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Monthly Newsletter of Lifeway Baptist Church

August 2021

DESTINATION DUST

By Frank Keeler

This year's Vacation Bible School had an archeological theme—Destination Dig—If something is left alone long enough it will get covered by dust. If nothing is done it will eventually be covered by dirt. After centuries dirt and dust accumulate on an item which will ultimately be buried under layer after layer of dirt and dust. A famous quote from Ivan Trotsky refers to something going into the "dustbin of history." The truth is that if you are going to an archeological dig site your destination is likely dust- because that is where to find the best hidden things. One of the most challenging opportunities an archeologist has is to discover something that has been covered by centuries of dust and dirt and sediment.

Many who have searched have made remarkable discoveries, and yet we realize more and more the opportunity to uncover what is right before our eyes or just below the surface. Our children have discovered remarkable truths about God's love and about His Son, Jesus. We have seen evidence of places regarding His birth, many actual places where Jesus taught or performed miracles, and where He was crucified and resurrected. We need to dig deeper to unearth remarkable truths about Jesus, about God's Word, and help others discover the truth about Jesus. This year's VBS was all about unearthing more than just dirt. We discovered real-life archaeological finds in present-day Israel and exciting evidence that proves biblical events were not just stories. But there was a lot of digging through dust and dirt for them to be found.

Spiritually dust is our destination as well. The Bible is clear – "From dust we came and to dust we will return." (Genesis 3:19, Ecclesiastes 3:20) On our journey from "dust to dust" we can still discover true spiritual treasure. God planned and completed everything needed for us to be rescued from being eternally separated from Him. The Scripture helps us discover about God's plan for saving us through His Son, Jesus.



*God bless,
Pastor Frank*



O grasp the strong life line for Jesus can save.

from "Throw Out the Life Line" words & music by
Edwin S. Ufford, 1888 & George S. Stebbins, 1890

This Month in the Life

MEDIA MINUTE

BLUE MIRACLE IS AVAILABLE ON NETFLIX

Submitted by Pastor Frank

Dennis Quaid and Jimmy Gonzales, the lead actors of the new inspiring film "Blue Miracle," say humility plays a role in unlocking "God's miracles." "Blue Miracle" tells the true story of a Christian orphanage in Mexico. "My story is somewhat similar to Omar's and the kids



that Omar is taken care of," Gonzales, who plays Omar Venegas, told The Christian Post. Omar runs the orphanage in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, up until this day, and Gonzales had the task of portraying the real-life hero who

entered a fishing tournament in 2014 to help save his orphanage. But Gonzales' own story resonates with the role as he spent his teenage years in foster homes and dreamed of one day becoming an actor. He worked various construction jobs and acted in Community Theater. He eventually landed roles on shows such as "The Walking Dead" and "NCIS: New Orleans." "I don't think that you can get through life without having to face tremendous challenges, and if you

want to dream and live beyond like what society is telling you to be, then you're going to face even more challenges," he continued. Gonzales added, "This film was about, oftentimes having faith in the fact that things are going to work out. Following the success of "I Can Only Imagine," Hollywood star Quaid continues to lend his talents to faith-filled content with a lead role in "Blue Miracle" as well. Quaid's character (Wade Malloy) helps the orphanage compete in a Bisbee's Black & Blue Fishing Tournament that transforms his

character and changes the boys' lives. When asked to share his thoughts on a quote from the film that says, "God hears me every time, I pray to God and He will help you listen," Quaid related the quote to his character. My character, he was a person who really had his focus on the wrong things and had forgotten, and had become a very jaded person," Quaid told CP in a video interview seen below. "In the course of this movie, he was humbled. By being humbled, that's when God's miracles are allowed to work. Once we get out of the way," he shared. Quaid's character, a "two-time champion of Bisbee's Black & Blue Tournament," needed to team up with a local Mexican to qualify to compete in the tournament. He is introduced to the members of the orphanage, and though reluctant, he helps to lead them to victory. Omar's heart to mentor these boys is an inspiration to everyone involved. The best mentors I've ever had in my life were ones that they had something I wanted in my own life and they were able to share it with me in a way where it didn't feel it was a hierarchy. It just felt like, 'You can be a part of this as well,'" Gonzales said. Once an orphan



himself, Gonzales revealed he took cues from his mentors, and that experience still has an impact on his life today. "I think that only happens — as Dennis just mentioned — when you get out of your own way," he maintained. "When I got out of my own way, those mentors showed up. So it was extremely important for me and my journey, and still is. "Quaid said human nature is to keep on trying to do things without help. "We're all human beings and we all have to try it our way first and keep trying the same solution over and over again to no results. That's kind of the measure of insanity," he noted.

Source: The Christian Post

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

By Dagna D. Stencil

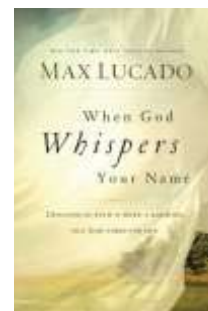
I took a small book from the library shelf, "When God Whispers Your Name" by Max Lucado.

Each chapter is a short story about a Bible character, or about a person like you and me. I liked the one about when Gabriel was given the task to break the news to Mary that she was going to give birth to the Savior. He had sent fire and divided seas in his God-sent missions, so when he learned that God was going to become man he may have had some ideas what that was going to be like.

Perhaps the Messiah descending in a fiery cloud or something like that. Gabriel got his orders that God was going to become a baby and to tell the mother to name the child Jesus...tell her not to be afraid. He must have wondered. He had been in charge of the bulrush brigade and knew what Moses looked like. Being a baby is okay for men but God? But you know what babies are like, hardly fitting for the Creator of the universe. Then he thought the woman must be something special but she was very everyday, a girl in love with a man named Joe. And Joe who is he, a carpenter. With a nail apron around his waist and sawdust in his beard. He is going to be charged with bringing up God. Are God's guardians given to such musings? Are we? Does Christmas spawn the same wonderment that it did over two thousand years ago?

Each chapter is a charming story with some wisdom to absorb. An entertaining book.

Please stay safe.



The Church Around the World

Submitted by Pastor Frank

FOCUS ON INDIA: CHRISTIAN MAN CARES FOR NEIGHBORS, SHARES GOSPEL DURING PANDEMIC

Because of the recent surge of deaths due to coronavirus in India, Sandeep knew of the desperate needs of people living in surrounding villages. Risking his own health, he traveled to a remote village where people hadn't eaten in three days and provided them with food and other necessities. The famished villagers were shocked at his acts of love and service. When Sandeep asked villagers if they would be willing to hear stories from the Bible, a man named Ram said, "Our (local government leader) did not come to check on us, and even local people in the village won't help or share any food because of fear — but you, a complete stranger, have come and cared for us. We don't know why. We want to listen to



A Christian in India provides food and other items for his neighbors

anything you will tell us." Praise God for Sandeep's faithfulness to love his neighbors, no matter the cost, and for his openness to share the gospel. Praise God for the way love opened the hearts of the villagers to hear the gospel. Pray that Christians throughout India will sacrificially love their neighbors in similar ways and that even more hearts will be opened.

For more information on the persecuted church visit: www.persecution.com

Source: The Voice of the Martyrs

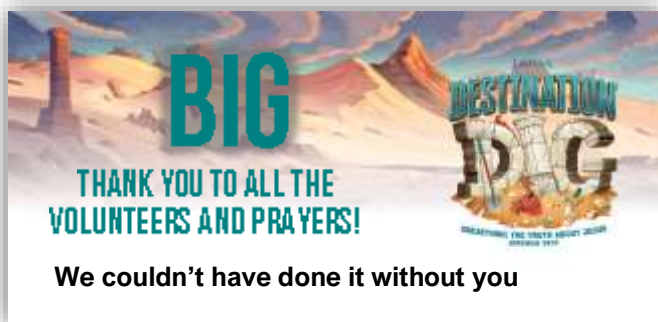
SANCTUARY SIDEBAR

Announcements and Upcoming Events

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

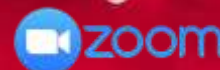
ALL CHURCH MEMBERS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, FOLLOWING THE SERVICE



MONDAYS AT 7:00 PM

ONLINE
prayer
MEETING



Save the date! Our next sale is coming! **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4**
Please see Becky if you would like to reserve a spot.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

Email submissions to
newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com

Newsletter
Articles
Due



CHURCH STAFF

Frank Keeler
Pastor

Becky Kline
Church Clerk

David Kline
Deacon

Danny Zenner
*Music Coordinator,
Youth Ministry*

Barbara Jarvis
Financial Secretary

Christine Kline
Treasurer

Cheryl-Ann Calica
*Kitchen Manager,
Correspondence,
VBS Director,
Operation Christmas
Child Coordinator*

Donna Keeler
*Women's Ministry,
Special Events*

Dagna Stencil
*Librarian,
Media Worship*

Cathy Oquendo
Nursery Coordinator

Lina Cardenas
*Newsletter Editor,
Digital Marketing &
Webmaster*

Please direct any
suggestions, corrections
and/or articles for
consideration to:
newsletter@
lifewaychurchvista.com

Prayer and Praise

- Prayer request from Dennis Maze's neighbor, Maja (Maya). Her mom has cancer and it has metastasized so she will be flying back to Serbia for 3 months to be with her mom. Maja is married and her husband will be staying here. Please pray for the whole family.
- Pray for Cathy Oquendo's dad and his health but mostly for his salvation.
- Please pray for Lina and provisions as she seeks new employment. Her position was eliminated.

**"For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and
His ears are open to their prayers..."**

Verse of the Month

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill
cannot be hidden.

Matthew 5:14,16 (NIV)

The Culture Corner

Submitted by Frank Keeler

JUSTICE PREVAILED: CHRISTIAN STREET PREACHER WINS CASE AFTER BEING FINED, PROSECUTED FOR EVANGELIZING

A court in London has ruled that a Christian street preacher who was fined and prosecuted by the police for evangelizing during lockdown did not break regulations or do anything illegal. The London Magistrates Court ruled that Joshua Sutcliffe, 31, is "not guilty" as he "was outside and that he had a reasonable excuse as he was traveling to his place of work, as a worship leader," said Christian Legal Centre, which supported the preacher, in a statement released Friday. Sutcliffe was detained and surrounded by four police officers as he was preaching and handing out leaflets in North London's Camden area on Good Friday last April. He was told he was in breach of COVID-19 lockdown regulations by being outdoors without a reasonable excuse. Sutcliffe explained to the officers that he was a pastor and worship leader and was outdoors to provide charitable services. However, he was cautioned and received a fixed penalty notice of \$80 (£60), according to Premier Christian News. "Whilst he was in a gathering and therefore in breach of regulation 7, however, the parties were together and were al-



lowed to rely on articles 9, 10 of the European Convention of Human Rights," the magistrates said in the ruling. "Their gathering was limited in duration, and they were entitled to gather for street evangelizing." "They treated me like a second-class citizen," Sutcliffe was quoted in the statement as saying. "I am a Christian minister of the Gospel, which not so long ago was a treasured and respected vocation in the U.K." He added, "During times of need, people need the hope of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. That is what I do on a regular basis, I go to the streets and proclaim the hope and truth of the resurrection of Christ. I was doing this on Good Friday, one

of the most important days in the Christian calendar to do this." The preacher said he was "very glad the magistrates threw the case out and that reason and justice prevailed." Christians in the U.K. have been "easy targets" for the police during the pandemic "while other groups gathering in significant numbers have been favored by the police," said Andrea Williams, the chief executive of the Christian Legal Centre.

Source: The Christian Post