



August 6, 2023

Pastor Note:

**For “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD *Jesus* will be saved.” But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, “How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!” Romans 10:13-15 (NLT2)**

I was a confused, hurting, and searching teenager going nowhere fast. My decisions were increasingly bad ones, crossing the line, on a downward spiral. I was expelled from Gymnasium (upper-level German school), and my parents were at a loss for what to do with me. My Mama and aunt were praying. Then it just so happened.

It just so happened my Dad saw a small Youth for Understanding exchange student ad in the back of the newspaper. He asked me if I wanted to go, “Heck yes,” I wanted to go, especially to get away from him. The interviews took place at a fancy hotel in Stuttgart, except for me, there was not a single kid from second-level school.

It just so happened, for reasons unknown to me, they selected me. When I got the acceptance letter my Dad informed me that unless I got a scholarship I wouldn’t be going, “Thanks a lot, Dad.” But it just so happened I got a full scholarship.

The morning of my departure day, I just happened to get a phone call from Youth for Understanding, “We’re sorry, your exchange student family had to pull out. We don’t have a family for you. But get on the train to Hamburg and we’ll figure it out.” When I got to Hamburg they hadn’t figured it out. After I got off the plane in Detroit, they hadn’t figured it out. When I arrived in San Francisco the director of the program picked me up and told me they still hadn’t figured it out.

Four days later it just so happened the Heath family in Greeley Hill California decided to host one more exchange student. And it just so happened they attended the Greeley Hill Bible Church (Now the Greeley Hill Baptist Church).

It just so happened that the pastor and people in this little church were very good at loving people and sharing the Gospel of Jesus. And it just so happened on the way to the bar to play pinball, I had to walk by the gas station operated by Jack Mauney, who was a deacon at the church. Intercepting me he always had something he needed help with, and sooner than later he started talking about Jesus.

It just so happened that for almost an entire year I heard over and over again that Jesus Christ loved me, so much so that He died for my sins, that He conquered sin and death, and that He offers salvation from God’s judgment and eternal life to anyone who believes in Him and calls on His name. Weekly I was treated to Jesus -testimonies, stories of salvation, God at work, answered prayers, and lives being changed. So when the light finally went on in my own soul, mind, and heart, I knew both the life-long implications of following Jesus as well as what to do and pray.

Of course, none of these things just so happened. God in His providence, love, and mercy was at work. Caring people were praying for me. A little church was serious about glorifying God, leading people to Jesus, and living out and spreading the Gospel. Individual Christians purposely talked to me about Jesus, my need for Him, and how to be saved. None of them assumed that things would just happen, they prayed for it to happen, they looked for opportunities to make it happen, they worked, engaged, reached out, and took the time in the hope that this kid from Germany would know and come to Jesus. And that’s what happened.

I pray you and me, and us, the Lake Don Pedro Baptist Church, will be the followers of Jesus who make it happen.

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans



# Lord Hear Our Prayers

Sermon Notes:

## PRAYER REQUEST

Health: Karen Souza, Mabel Mayes, JoEllen, Watts family,  
Rachel Aratin, Julie Ebel, Kenny Sipes, Judy Sipes, Brian Sipes,  
Rose Powers (husband passed),  
Colton & Olivia (car accident), And that we SHARE.

## SALVATION

Nick, Greg, David, Phillip, Luke, Skip, Demetrius McCray,  
Farney, John Boykin, Peter, Mariah Ellis, Jimmy,  
Shyrlee Stagner, Dan, Josiah, Amanda, Jim

## Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing,  
Noah Martin, John Michael Chavez,  
Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker, Brian Sula,  
Thomas Hoffman, Joel Thelen,  
Clayton Brown, Jonathan Grinols, Joshua Grabowski,  
Christopher Sula

## CARD & FLOWER MINISTRY

If you know of anyone who is ill or hospitalized, please let us  
know by calling: **Lynnette Barrera** – (559)400-1862  
and/or an e-mail to: **Judy Mahar** [ldpbcpayer@gmail.com](mailto:ldpbcpayer@gmail.com)

## **Church Board Members:**

Hans Frei - Pastor . Richard Mayes - Head Deacon  
Russ Young . Dan Hankemeier . Sue Kluding .  
Gabi Cox . Chuch Arndt

## Ministry Opportunity

Our children's department is seeking help for our Wednesday night class to assist the teacher. No teaching or prep is required - just show up to help as needed.

For more information, contact Susie Frei

(phone: 209-247-9234) or [skfrei@gmail.com](mailto:skfrei@gmail.com)).

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**Reach Out to Don Blythe here:**

AtTheWellMinistries.org (website)

ProjectTruth.org (website)

AbortionRegrets.com

# August Announcements

## Upcoming Events

- Men's Gathering - Tuesdays @ 6:00 P.M.
  - Wednesday Night Bible Study for all ages - 7:00 P.M.
  - Food Ministry - 1st Wed. & 3rd Tues. @ 9:00 AM - 11:00 A.M.
  - Communion Sunday - August 27th
- Deacon Board Meeting every 4th Sunday after service**

Fellowship Time Snacks  
were provided

By - "Beverly & Youth Group"

**Thank you**

*Next week Merle's Class is up!!*

## Church Membership Seminar

**When:** August 12th

**Time:** 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM

**SEE THE SIGN UP IN THE FOYER**

A Bit of  
Humor  
Corner



### Giving

*July 30 2023*

**Offering:**  
\$ 3,940.00

**Missions**  
\$1,000.00

**Men's Ministry:**  
\$40.00

**Children's Ministry:**  
\$1,000.00

**Facilities:**  
\$1,000.00

**Attendance:**  
88

### Weekly Events

#### Sunday School/Small Groups:

9:00 AM

#### Sunday Morning Worship Service:

10:30 AM

#### Sunday Evening Worship Service:

6:00 PM

**Tuesday:** Men's Gathering: 6:00 PM

#### **1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday**

#### **Food Ministry:**

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

#### **Wednesday:**

Women's Bible Study - On Hiatus  
Bible Study/Small Group - 7:00 PM  
Grief Share - 6:30 PM (On Hiatus)

**Thursday:** Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

**Lake Don Pedro Baptist Church**

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# SHARE



*1 Timothy 6:18*



### **August 7th - August 13th**

DAY 1 - Jude 1  
(Prov. 7)

DAY 2 - 1 Thes. 1  
(Prov. 8)

DAY 3 - 1 Thes. 2  
(Prov. 9)

DAY 4 - 1 Thes. 3  
(Prov. 10)

DAY 5 - 1 Thes. 4  
(Prov. 11)

DAY 6- (Prov. 12)

DAY 7- (Prov. 13)

Welcome all of you who are guests with us today. Our desire is for you to relax and be blessed by worship, God's Word, and fellowship. We, the members, have committed ourselves to underwrite the church financially. We do not expect you to contribute to the offering, but you are free to participate. We would like to get to know you and for you to know us better.