

# West Side Baptist Church



## FAMILY NEWS



### PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Have you ever considered the impact you have upon others on a daily basis? Statistics suggest that the average person will come into contact with hundreds of thousands of people in a lifetime. Some even suggest upwards of one and a half million! This is not to say that we will get to know each of these people intimately. In fact, the amount of time spent with each person will in most cases be no more than the time it takes to look into a person's eyes or smile. That's one and a half million opportunities to love our neighbors as ourselves!

How do you respond to those you interact with ever so briefly; those who you'll probably see all but once in your life? The girl bagging your groceries, the boy behind the movie rental counter, those you pass in the airport or wait next to in lines, or even the dreaded telemarketer? Can you truthfully say the person across from you is left a little better than when he or she came into contact with you?

We should look at each person we come into contact with, no matter how briefly, as someone who is valuable in the sight of our Creator. Every time we come into contact with a person is an opportunity to show them a

glimpse of the One who saved you. Too often, I think, we see such people as disposable servants or as having less worth because of their job, their manner of dress, or simply because we feel they slightly inconvenience us with their presence. We need to remember every person we pass is worth the effort to smile, to be pleasant, or even perhaps to speak an encouraging word.

Next time you're in a long line, try saying a kind word to the person next to you. If you're a bold individual, next time you're out to eat you could try asking your waitress if there's anything you could pray for her. See where the conversation leads. Try to encourage even the most outrageous clerk with a smile.

The noted Christian inspirational writer, William Arthur Ward, once said, "Flatter me, and I may not believe you. Criticize me, and I may not like you. Ignore me, and I may not forgive you. Encourage me, and I will not forget you." So, what is a good word worth?

Pastor Dan Orozco



Have  
faith  
in  
God

Mark 11:22

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### LIBRARY CORNER



The saga of the growth of Swedish Baptists in America through the General Conference (Swedish) and the American Baptist Churches USA is documented in a series of essays in “**American Baptist Quarterly**” (volume VI) in our church library. This is an interesting and astute look at the history of Swedish Baptists in the United States and their relationship to us as American Baptists. It tells about decisions and historical conditions that shaped the General Conference and the absorption of many Swedish Baptist churches into American Baptist Churches as the people were assimilated and became primarily English speaking.

### OUR SWEDISH HISTORY PART I

How much do you know about the Swedish roots of West Side Baptist Church? A couple volumes in our library will help you know about our background.

Swedish Baptists and American Baptists have been connected in the United States since the great Baptist movements in Sweden, Denmark and Norway in the mid-nineteenth century had their origins in Baptist Mariners' Church in New York City, an historic American Baptist congregation. In 1844, eight years before the establishment of the first Swedish Baptist church in the United States, a young Swedish seaman, Gustavus Schadler, attended a meeting at Baptist Mariners' Church where he was converted and won over to Baptist principals. He sailed back to Gothenberg, Sweden (where I had a pen pal in grade school) and was involved in the spiritual pilgrimage of another seaman, F. A. Nilsson, who went on to establish the First Baptist Church in Sweden in 1848. The American Baptist congregation at the Mariners' Baptist Church continued its involvement in Swedish Baptist history throughout the next decades.

Books highlighted in this column are on the display shelf in the West Side Baptist Church library. To read a book, please put your name and date on the check-out list on the desk, enjoy the book and return it promptly so others can have the pleasure of reading it as well.

Fred Ansell



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### Thoughts for Month of March

"The Christian does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us; just as the roof of a sunhouse does not attract the sun because it is bright, but becomes bright because the sun shines on it." C.S.Lewis

"Sometimes the Lord rides out the storm with us and other times He calms the restless sea around us. Most of all, He calms the storm inside us in our deepest inner soul." -- Lloyd John Ogilvie

"We cannot but admit that not even the least thing takes place unless it is ordered by God. For who have ever been so concerned and curious as to find out how much hair he has on his head? There is no one. God, however, knows the number. Indeed, nothing is too small in us or in any other creature, not to be ordered by the all-knowing and all-powerful providence of God." **Unknown**

"If God could be found on this side of the sea we would indeed journey across. Since, however, God is near to all who call upon him, we are under no obligation to cross the sea. The kingdom of heaven can be reached from every land." **Unknown**



HELP COMES FROM ABOVE...



Omniscient Father,

Help us to know who is telling the truth. One side tells us one thing, and the other just the opposite.

And if neither side is telling the truth, we would like to know that, too.

And if each side is telling half the truth, give us wisdom to put the right halves together.

In Jesus' Name,  
AMEN!

I lift up my eyes to the hills- Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip -

He who watches over you will not slumber;  
Indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD watches over you

The LORD is your shade at your right hand;  
The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all harm -

He will watch over your life;  
The LORD will watch over your coming and going  
Both now and forevermore.

Psalm 121

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The Deacons of the church for 2010 were installed in our Sunday morning worship service on February 21, 2010 by Worship Leader Gil McCurdy. With a pledge to lead and strengthen our church given by the diaconate members present, the congregation responded promising to support and nurture the deacons and officers with prayers, patience, affirmation and cooperation.

Members of the 2010 Diaconate are:

Nancy Lindberg, Moderator  
Fred Ansell, Vice Moderator and Personnel  
Marianne Spano, Clerk  
Mark Calloway, Treasurer  
Jan Mauck, Christian Education  
Almira Collier, Fellowship  
Brice Smith, Membership  
Pat Carreno, Outreach  
Harry Carpenter, Stewardship  
Rogene Moody, Worship  
Dan Orozco, Associate Pastor

### Senior Pastor Search Committee

With congregational approval on Sunday, February 21, 2010, the following people have agreed to serve on the Pastoral Search Committee:

Nancy Lindberg (Moderator serves by constitutional mandate)  
Marianne Spano  
Pat Carpenter  
Molly Morris  
Brice Smith  
Brian Hunter  
Aaron Ansell  
Nancy Cottril (Alternate)

ABCCR Associate Executive Minister Rev. Adriana Chaney will be working with the committee.

### Upkeep of Our Church Building

We have seen the many improvements in our church building over the past year. The Capital Campaign that many of you are participating in (AND STILL CAN) has provided the funds to maintain and restore our aging building.

The most recent improvements have been in the library with Fred Ansell taking a special interest in making the room a real library and not a storage room. Joining in on this project has been Judy Longstaff who has helped clean and Ernie Longstaff who has painted the walls and ceiling. More work will continue with the library so take time to look inside and perhaps find a book you would like to read.

Storage for our church archives has become a problem over the years. Actually deciding what to save and what not to keep has been a recent discussion of the diaconate. A document retention schedule is being prepared and many of our boxes of records have been stored in a room on second floor. As part of this storage, Ernie Longstaff has built shelves in one of the storage rooms upstairs. Documents will be easily stored and banners, etc. can be hung and easily accessed. Ernie with Don Morris' help has also built a new storage area for Christmas decorations. Tom Mansfield has improved the lighting upstairs in the newly renovated area. And now, with the approval of the congregation at the Sunday, February 21, 2010 business meeting, we will use some additional capital campaign funds to have Ernie work on the Sunday School rooms, especially the one on the north side of the second floor. Over the next weeks, make time to take a look at these improvements and say thanks to the volunteers who have been working on the upstairs including Ernie and Judy Longstaff, Don Morris, and Tom Mansfield.

Judy Longstaff and Lynda Cokely have started cleaning the Pastor's Study. It needs refreshed before our interim pastor starts in April. Thanks to these two women and Ernie for the work they will be doing in getting that room ready.

And, now it is your turn. We have two work day Saturdays planned. Saturday, March 13 and Saturday, March 20 will be work days at the church. We will start at 8:30 a.m. or whenever you can get there. The young or old, fit or not so fit are encouraged to participate. There

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will be jobs for any to do. We would ask you to sign-up on the bulletin board in the main hall. If you can make one Saturday or both, please sign up today!

FYI - When we passed our 2010 budget for West Side Baptist last December, we discussed janitorial services for our church. A call was made for volunteers to take the place of a full time janitor.

Many have stepped up to help. A special thanks to Ernie and Judy Longstaff who have donated much of their time and talents over the past months. The diaconate has determined that we will enter into a custodial arrangement with Ernie Longstaff. Thank you Ernie for your volunteer help and now your part-time janitorial work for West Side!

During this time when the search committee begins its work, please pray for knowledge and depth of insight for the committee. Pray that our minds will be renewed in order that we see God's will for West Side Baptist.

### Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening is hosting a preventive health screening at West Side Baptist Church March 30<sup>th</sup>. They will be here at 8:00 am and will be here all day. They will be screening for stroke, atrial, fibrillation, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease, and osteoporosis risks. These are diseases that progress without symptoms. Insurance will cover these tests when you don't have symptoms, and they are not in your routine physical. 4 out of 5 people suffer a stroke with no warning signs. The screening is very accurate. I encourage you to review the information (on the bulletin board) and take advantage of our special church discount by filling out the form and returning it to the church.

Tuesday March 30<sup>th</sup> Life Line Screening  
special pricing for our Congregation  
\$129.00 (Reg \$139.00)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
DOB \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Please remember to take time to order your Easter Lilies. The order form will be in the Sunday bulletins every Sunday until March 14<sup>th</sup>.

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Easter Lilies order form:

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Easter Lilies Cost \$8.50

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: West Side Baptist Church.

Check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

