspurse.org, click on Operation Christmas Child, Get involved, Serving with OCC and then join our prayer network. Each month prayer requests are sent to your email. You will be helping to build the Kingdom through God's ordained mechanism, - prayer.

Serving together,
Peggy Pauley
Operation Christmas Child, Church Relations

Dear Pastor Seth & Church Family,

We can't thank you enough for the love and support you showed us at Dad's (Dick Fry) memorial service. Mom was so touched by the turn out, the wonderful welcome, and the abundant, delicious food. I want you to know how much it meant to her and Dad to have a loving church family to support them and show God's love at this hard time for our family.

Thanks for all the prayers and visits you continue to give Mom (Margie) during this difficult season. May God bless you all, your ministry, & your dear Pastor Seth!

Thank you again. God Bless you.

Love,

Susan Bergstrom & Family



FROM THE VINE:

Continued from page 1..

We all understand the need to “practice” in all areas of life. We expect the Olympic athlete to work very hard at their sport. We expect students to spend long hours studying to get good grades. We expect young lovers to spend time and effort on their relationship. However, we seem to think that “practice” does not apply to the Christian life.

We seem to think all that is necessary is “to get a person saved” and discipleship will follow, automatically. I’m not sure it does.

Given that, we as a church need to examine ourselves before God as to whether we are actually involved in the making of disciples. We need to get down on our knees before God asking for his forgiveness, his direction, and his empowerment in the making of disciples beyond just “getting them saved.” Our church mission seems to suggest that making disciples is important to us.

Our May guest blogger is Lynn Knutson. He strives to live moment-by-moment in humble, thankful dependence upon the Savior. Lynn is a retired attorney who enjoys spending time with his family.

NEEDED: PAPER TOWEL ROLLS



We need about 200 paper towel rolls for VBS crafts this year. Please save your empty rolls and put them in the basket on the back table.



Who's Your Neighbor? Block Party



A woman raises her hand as she is led in prayer to accept Christ at the Who's My Neighbor? Block Party at Lincoln Park

Who's My Neighbor?

A nameless man was mugged, beaten, and left for dead. As he lay, broken and helpless, two local pastors, who should have cared for the man, ignored the man's cries and went on their way. Eventually, an undocumented fieldworker came along and rescued the dying man.

Most of us are familiar with Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-37). A Priest, Levite, and Samaritan all saw the same man lying by the side of the road, but only one was compassionate. In response to the question, “Who is my neighbor?”, Jesus' message to the religious community was not to worry about whether someone else is a neighbor before offering help, but to first **be a neighbor**. Jesus wanted religious people to understand that their compassion towards people was a reflection of their love for God.

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Who's Your Neighbor? Block Party

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As Christians, we are often tempted to only be a “neighbor” to people who are like us. Even when dealing with other Christians, we tend to ignore the hurting and struggling. Jesus, however, calls us to be a neighbor toward even the broken and hurting in our community. We are called to demonstrate compassion.

Last Saturday, Selma FBC hosted an outreach event right in our own backyard (Lincoln Park). From 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, hundreds of people from our community were blessed by over forty community organizations and service providers, special presentations from Rick Alonzo, bounce-houses and a climbing wall, crafts for the kids, giveaways, free food, and absolutely beautiful weather. Over 30 individuals from our church volunteered their time to serve and participate. Over two-dozen people made the decision to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We were able to follow up with each and every family that registered for the event.



God has been providing many different opportunities like this for our church to reach beyond our walls with the love of Christ. Whether it is through our church ministries, community outreaches, or even housing a MAAP Point (Multi-Agency Access Point) in our Reality Center, God is allowing us to be a neighbor to our community. We have been privileged to be a catalyst for change in our community and it is our prayer that more and more of our membership will get to experience the joy of being a part of what God is already doing. We need transformed people to transform our world!



Rick Alonzo gives his testimony after performing for the crowd at the block party.



Children's Director, Marianela Rodriguez-Borbon, translates during the Gospel presentation.

Jesus replied, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind’. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” Matthew 22:38-39

SERVING THIS MONTH

WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM

Serving May 7

**Nursery-Kristi & Joshua Pankratz
Toddler/Preschool-Clarissa Cole & Caitlin Larkin
K-6th Grade-Chris Smith and Tom Christensen
Computer Check In-Dan Sparks
On-Call-Hannah Mitchell
Greeters-Darlene Wilbanks & Sharon Wilkin**

Serving May 14

**Nursery-Dimple Rasmussen & Darlene Wilbanks
Toddler/Preschool-Caitlin Larkin & Katie Wells
K-6th Grade-Elva Gonzalez & Jo Murray
Computer Check In-Dan Sparks
Greeters-David & Carrie King**

Serving May 21

**Nursery-Leola Keiser & Wealthy Grillone
Toddler/Preschool-Tom & Katie Chandler
K-6th Grade-Tony Escobedo & Heather Ornelas
Computer Check In-Dan Sparks
On-Call-Hannah Mitchell
Greeters-Russ & Janet Mitchell**

Serving May 28

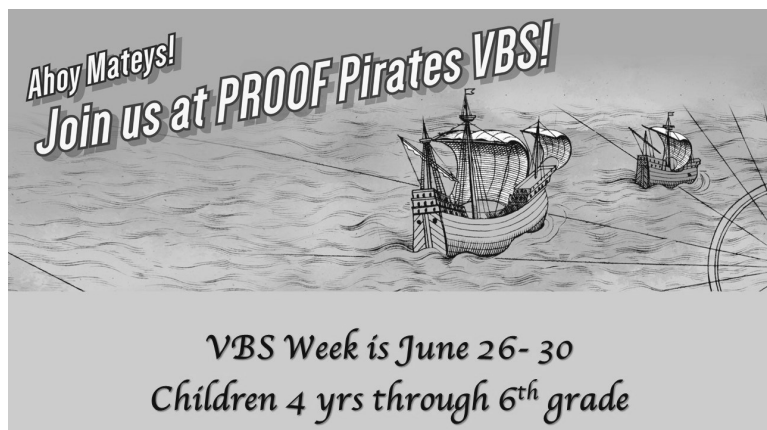
**Nursery-Russ & Janet Mitchell
Toddler/Preschool-Clarissa Cole & Sarah Mitchell
K-6th Grade-Jamie Wenter & Debbie Lopez
Computer Check In-Dan Sparks
On-Call-Katie Wells
Greeters-Cecil & Judy Eslick**

BIRTHDAYS IN MAY

- 1- Luke Chow, Bridget Harrell, Melanie Ramirez, Amie Rogers, Kennette Tuttrup
- 2- Silas Chandler, Heather Escobedo
- 3- Daniel Givens
- 4- Judy Eslick
- 5- Sharon Cruft
- 7- Lisa Coigny, Tanner Givens, Jan Knutson,
- 8- Trent Viau
- 10- Brianna Dellamaggiore, Ben Langstraat, Alex Stedle
- 11- Noel Cazares
- 14- Laura Chandler
- 16- Adam Ornelas, Kristi Pankratz
- 18- Jeanette Derr, Adam Howard, Ethan Wenter
- 19- Jason Dietmeyer
- 21- David Dobrinin, Linda Wise
- 22- Hailey Acosta
- 23- Kenneth Stoen, Sydney Stoen
- 24- Kris Colvin
- 25- Libby Green, Paul Green
- 27- Sydney Harrell, Esther Silva
- 28- Gabriel Coigny
- 30- Elijah Escobedo
- 31- Dolores Nimmo

ANNIVERSARIES IN MAY

- 4- Phillip & Amanda Mariscal
- 7- Vern & Shirley Hughes
- 10- Charles & Mary Davison
- 11- Shawn & Kathy Smith
- 16- Daniel & Tasha Givens
- 29- Curtis & Dimple Rasmussen
- 30- Tom & Katie Chandler



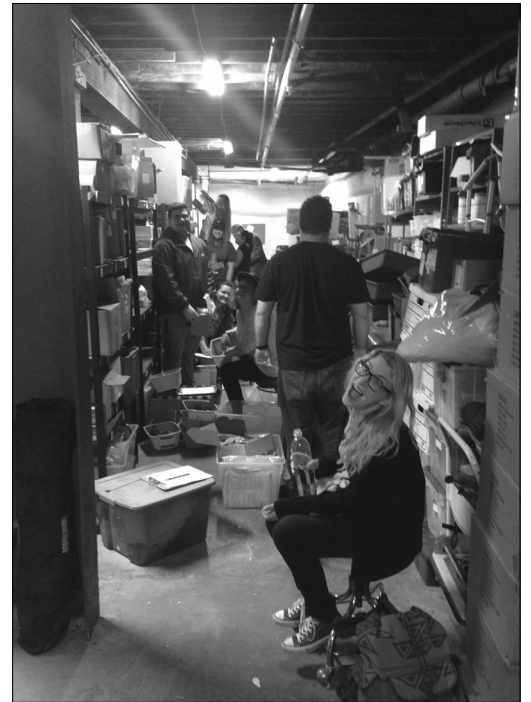
SFBC YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2017



City Impact serves a free meal to people from the Tenderloin District in an open-air café. Servers ask their guests how they are, take their order, and bring their food to the table.

"It was really cool to watch students break out of their comfort zones and use the gifts that God has given them."

Isaiah Escobedo, High School Co-Director



"The most exciting moment for me, was seeing the boys I disciple, step into the role of men and not persist in the attitude of little boys. And for them to do it without me having to say anything to them."

Matt Adams, Senior High Youth Intern

Go and make disciples of all nations...



While at City Impact, students served meals, sorted and gave away clothes, handed out cards and prayed for people they met on the street.



"This was my third year going to City Impact. The first time I went the human trafficking broke my heart. It was a great reminder of the brokenness there and how God works through people."

*Hannah Mitchell, Senior
Selma High School*



"I learned that there is always somebody with a worse story than yours. The people there in the Tenderloin, as little as they have, they can still wake up thanking God. One lady had no family and was about to be evicted but she says that she can still find reasons to be thankful."

*Vince Ramirez, Senior
Heartland High School*


MAY 2017



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2025 GRANT STREET
SELMA, CA 93662

559-896-5842
WWW.SELMAFIRSTBAPTIST.ORG
FACEBOOK.COM/SELMAFBC

OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
TUESDAY - THURSDAY
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

SUNDAY	MON.	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT.
	1	2 9:00 am Staff Mtg - Pastor's Office	3 9:00 am The Adams of the Long Table (Men's Breakfast) - McCoy's 10:30 am Message of 1 John - McCall Village 6:00 pm H.S. & J.H. Student Ministry- Youth House 6:00 pm FBC Unplugged- Fellowship Hall	4 9:00 am Be A Neighbor Meeting- Fellowship Hall	5 Office Closed	6 4:30 pm Curtis' Sunday School BBQ & Fellowship- Rasmussen Home
7 9:00 am Bible Classes- Various Classrooms 10:00 am Worship Service/ Children's Church 5:00 pm Koloinia	8 6:00 pm Children's Ministry Training- One Family Church in Reedley	9 9:00 am Staff Mtg - Pastor's Office 6:00 pm VBS Volunteer Meeting- Fellowship Hall	10 9:00 am The Adams of the Long Table (Men's Breakfast) - McCoy's 10:30 am Message of 1 John - McCall Village 6:00 pm H.S. & J.H. Student Ministry- Youth House 6:00 pm FBC Unplugged- Fellowship Hall	11 JOY Ministry Old Town Sac Trip 9:00 am Be A Neighbor Meeting- Fellowship Hall 10:00am Circle Dorcas-Fireside Room 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study- Curtis Rasmussen's Home	12 Office Closed	13 10:00 am All Church Picnic- Hume Lake
14 MOTHER'S DAY 9:00 am Bible Classes- Various Classrooms 10:00 am Worship Service/ Children's Church	15 6:00 pm Children's Ministry Training- One Family Church in Reedley	16 9:00 am Staff Mtg - Pastor's Office	17 9:00 am The Adams of the Long Table (Men's Breakfast) - McCoy's 10:30 am Message of 1 John - McCall Village 6:00 pm H.S. & J.H. Student Ministry- Youth House 6:00 pm FBC Unplugged- Fellowship Hall	18 9:00 am Be A Neighbor Meeting- Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm Servant Board Mtg- Conference Room	19 Office Closed	20
21 9:00 am Bible Classes- Various Classrooms 10:00 am Worship Service/ Children's Church 5:00 pm Koloinia	22 6:00 pm Children's Ministry Training- One Family Church in Reedley	23 9:00 am Staff Mtg - Pastor's Office 6:00 pm VBS Volunteer Meeting- Fellowship Hall	24 9:00 am The Adams of the Long Table (Men's Breakfast) - McCoy's 6:00 pm H.S. & J.H. Student Ministry- Youth House 6:00 pm FBC Unplugged- Fellowship Hall	25 9:00 am Be A Neighbor Meeting- Fellowship Hall 10:00 am Lift Letter Production- Church Office 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study- Curtis Rasmussen's Home	26 Office Closed	27
28 9:00 am Bible Classes- Various Classrooms 10:00 am Worship Service/ Children's Church 5:00 pm Koloinia	29 	30 9:00 am Staff Mtg - Pastor's Office	31 9:00 am The Adams of the Long Table (Men's Breakfast) - McCoy's 6:00 pm H.S. & J.H. Student Ministry- Youth House 6:00 pm FBC Unplugged- Fellowship Hall	<p><i>She opens her mouth with Wisdom & the teaching of Kindness is on her tongue.</i></p> <p><i>Proverbs 31:26</i></p> 