

February 2006



Granada Good News

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Pastor's Notes

February holds some wonderful things for us here at Granada Baptist Church. We are filled with gratefulness to God for the testimonies of Syrayen and Ramela Fiaz and Katie Russell as they told us how they came to place their faith in Jesus. What joy filled our hearts as we witnessed them following the Lord in baptism Sunday morning at the close of the service.

That same night we saw close to 100 people fill the church for an exciting gospel bluegrass concert with Rick and Debra Ferguson and the Gospel Creek Band. Our hostess ladies did an outstanding job providing a halftime reception for all who came.



Pastor David O'Brien

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Seniors' Luncheon

Twenty-five Seniors and their guests met on January 19, 2006, for their program and luncheon. Linda Hohman-Lopez gave the opening prayer.

Hugh Colvin played his guitar and led us in singing, *There Is a Land That Is Fairer than Day*, *Shall We Gather at the River*, and *When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder*.

Mary Schoenecke announced that a former member of our church, Mrs. Charles Lamb, had passed away. She read about a little boy who was riding with his

mother in their car. It was raining, and he told her the windshield wipers reminded him of Jesus. He said people sinned and then Jesus wiped all their sins away. If we keep on sinning, he keeps on wiping our sins away.

Mary thanked Jane Hook for decorating our lunch tables every month. Today we had tablecloths of pink, blue, purple, and yellow with flowers to match each color. This is the start of a new year, people here are all different and are from several different states, but we're

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Granada Baptist Church

945 Concannon Blvd
Livermore, CA 94550

Phone: 925-447-3428
Email: newsletter@granadachurch.org



See us on the web at
www.grnadachurch.org

Mailing Address Line 1
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Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

Request For Transfer

<>}}>

Author Unknown

TO: Commander-in-Chief Spiritual Armed Forces, Jesus Christ

Dear Lord:

I am writing this to You to request a transfer to a desk job. I herewith present my reasons: I began my career as a private, but because of the intensity of the battle You have quickly moved me up in the ranks. You have made me an officer and given me a tremendous amount of responsibility. There are many soldiers and recruits under my charge. I am constantly being called upon to dispense wisdom, make judgments, and find solutions to complex problems. You have placed me in a position to function as an officer, when in my heart I know I have only the skills of a private.

I realize that You have promised to supply all I would need for the battle. But Sir, I must present You a realistic picture of my situation. My uniform, once so crisp and starched, is now stained with tears and blood of those I have tried to assist. The soles of my boots are cracked and worn from the miles I have walked trying to enlist, encourage, and instruct the troops. My weapons are marred, tarnished and chipped from constant battle against the enemy. Even the Book of Regulations I was issued has been torn and tattered from endless use. The words are now smeared.

You have promised You would be with me throughout, but when the noise of the battle is so loud and the confusion is so great, I can neither see nor hear You. I feel so alone. I'm tired. I'm discouraged. I have Battle Fatigue. I would never ask You for a discharge.

I love being in Your service. But I humbly request a demotion and transfer. I'll file papers or clean latrines. Just get me out of the battle -- please, Sir.

Your Faithful, but tired, Warrior.

~~~~~  
TO: Faithful, but tired, Soldier,  
Spiritual Armed Forces

LOCATION: The Battlefield

SUBJECT: Transfer

Dear Soldier:

Your request for transfer has been denied. I herewith present My reasons: You are needed in this battle. I have selected you, and I will keep My Word to supply your needs. You do not need a demotion and transfer. Besides, you'd never cut it on latrine duty anyway. You need a period of "R & R" (Renewal and Rekindling). I am setting aside a place on the battlefield that is insulated and fully protected from the enemy. I will meet you there and I will give you rest. I will remove your old equipment and "make all things new."

You have been wounded in the battle, My soldier. Your wounds are not visible, but you have received grave internal injuries. You need to be healed. I will heal you. Also, you have been weakened in the battle. You need to be strengthened. I will strengthen you and be your strength. I will instill in you confidence and ability. My Words will be rekindled within you, giving you renewed love, zeal and enthusiasm. Report to Me tattered and empty. I will replenish you.

Compassionately,

Your Commander-in-Chief, Jesus Christ

><}}>

## February 2006

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   |
| 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  |
| 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  |
| 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  |
| 26  | 27  | 28  |     |     |     |     |

### Schedule of Events

**Feb. 5** 11:00 am — **Worship Service**

**Feb. 8** 12:30 pm — **Fellowship Luncheon**

**Feb 11** 12:00 noon — **Church Challenge**

#### **Bowling**

**Feb. 14** — **Valentine's Day**

**Feb. 19** 10:45 am — **Seniors' Luncheon**

**Feb. 20** — **President's Day**

**Feb. 26** 6:00 pm — **Concert**

**Feb. 27** 6:00 pm — **Deacons' Meeting**

#### **Weekly schedule**

Sunday, 9:45 am: Bible Study for all ages

Sunday, 11:00 am: Worship

Sunday, 6:00 pm Prayer and Praise meeting

Tuesday, 10:00 am: Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

Saturday, 7:30 am: Prayer Breakfast

### Birthdays

7 **Lynn Torrez**

11 **Frank Serkland**

18 **Carmen Torrez**

20 **Kim Overton**

Note: If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, it is not in the editor's database. If you want your birthday or anniversary listed, let me know.

### Personal Thoughts

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, many of us have turned our attention to the romantic kind of love. And while there's certainly nothing wrong with romance, the highest form of love is the kind of love Jesus commands us to have for one another, the love that Jesus Himself had for us, the love that motivated Him to go to the cross and give His life so that we could be saved through His shed blood. We should love one another so much that we'd be willing to die for one another if the need should arise. Fortunately, very few of us will ever be faced to go that far for someone, but suppose we did. Is there someone in our lives that we'd rather not die for? I can think of a

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." -- John 15:12 (NIV)*

few people in my life, and I'm sure you can do the same. Granted, there are people that will get under our skin, but they're still people that Jesus died for, so if we want to follow in His footsteps, we need to make the choice to love them to that extent as well. It's far from an easy choice to make, but what is easy is to forget that we are often the ones that get under someone else's skin. We don't deserve the love God showed us when He sent His Son to die for us, but He loved us anyway. He set the perfect example for us, and He calls us to follow it. I challenge each of you, and myself as well, to choose to change our attitudes and love someone who seems "unlovable."

### A Kiss

1-A kiss is a noun, because it is common and proper.

2-It's a pronoun, because "she" stands for it.

3-it's a verb, because it is active or passive.

4-It's an adverb, because it makes an explanation.

5-It's a conjunction, because it brings together and connects.

6-It's an interjection, because it shows strong and sudden feeling.

7-It's a preposition, because it has an object.

8-It's swell, if you don't mind my saying so.



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all one in love for Jesus.

Prayers were asked for Madge, who has chronic pneumonia, Ruby Purdy, who has a bad cold, Catherine Fletcher's sister Barbara Green who has an infection in her lungs, Melody's son Bruce, who needs knee surgery, Otis Farris, who has back problems, Jean Settles's sister, Willie, who is ill, Lynn Deligans for chronic pain, Linda Hohman-Lopez wants prayer for her three sisters – Mary Ann, Sally, and Gerylin, who are not saved, and prayers for our troops overseas. Jack Deligans gave a prayer for all of those above and for a friend of his who has prostate cancer.

Mary Announced that there will be an Ordination of two new deacons on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5 pm, the first one in twenty years.

Jane Hook read *Pastor Search*.

Alma Farris read *Letters to God* written by school children.

Mae Arney read *A Prayer request* written by a Chaplain stationed in Iraq, Rev. Lyle Shackelford.

Carl Serkland read *Request for Transfer*.

Catherine Fletcher gave the devotions, stressing how we as Christians need to think about being faithful to God's commands and in the praise of his many blessings in the New Year.

Our next luncheon will be February 16<sup>th</sup>, and Mary requested that everyone wear two different shoes. That should be interesting! Be sure to mark it on your calendar.

Philip Locke gave the closing prayer and the blessing for the luncheon to follow.

Jane Hook

### Children's Notes

Dear God,  
I think about you sometimes, even when I'm not praying.

Elliott  
Dear God,  
I bet it is very hard for you to love all the people in the world. There are only four people in our family and I can never do it.

Nan  
Dear God,  
Of all the people who worked for you, I like Noah and David the best.

Rob  
Dear God,  
My brother told me about being born, but it doesn't sound right. They are just kidding, aren't they?

Marsha  
Dear God,  
If you watch me in church Sunday, I'll show you my new shoes.

Mickey  
Dear God,  
We read Thomas Edison made light. But in Sunday school, we learned that You did it. So I bet he stole your idea.

Sincerely, Donna  
Dear God,  
I do not think anybody could be a better God. Well, I just want you to know that I am not just saying this because you are God already.

Charles

## Love in the Home

If I live in a house of spotless beauty with everything in its place, but have not love, I am a housekeeper--not a homemaker.

If I have time for waxing, polishing, and decorative achievements, but have not love, my children learn cleanliness--not godliness.

Love leaves the dust in search of a child's laugh. Love smiles at the tiny fingerprints on a newly cleaned window.

Love wipes away the tears before it wipes up the spilled milk. Love picks up the child before it picks up the toys.

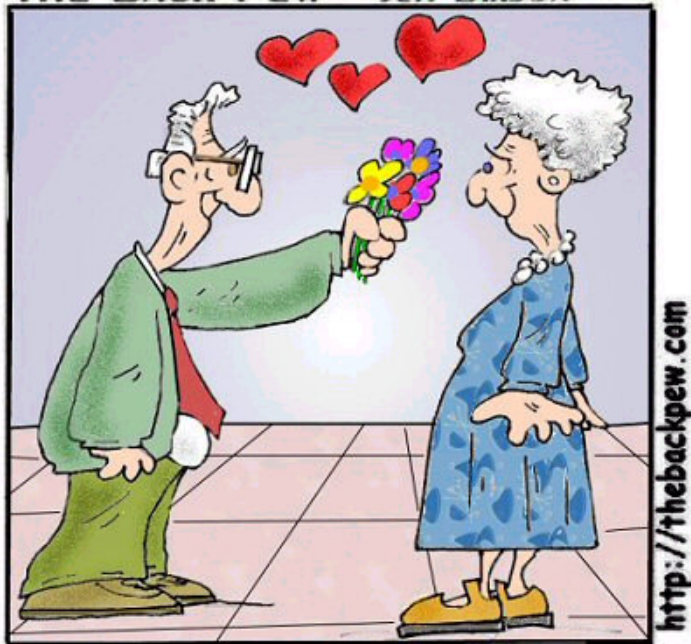
Love is present through the trials. Love reprimands, reproves, and is responsive. Love crawls with the baby, walks with the toddler, runs with the child, then stands aside to let the youth walk into adulthood.

Love is the key that opens salvation's message to a child's heart.

Before I became a mother I took glory in my house of perfection. Now I glory in God's perfection of my child. As a mother, there is much I must teach my child, but the greatest of all is love.

- Author Unknown

## THE BACK PEW - JEFF LARSON



Your teeth are store bought.. and as white as the hairs on your thinning hairline  
**Song of Solomon Seniors**

*(Continued from page 1)*

We move into February with a strengthened leadership base after ordaining Phillip Locke and Carl Serkland to the active serving deacons. The ordaining council was made up of a diverse group of ordained deacons and ministers from the area and recommended that these two be recognized and ordained to serve among us as deacons. The ordaining service was a high water mark for a spiritually moving service here at Granada.

February takes us into a new area of prayer-concern-contact with those we know as we engage in "Operation Andrew" in preparation for our March Revival. Michael Speegle will be our evangelist for March 12-15. Michael comes to us from Texas and Nebraska having been involved in ministry in Eules, Texas and Johannesburg, South Africa. Fill out your Operation Andrew card with those you want to see God draw to himself. Plan to invite everybody you see and work out ways you can get others to come with you or bring you.

The last Sunday night in February will be an exciting evening of mu-

sic as we bring some magnificent voices to Granada singing solo songs from Broadway. These singers have played the lead roles on several local stages. Plan to bring your friends to hear Andrea Daniel, Robert Sholty, Elbert Enns, Jeannie O'Brien, and Tabitha Teves.

Every Sunday night at 6:00 p.m., we plan to gather to sing, to pray, and to share how God is working in our lives. Cut off the TV and call a friend to go with you as you join your brothers and sisters in a family celebration at the church.

The most valuable thing for your life and the life of our church is coming to our church in a couple of months. But we need to get registered for it in February. This seminar on Basic Life Principles is currently enjoying tremendous popularity in England and in Russia. It will involve two week-ends of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Our goal is to have at least 10 people from our church sign up. There are several groups outside of our church that want to participate.

Don't miss February. It's going to be Fabulous.

## Church Bowling Challenge Returns

The Church Bowling Challenge returns from its winter hibernation on February 11 at 12 noon. Now in its 24th year, the Church Bowling Challenge has become one of the Tri-Valley's most popular fellowship events. Over the years Granada Baptist's team, the Holy Rollers, has won many cash donations for our church and has captured the perpetual trophy eleven times. We invite everyone to

bowl with us, especially YOU. The cost is \$10.00 and includes three games of bowling and rental shoes, if necessary. You can sign up on the sheet in the worship center, or contact Frank Serkland at 449-8257. As always, praying at the foul line will be permitted and encouraged.