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Seniors Report

July

Thirteen Seniors and their guests met on July 17, 2008 for their program and luncheon.

Mary Schoenecke asked for praises. Otis & Alma Farris have a new great-grandson, have been to a wedding, and have a sister visiting. Anne Gruver's sister's surgery went well, and Mary and Roy's son Philip has an aneurysm that is being watched.

Prayers were asked for Jane Hook's daughter, Joanne, for complete healing after Achilles heel surgery.

Jane Hook read *I'm Fine; How Are You.*

Alma Farris read *Discover the Fountain of Youth.*

Carl Serkland read *Unanswered Questions.*



Catherine Fletcher gave the devotions based on Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." Since July is Independence Day time, she told of the credits the signers of the Declaration of Independence gave to us taken from the Bible. Our country was formed on Christian beliefs but since then laws have been passed that degrade the Constitution. We need to get back to our roots to protect our country.

Hugh Colvin played his guitar and led us in singing *I Will Sing the Wondrous Story, Rock of Ages, Cleft or Me, Lead Me to Calvary, Victory in Jesus, Just a Closer Walk with Thee, Live Lifted Me, Sweet Hour of Prayer, and Because He Lives.*

Jack Deligans gave the closing prayer and blessing for the luncheon to follow.

Our next luncheon will be on August 21, and we will be celebrating Hawaii becoming a state in 1959 and have a Hawaiian theme, so get out your muumuus and Hawaiian shirts and be sure to mark it on your calendars!

-- Jane Hook

September

Twenty-two Seniors and their guests met on September 18, 2008 for their program. Mary Schoenecke said the opening prayer.

Mae Arney read *How to Call the Police When You're Old and Don't Move Fast Any-*

more and The Donkey Raffle.

Jane Hook read *Old Age, I Decided, Is A Gift.*

Alma Farris read *98-Year-Old Preacher.*

Mary Asked Hugh Colvin, Alma Farris, Ann Gruder, and Jane Hook to sing a new version of *Jesus Loves Me* with words written especially for Seniors, accompanied by Catherine Fletcher at the piano.

Catherine Fletcher gave the devotions based on prayer. In John 16:23-24 "Jesus told his disciples, 'I tell you the truth, My Father will give you whatever you ask in My Name. Ask, and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.'" Read Psalm 25:1-15 and you will see David's prayer asking God to show him the way to live. He trusted that God would deliver him from his enemies.

In verses 4 and 5 he asked God to "show me the right path, O Lord; point out the road for me to follow. Lead me by your truth and teach me, for You are the God Who saves me. All day long I put my hope in You."

We all need to learn what God expects from us. We've been given so many blessings and need to thank Him for them. "When God answers our prayers, peace floods our hearts and lives. Anxiety is conquered and overcome."

Hugh Colvin played his guitar and led us in singing *Count Your Blessings, When the Roll is Called Up Yonder, Shall We Gather at the River, The Lily of the Valley and Because He Lives.*

Gevonia Smith announced that we will have Prayer Time on Tuesdays at 10:30 am. With the election coming up we need God's help.

Jack Deligans gave the closing prayer and blessing for the luncheon to follow. He also asked for prayer for his brother and family in the path of hurricanes in Texas, as he hasn't been able to reach him by phone.

Our next luncheon will be on October 16, so be sure to mark it on your calendar. Be sure to find out when flu shots will be given around that time, also.

-- Jane Hook

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Contact: newsletter@granadachurch.org or by mail to 945 Concannon Blvd, Livermore, CA 94550, to subscribe, unsubscribe, change subscription format, or for more information

Church Challenge Bowling

Holy Rollers Finish 4th

On August 9th, Granada Baptist participated in the Church Bowling Challenge. Our 18 bowlers formed four teams, and Team #1 finished with the high score of 2887, good enough for 4th place and a \$25 donation for our church. Trinity Baptist won the perpetual trophy with a winning score of 3031. The high game and series for Team #1 were bowled by **Frank Serkland**, who bowled a 221 game and a series of 586. **Carl Serkland** had a 168 game and a 461 series. **Ron Hogan** had a 153 game and a series of 384, and **Lauren Serkland** had a 132 game and a 375 series. **Daniel Robbins** joined us for the very first time and bowled a high game of 67 and a series of 145. Team #4 had a score of 2787 and was led by **Debbie Caron**, who had a 178 game and a 465 series. **Sue Pope** bowled a 159 game and a 380 series, and **T. J. Caron** had a 136 series and a 363 series. **Nathan Caron** bowled a 144 game and a 319 series. Team #3 had a total of 2685 and was led by **Marilyn Jordan**, who bowled a 144 game and a 319. **Inge Kipp** had a 132 game and a 360 series. **Dale Irving** bowled a 117 game and a 344 series, and **Clarice Tunison** had a 129 game and a 310 series. Team #2 had a total of 2669 and was led by **Don Tunison**, who had a 175 game and a 509 series. **Ben Musselman** had a 176 game and a 402 series, and **Alma Farris** had a 146 game and a 402 series. **Otis Farris** had a 153 series and a 400 series. Otis also had our only split conversion on the day, the 3-10. **Shirley Davis** had a 140 game and a 377 series.

Holy Rollers Finish 3rd

On September 13th, Granada Baptist participated in the Church Bowling Challenge. Our 19 bowlers formed four teams, and Team #2 finished with the high score of 2967, good enough for 3rd place and a \$30 donation for our church. St. Michael's broke the Baptist stranglehold on the perpetual trophy with a score of 3110. (Our sister church Trinity Baptist came in 2nd with a score of 3019.) The high game and series for Team #2 were bowled by **Otis Farris**, who bowled a 245 game, featuring 10 strikes out of a possible 12, and a series of 584. **Rich Nickison** had a 189 game and a 539 series. **Ben Musselman** had a 198 game and a series of 470, and **Don Tunison** had a 175 game and a 463 series. **Shirley Davis** bowled a high game of 148 and a series of 419. Our four split conversions on the day all came from Team #2. Otis, Don and Ben made the 3-10 split, and Don also made the 2-4-5-10. Team #1 had a score of 2824 and was led by **Frank Serkland**, who had a 221 game and a 475 series. **Debbie Pope** bowled a 192 game and a 455 series, and **Carl Serkland** had a 153 game and a 440 series. **Lauren Serkland** bowled a 136 game and a 362 series. Team #4 had a total of 2790 and was led by **Jim Caron**, who bowled a 191 game and a 522 series. **Ricky Caron** bowled a 170 game and a 486 series. **Joey Caron** had a 195 game and a 465 series. **T. J. Caron** bowled a 117 game and a 327 series, and **Nathan Caron** had a 125 game and a 306 series. Team #3 had a total of 2759 and was led by **Alma Farris**, who had a 176



game and a 481 series. **Dale Irving** had a 156 game and a 378 series, and **Dorothea Cragholm** bowled a 148 game and a 371 series. **Marilyn Jordan** bowled a 125 game and a 345 series, and **Brian Musselman** had a 123 game and a 302 series.

The next Church Bowling Challenge is on October 11th at 12 noon. As is the tradition of the last event of the year, we will be bowling using 9-pin no-tap rules, which means that knocking down only 9 pins on the first ball, rather than all 10, will count as a strike. (Knocking down all 10, of course, will still be a strike as well.) The cost is \$10 and includes 3 games of bowling and, if necessary, bowling shoes. Come and help us try to win back the perpetual trophy, or at least win a donation for our church if we bowl well enough. You don't have to have any good at bowling to bowl with us. If you know which side of the ball to hold (the outside), you can be on our team. You can sign up on the sheet that will eventually be in the worship center, or contact Frank Serkland at 449-8257. As always, praying at the foul line will be permitted and encouraged.

Holy Rollers Finish 5th

On October 11th, Granada Baptist participated in the Church Bowling Challenge. We were using 9-pin no-tap rules (9 pins on the first ball counts as a strike), which meant that our scores were higher than usual. Our 24 bowlers formed five teams, and Team #2 finished with the high score of 3153, good enough for 5th place and a \$20 donation for our church. St. Charles won the perpetual trophy with a score of 3496. The high game for Team #1 was bowled by **Don Tunison**, who bowled a 230 game and a 580 series. **Otis Farris** turned in the high series with a 593 series, featuring a 226 game. **Charlie Henderson** bowled a 185 game and a 542 series, and **Cindy Henderson** had a 192 game and a 493 series. **Ben Musselman** had a 192 game and a series of 492. Team #5 had a score of 3112 and was led by **Frank Serkland**, who had a 226 game and a 628 series. **Ron Hogan** bowled a 156 game and a 456 series, and **Lauren Serkland** had a 157 game and a 440 series. **Dorothea Cragholm** bowled a 168 game and a 424 series. Team #2 had a total of 3009 and was led by **Shirley Davis**, who bowled a 215 game and a 517 series. **Alma Farris** bowled a 213 game and a 453 series. **Inge Kipp** had a 149 game and a 414 series. **Dale Irving** bowled a 165 game and a 411 series (for your information), and **Marilyn Jordan** had a 150 game and a 410 series. Team #3 had a total of 2980 and was led by **Sue Pope**, who had a 205 game and a 479 series. **Ricky Caron** had a 184 game and a 484 series, and **Joey Caron** had a 167 game and a 473 series. **Ryan Musselman** bowled a 169 game and a 359 series, and **Nathan Caron** had a 118 series and a 333 series. Team #4 turned in a total score of 2921 and was led by **Bill Vance's** high series of 556, highlighted by a 190 game. **Jim Caron** had the high game of 215 game in a 548 series. **Debbie Caron** had a 177 series and a 440 series, and **T. J. Caron** had a 141 game and a 378 series. **Willie Caron** rounded out

(Continued on page 5)

Personal Thoughts

My sister has been attending the local community college for the last couple of years, and on Friday night she graduated with a degree in sociology. Her intention is to apply to UC Berkeley, and her grades are good enough that she stands an excellent chance of being accepted. The program from Friday night's commencement ceremony had a message from the president that contained a quote from Marianne Williamson that I found interesting: "Your playing small does not serve the world." How true that is of most people's walk with God. It's been said that 80 percent of the work in most churches is done by 20 percent of the membership. Just think how the world would be impacted if the other 80 percent picked up the slack and pitched in! If we're part of that 80 percent, we

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." -- Philippians 4:13 (NIV)

have no need to worry about where we're going to get the strength and courage to do what we should be doing. God's promise is that it comes through Jesus Christ Who gives us strength. If we just sit in our pews Sunday after Sunday and never do anything for the kingdom of God the rest of the week, we're playing small. But if we rely on Jesus to give us the strength to tell others about His awesome, saving love for them, we'll see Him do some amazing miracles. Let us never be afraid to do great things for God, knowing He'll give us the strength to do His work right when we need it.

In Jesus, Frank
June 1, 2008

Personal Thoughts

One evening an old Indian chief told his young grandson about the battle between good and evil that goes on inside all of us. He described it as a fight between two wolves, saying, "One wolf is Evil. It is anger, envy, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. The other wolf is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith." The young grandson thought for a minute and asked his grandfather, "Which wolf wins?" The grandfather responded, "The one you feed."

The struggle to live the Christian live we know we should be living is common to every Christian that's ever lived. It's comforting to know we're not the only ones that have ever been through it, but it doesn't

"So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members." -- Romans 7:21-23 (NIV)

change the fact that we often find it difficult to live as God would have us live. The temptation to do something sinful can be very strong when it might bring us some temporary "benefit." Quite often, we even sin thoughtlessly in a stressful or angry moment. But there's no excuse for sin, especially when we have God's word that tells us what He expects of us. If we're in His word like we should be, we should know how He wants us to behave. Since we do have the inclination to sin, we need to rely on God's strength and grace every day to live the Christian life and reflect the love of Christ to those around us. It's a hard commitment to make, but God will bless us for it if we do.

In Jesus, Frank

Personal Thoughts

A woman tells a story about a new habit her two-and-a-half-year-old grandson has picked up. He puts his hand behind his ear, cocks his head and says, "Hear that, Nana? Hear that?" It may be the sound of a jet plane, the air conditioner coming on or just a chirping cricket, but this little boy is intent on hearing all the different sounds around him. In his innocence he gave a wakeup call to his grandmother, and hopefully to all of us as well. We need to be paying attention to God in whatever way He chooses to speak to us. We tend to want God to speak to us as a big voice from heaven, but that's rarely the way He works. God uses many ways to communicate with us, the most important, of course, being His holy Word, the Bible. But He also speaks to us in other ways. They can

"My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me." -- John 10:27 (NIV)

range from gentle words of comfort from a friend to a sharp admonition when we're doing something that's seriously out of step with His will. We can always be sure, though, that when God speaks to us, it's exactly what we need to hear at that particular time. But we need to ask ourselves one important question: not the "Hear that?" of this little boy, but "Are we prepared to listen?" May we all have the desire and the wisdom to open our spiritual ears to hear what God has to say to us.

In Jesus, Frank

Who'll Say Grace? by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson

A hot, glistening bird commands the laden table, as Grandma calls everyone to dinner. Eight-year-old Jennifer proudly lugs her July-born sister to the table. Grandpa and dad get up slowly with a long backward glance to see the tight end catch a pass and be forced out of bounds at the twenty. The game continues in the background without them.

"Who'll say grace?" Grandma asks. Grown-ups look awkwardly at each other in strained silence. Finally Uncle John snickers and parrots the word "grace," and laughter spills over the tension. Grandma steps in. "Jennifer, why don't you say the prayer you learned in Sunday School when you were in kindergarten." She recites. The feast begins.

Embarrassed silence replaces thanksgiving, gluttony displaces gratefulness. Thanksgiving -- an expression of gratitude to God for benefits received -- is too often absent from our hollow holiday. There is, however, an ancient custom

which can reclaim the day.

We read, Jesus "took the seven loaves and the fish, and when He had given thanks, He broke them and gave them to the disciples." At the Last Supper Jesus took bread and gave thanks, lifted the cup, gave thanks and offered it to His followers. Jesus always prayed before meals.

We can, too. A simple prayer of thanks at each family meal of the year will gradually restore thankfulness to us. As our children see us humble ourselves to thank our Creator, they too learn to be grateful. Robert Lintner said it well: "Thanksgiving was never meant to be shut up in a single day."

This habit of family thankfulness can begin round our tables this Thanksgiving -- the first of many prayers of thanks to be offered, not just by Jennifer, but by her thankful mother and father as well.

The Donkey Raffle

Young Chuck moved to Texas and bought a Donkey from a farmer for \$100.00. The farmer agreed to deliver the Donkey the next day. The next day he drove up and said, 'Sorry son, but I have some bad news, the donkey died.'

Chuck replied, 'Well, then just give me my money back.'

The farmer said, 'Can't do that. I went and spent it already.'

Chuck said, 'Ok, then, just bring me the dead donkey.'

The farmer asked, 'What ya gonna do with him?'

Chuck said, 'I'm going to raffle him off.'

The farmer said, 'You can't raffle off a dead donkey!'

Chuck said, 'Sure I can. Watch me. I just won't tell anybody he's dead.'

A month later, the farmer met up with Chuck and asked, 'What happened with that dead donkey?'

Chuck said, 'I raffled him off. I sold 500 tickets at two dollars a piece and made a profit of \$898.00.'

The farmer said, 'Didn't anyone complain?'

Chuck said, 'Just the guy who won. So I gave him his two dollars back.'

Happy Chrismukah

Continuing the current trend of large-scale mergers and acquisitions, it was announced today at a press conference that Christmas and Hanukkah will merge.

An industry source said that the deal had been in the works about 1300 years.

While details were not available at press time, it is believed that the over-head cost of having twelve days of Christmas and eight days of Hanukkah was becoming prohibitive for both sides. By combining forces, we're told, the world will be able to enjoy consistently high-quality service during the Fifteen Days of Chrismukah, as the new holiday is being called.

Massive layoffs are expected, with lords a-leaping and maids a-milking being the hardest hit.



As part of the conditions of the agreement, the letters on the dreidel, currently in Hebrew, will be replaced by Latin, thus becoming unintelligible to a wider audience.

Also, instead of translating to "A great miracle happened there," the message on the dreidel will be the more generic "Miraculous stuff happens."





In exchange, it is believed that Jews will be allowed to use Santa Claus and his vast merchandising resources for buying and delivering their gifts.

One of the sticking points holding up the agreement for at least three hundred years was the question of whether Jewish children could leave milk and cookies for Santa even after having eaten meat for dinner. A breakthrough came last year, when Oreos were finally declared to be Kosher. All sides appeared happy about this. Fortunately for all concerned, he said, Kwanzaa will help to maintain the competitive balance. He then closed the press conference by leading all present in a rousing rendition of "Oy Vey, All Ye Faithful."

November 2008

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	29
30						

December 2008

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	29	30	 31			

Schedule of Events

The Fellowship Luncheons for November and December will be adjusted to **November 23** and **December 14** because of the Holidays. There will be no regular Seniors' luncheons in those months.

Thursday, November 27: **Thanksgiving Day**

Wednesday, December 24, 6:00 pm: **Candlelight Lord's Supper**

Thursday, December 25: **Christmas Day**

Weekly schedule

Sunday 9:45 am Bible Study for all ages

Sunday 11:00 am Worship

Tuesday 10:30 am Prayer Meeting

Wednesday 6:30 pm Prayer time (at your home, or join with others for Wednesday Evening Prayer.

Saturday 7:30 am Prayer Breakfast

Check our website for changes and updates at Granadachurch.org

(Continued from page 2)

our teams with a 110 game and a 315 series.

The new ownership of Granada Bowl has cancelled the tournament that formerly sent the Church Bowling Challenge into an annual winter hibernation, so the next Church Bowling Challenge will be on November 15th at 12 noon. The cost is \$10 and includes 3 games of bowling and, if necessary, bowling shoes. Come and help us try to win back the perpetual trophy, or at least win a donation for our church if we bowl well enough. You don't have to have any good at bowling to bowl with us as long as you know how to have a good time. If you know which side of the ball to hold (the outside), you can be on our team. You can sign up on the sheet that will eventually be in the worship center, or contact Frank Serkland or Alma Farris. As always, praying at the foul line will be permitted and encouraged.



Granada Baptist Church

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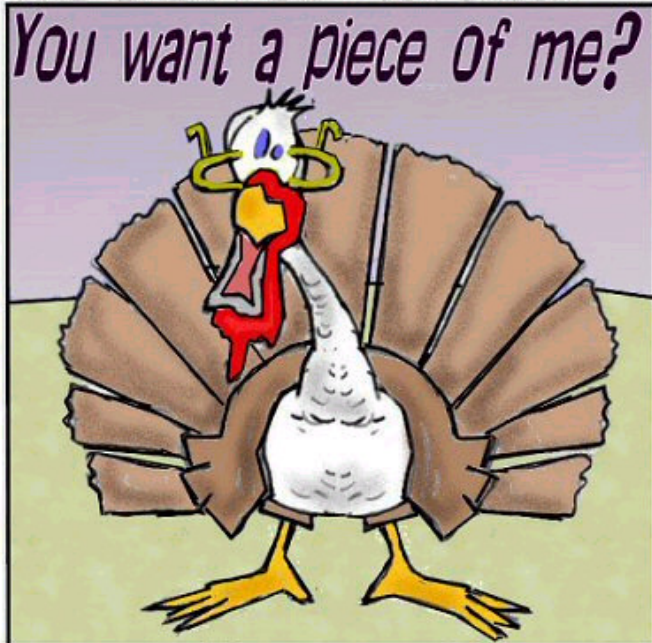
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THE BACK PEW - Jeff Larson



<http://thebackpew.com>

Defiant.. even when on Death Row.
and my answer to Mr. Turkey is.. not
you, but one of your species... yes.
I will take a drumstick.

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



<http://thebackpew.com>

*If you have great riches and the ability
to donate goods and feed the poor, but
do not have love.. and say no.. you are
a clanging cymbal and a BAAA-HUMBUG!
1 Cor. 13:1-3sh (DFB - Dickens Family Bible)*