

# MVCF

September 2024 Newsletter

2650 Melbourne Drive, San Diego CA 92123 | Phone: 858.278.2633 | [www.missionvillage.church](http://www.missionvillage.church)

## Pastor's Pen

### The Greatest Experience

“After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” -Mark 1:7-8

What is the greatest spiritual experience you have had? I can think of a handful of powerful experiences I have had in my life, from when I officially said yes to Jesus as a young teenager, to experiencing supernatural peace when I was diagnosed with epilepsy, to the overwhelming worship experience of singing praises to God with tens of thousands of students at the Urbana Student Missions Conference as a college student.

But there is one spiritual experience that stands out in my mind, and that was the experience of One Day. One Day was just that, one day, where thousands of college students came together to some random place outside of Memphis, Tennessee. It was how Passion Conferences really got its start almost 25 years ago. But the details of that experience are still crystal clear in my mind: Being stuck in Dallas on a connecting flight because of severe thunderstorms, and students organizing prayer meetings throughout the plane while we waited for five hours on the tarmac (about 50 of us on that plane were going to One Day). Listening to Matt Redman introduce a new song but doing it with an out of tune back-up guitar because he broke a string on his first guitar and as it turns out, Matt Redman can't tune a guitar by ear. Sitting in a hot, windy, muggy field, listening to a (much younger) John Piper give a sermon that would galvanize an entire generation of students for Jesus, even while his notes blew everywhere in the wind. It really was one of the most incredible spiritual experiences I have ever had.

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## Worship Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Children's Bible Adventure

## Small Groups:

### Monday

**1:00 p.m.** Afternoon  
Bible Study at MVCF

**6:30 p.m.** Women's  
Bible Study at MVCF

### Tuesday

**9:30 a.m.** Bible Study  
at MVCF

**6:30 p.m.** Prayer  
Meeting  
Online

### Wednesday

**6:30 p.m.** Youth Group  
at MVCF

### 1st Thursday

**5:30 p.m.**  
de Vos Home  
Fellowship at MVCF

**Church Work Party  
Every Fourth**

**Saturday  
of the month**

**8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**  
refreshment will be  
provided.

**For more contact Frank  
Romeo**

## Continued from page 1

For those living in the Judean countryside and Jerusalem in the first century, John the Baptist was a similar spiritual experience. Mark tells us that everyone went out to experience this weirdly dressed guy who offered a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (Mark 1:4-5). Imagine how it must have felt to confess your sins and be baptized by this awesome guy. Imagine the energy and excitement generated by John's ministry. Imagine the crowds pushing to hear this guy preach. Imagine waiting in line to be baptized. This truly was an incredible experience.

But John the Baptist refused to be the main attraction. His message to everyone was this: someone greater is coming. You think this is awesome? Wait until the main event. What I am doing for you is nothing compared to what Jesus will do for you.

What do we make of John refusing to be the main attraction? Clearly he could have been the star if he wanted to be. And what is the difference between water and the Holy Spirit? It is a little hard for us as followers of Jesus who have received the Holy Spirit to know how to apply this into our own lives. But I would suggest that even as followers of Jesus, it is all too easy to miss the main event. We settle for John the Baptist instead of seeking Jesus. It is easy to seek out spiritual experiences like traveling to One Day, or attending a powerful worship event, or listening to a well known preacher, or being part of a powerful prayer experience, over and above a daily, moment-by-moment, life-giving, life-transforming relationship with Jesus.

This fall we are starting a new sermon series working our way through the Gospel of Mark. And my deepest prayer for this series is that as we see and experience Jesus in this gospel story, we would be drawn into a deeper, more intimate relationship with him. And surely as our relationship with Jesus deepens, there will be spiritual experiences that are incredible. But my prayer is that we would see that the greatest experience we can possibly have in this world is knowing Jesus himself.

So as we go into this month, how do you need to grow closer to Jesus? Maybe you need to experience Jesus through the daily spiritual practices of bible study and prayer. Maybe you need to experience Jesus by letting him into parts of your life that you don't want him to go into. Or maybe you need to experience Jesus by being vulnerable with brothers and sisters in Christ, who can encourage you in your walk with Jesus. Whatever way you need to grow, let's make sure that we are seeking this relationship with Jesus above all else, and not settling for the John the Baptist experience. Because a daily, transformative relationship with Jesus is the greatest experience we can ever have.

Blessings,  
Pastor Steve

# September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b> 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	<b>4</b> 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:00pm Picnic on the Lawn	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service	<b>9</b> 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	<b>10</b> 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting 7:00pm Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:00pm Picnic on the Lawn 6:30pm Youth Group	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service	<b>16</b> 1:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	<b>17</b> 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	<b>18</b> 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:00pm Picnic on the Lawn 6:30pm Youth Group	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service	<b>23</b> 1:00pm Bible Study 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	<b>24</b> 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Zoom Prayer Meeting	<b>25</b> 10am-1:00pm SM Food Pantry 6:00pm Picnic on the Lawn 6:30pm Youth	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8:30am All Church Work Party
<b>29</b> 8:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service	<b>30</b> 1:00pm Bible Study 7:00PM Women's Bible Study	<div style="border: 2px solid purple; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS</b> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>				



Senyo & Sabina Adjibolosoo 09/02  
 Admasu & Etalemahu Mahu Agiro 09/18

Paul-Michael Dekker 09/12  
 Raylynn Stone 09/20  
 Terri Foster 9/26

## Youth Ministry

### God is good all the time – all the time God is good!

September is a month that school begins after Labor Day! But wait – school started in August this year for most of the San Diego students! The school system got wise in attempting to finish the semester before the end of the year! Then when the students go back to school in January - it is all newer!

We are excited to begin another new school year of teaching Youth Group on Wednesday nights again. We start on 9.11.24 at 6:30p on the lawn playing games then 7:00-8p Bible Study in our Youth Group room. We hope to have our past students return again plus many more from the community and beyond. We are praying that Briahna is planning on continuing to come join us as our 'Youth Group Assistant Leader!!! She is very interested and has spiritual gifts. Pastor is going to provide leadership training for her once she turns 18! It is hard to believe she is 17 and is a Freshman at Grossmont College! God is Amazing !

We are planning to work together and teach the Word of God to our Youths. She may even help me put together bible songs to sing like Mr. French did. His music with his guitar was so beautiful and sweet. He loved to hear the young men and women sing!! We have some beautiful voices amongst our Youths! We will also be having fun Art Projects & Field Trips.

Mr. French served our Youth Group for decades!! He was the glue at our church and was able to hold it all together no matter how many children or youth came and no matter what their age was – he would touch their hearts showing his love for the Lord. His passion for the Lord oozed out of him onto the youths & children. Only love and caring and wanting them to know Jesus was his actions always. We are so grateful for all his legacies here.

We are glad and confident he is in heaven! It is a happy joyous time for him with Jesus!

On Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating his life at our church. We expect to see you all there and that our church will be overflowing with all the people's lives he touched over the many years. We loved him so dearly, almost as much as he loved us & God. His spirit will be missed, however, it permeates every room at MVCF, mingling his with the Holy Spirit's.

Our church will continue on with a big void that God is the only one to fill it.

We hope to carry on the same traditions Mr. French started and prepared for each year

i.e. Angel Tree, VBS, Easter Egg Hunt, Wed, nights: 'Beach night on the front lawn' has turned into 'parking lot with scooters, bicycles & skateboards! Thank you, God, for taking Mr. French home to be with YOU!

## Children's Ministry (-Mr. French)

### Children's Ministry was Mr. French!

He gave the greatest LOVE for our Lord God through our children!! God loved the little children even more than Mr. French, which is hard to believe!

Mr. French is more know by his last name than his special name Christopher. At least in our little church and in the small Community of Serra Mesa, Boy Scouts of America, SD Choir, Angel Tree Recipients, on and on. Mr. French ....

He was like the 'all knowing' butler on the kids show with Buffy and Jody (Family Affair). BUT MUCH MORE. Such a holy man of God for the Lord. He showed that in all his actions, his creative art projects, VBS, Sunday School, Angel Tree, Harvest Festival, E-V-E-R-Y-T-H-I-N-G he initiated & modified in our church to be greater. How do we fill such a SPECIAL INTREGAL person's part at our church like that? It would take an army. We are Christian Soldiers to carry on in **God's army! To obey God and follow his purpose for us.**

We have 20+ younger children attending our Wednesday night on the lawn now during our community outreach providing free food to the neighborhood.

The children are asking their parents if they could please take them to the church picnic. It is carrying on Mr. French's legacy here at our church. He went to heaven to be with God, 'YEAH!' Only through God's strength and guidance will we carry on. Anyone in their heart that wants to help with our Children's or Youth Group Ministry can ask Pastor. To minister our Youths: Infants, Toddlers, Teenagers, Middle & High School to **College!!** What a spiritual life journey!

And al God's People said, "Amen!"

*Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Col. 3:12*

## Mission Village Christian Fellowship

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### Council Members

Pastor	Steve de Vos
Moderator	Ronda Adams
Clerk	Joanna de Vos
Financial Secretary	Tony DaVee
Treasurer	June McCollough
Children's Ministry	TBT
Youth Ministry	Terri Carver
Adult Ministry	TBT
Stewardship	Frank Romeo
Fellowship	Jenny Fiori
Service	Carl Demas
Missions / Evangelism	Matt & Ellen Davis
Finance Ministry	Ernie Garcia
Worship	Hannah French

### Sunday Schedule

Worship & Children's Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.

**Nursery & Toddler Care is Available During Worship Service**

Service will be live on [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#)

### Elders

Pastor /Elder.....Steve de Vos

Administrative Elder .....Tony DaVee

Elder..... Carl Jensen

### Staff

Administrative Assistant.....Judy Yacob

Nursery Attendant.....Hannah French