

## ***Celebrations***

*"After this I looked, and there was a great crowd that no one could number. They were from every nation, tribe, people, and language. They were standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They wore white robes and held palm branches in their hands. They cried out with a loud voice: 'Victory belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.'"*

*(Revelation 7:9-10)*

This past week, we've had two birthday celebrations in our house, as we do each year at this time. Daniel turned 16 and his mom had her birthday the next day. Cards and gifts were exchanged and several special meals were shared. Several family members made an extra trip to be in town to be part of the celebration. Everyone made a special effort to be together to celebrate.

This weekend, we have such an opportunity with our brothers and sisters in Christ from the *Iglesia Apostólica de la Fe en Cristo Jesús* (IAFCJ) congregation, who meet weekly in our facility for worship. I hope you will plan to participate on Sunday, August 13 as we gather for worship at 10:00am outdoors in the larger courtyard area (bring your lawn chair to sit on). In that service, there will be music and preaching (translated into both English/Spanish) as well as a brief presentation from our VBS participants. Then, we move to food and games as we join together in Fiesta. It's my first one, and I'm excited to share in this form of celebration.

Also, don't forget about the overnight camping experience on our church property the night before, following the "Camp Out" theme of this year's Vacation Bible School.

Breakfast will be served between 8:30-9:30 Sunday morning in the fellowship hall, following a brief 8:00 service in the smaller courtyard area between the sanctuary and fellowship hall.

And the weekend begins with Vacation Bible School, which begins tomorrow evening. Dinner is at 5:00 and activities begin at 5:30 all over the building. It promises to be lots of fun for all!

Let's Celebrate God's Goodness!

*Pastor David*

August 10, 2017