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## Leading Out with Pastor Steve

### Leading Out...

*Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours  
Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.  
Blessed are you who weep, for you will laugh.*

Luke 6:20-21, NRSV

The biggest single sports event has arrived: on Sunday, February 5th, the Atlanta Falcons and New England Patriots will square off in Super Bowl 51. "Super Bowl Sunday" has become an unofficial holiday in the US. Typically, it is the single most-watched television broadcast of the year: the seven most-watched broadcasts in history were Super Bowls. In 2015, 114.4 million people watched the Super Bowl on TV.



More food is consumed on Super Bowl Sunday than any other day except Thanksgiving. A thirty-second advertising slot begins at \$5 million. The Super Bowl has become more than a game; it is an economy unto itself. It will generate almost \$2 billion in advertising revenue for CBS, Fox, and NBC combined. The NFL will make about \$620 million in revenue.

The country of Nicaragua exists in stark contrast to the excess of the Super Bowl. A small, primarily agricultural country in Central America; 48% of the population of Nicaragua live below the poverty line. 79% of the population lives on less than \$2 a day. Its total GNP is \$17 billion USD for the entire year.

The members of our Chacocente team and I will face a world of contrasts in the upcoming week. Together, we will travel to Nicaragua and help build the church on the campus. We hope that somehow the sharing of our time and money will enable Project Chacocente families who moved out of the dump in Managua, to continue to move into a brighter future. Through education, spiritual guidance, and the grace of God, lives are transformed and hope is restored to many lives (for more information, go to [www.outofthedump.org](http://www.outofthedump.org)). For the families of Chacocente, the project has become a tangible way that they recognize that God has not forgotten them in His kingdom.

I love the Super Bowl...but I know that this year, I will see it with different eyes. Most of the world lives a different reality than we do, and Christ calls us to see the world with open eyes and respond with the same heart and love that God has for all creation. I will understand that the ways of God's kingdom aren't just for me and aren't just for America; they are for those we so often overlook or ignore. I will return with a deeper understanding that joy and identity is not connected to what I have, but in how I live.

The Chacocente team will be posting updates on Instagram and Facebook (and maybe even an e-blast or two!). Check out our photos. Listen to the testimonies and stories with which we return. Enjoy the Super Bowl, but let's remember that God has some work to do in us so that we can do his work in the world around us.

Gracias!

Pastor Steve  
[speralta@umcv.org](mailto:speralta@umcv.org)

## The High Road: Car Rally

# CAR RALLY

Fun for everyone!



**4:00 P.M.**  
start at VUMC to assemble  
in teams and get clue list

**6:30 P.M.**  
arrive at final location  
for pizza and prizes



**SATURDAY,  
FEBRUARY 18**

Invite your friends and neighbors!

Cost: \$20 per team of 4 or family  
Guests may participate for free

Put together your own team  
or we'll do it for you!

Child care provided at VUMC for  
toddlers and under from 4 to 8 p.m.



## Choral Festival

The Festival of Worship 2017 will be presented at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, 555 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, on February 12th, at 7 p.m. The choirs (including our own VUMC Chancel Choir) will number more than a thousand voices and will lead a truly magnificent concert.



The special guest composer/conductor will be the well-known British musician, John Rutter. The concert will feature Rutter's music, and he will serve as primary conductor as well. Don't miss it!

## Ash Wednesday

# Ash Wednesday

**March 1**



**Contemplative Worship 7 p.m.**

**Family Worship 5 p.m.**

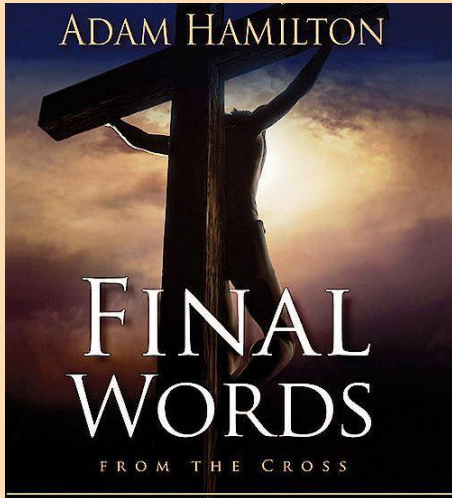
## Project Chacocente Team



Speaker: Terry Comp; L-R: Rigo Rosales, Mindy Cope, Nancy Neill, David Neill, Kim Fisher, Kim Brosnan, Pastor Steve Peralta, Justin Sain, Randy Sain, Barry Pontius, Rex Parker

Not pictured: Midge Chambers, Trina Seuberling

## All-Church Lenten Study



## All-Church Lenten Study

You are invited to participate in the upcoming all-church study, based on the book *Final Words from the Cross* by Rev. Adam Hamilton. During each of the six weeks, groups will explore the traditional last statements spoken by Jesus from the cross.

All are welcome to join us for this study. Sign-ups will be held February 19th and 26th, and March 5th. Groups will begin meeting the week of March 5th.

## Stop Hunger Now Follow-Up

The 15,000 meals that were packaged last November have been shipped to the Centro Don Bosco in Guatemala and to International Care Ministries (ICM) in the Philippines. Centro Don Bosco is part of the Salesian Missions, and consists of three educational institutions which provide basic education to more than 2,500 children and job training to an additional 1,400 youth. Most of these children are Q'eqchí Indians, descendants of the Maya. Through education and vocational training, the Centro provides opportunities to disadvantaged children to raise their long-term economic, social and cultural standard of living.

ICM's community-based, holistic solutions have reached more than 500,000 people living in poverty across the Visayas and Mindanao regions. ICM has a four-month program which has allowed those involved to experience an increase in household income, and decreases in serious illnesses and in those going hungry at least once a week. ICM is helping children and their whole families to live healthier, safer and more productive lives.

Thank you for helping us to be #hereforgood in places around the world.



## Important Youth Happenings!

### Youth Sunday

February 12th, 9 and 10:30 a.m.

#### ***The Uneven Pavement:***

*Matthew 5:21-26 and the words we use towards one another.*

Worship will be lead by the youth of our church. It is a rewarding experience for them and an inspiring experience for us.

Mark your calendars!



### Youth Souper Bowl

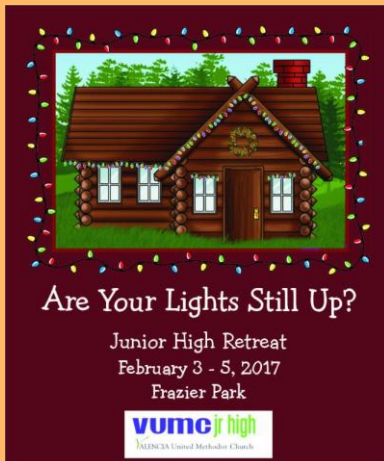
February 5th

Once again the youth will be outside of the Sanctuary on Super Bowl Sunday collecting money for our Souper Bowl. The money goes to The SCV Food Pantry and Help the Children, and benefits those that are underfed.

### Confirmation Class

Class begins March 5th and is for youth in the 7th grade and older.

The youth learn about being a Christian and the Methodist denomination. This is a six-week class and concludes with Confirmation Sunday where the confirmands become church members.



### Jr. High Retreat

Feb 3-5 in Frazier Park.

The topic is *Are Your Lights Still On?*

A study on Christmas and what the birth of Jesus means to our everyday lives.

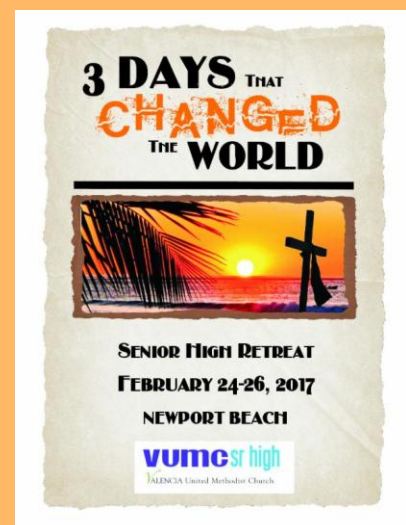
### Sr. High Retreat

Feb 24-26 in

Newport Beach.

The topic is *3 Days that Changed the World.*

We will take the youth from Palm Sunday through the resurrection.



## New Men's Small Group

### New Small Group for Men

All men are welcome to join a new small group, beginning February 12th. The group will meet in the library on Sunday mornings, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

For more information contact Rigo Rosales, [rigoberito7271@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rigoberito7271@sbcglobal.net).

Small Groups ...



Get Connected!

## Vacation Bible School Team Meeting

### Vacation Bible School Team Meeting



We're having our first planning meeting for VBS on Sunday, February 12th at 11:45 a.m. in rooms 1 and 2. Vacation Bible School is one of the most amazing, faith-growing weeks in children's ministry! It is also one of our biggest outreach programs. The experience is unforgettable for those who attend, as well as for those who serve.

If you're interested in being on this awesome team, please [click here](#).

VBS will be happening June 26-30 this year, we can't wait!!

## Seniors' Valentine's Day Luncheon

### Seniors' Valentine's Day Luncheon

**When:** Saturday, February 11, 2017

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

\*\*\*\*\*

Music provided by Kathleen Meske.  
Pastor Steve will share his faith story.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sign up during Coffee Fellowship on  
January 29th or February 5th,  
or call Ron Kari at 661-799-3808



## Pioneer Clubs Fundraiser



### Pioneer Clubs Pizza Family Fundraiser!!

**Toppers Pizza Place**

Monday, February 13th, 3:30-9:00 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

Take the family out for a fun night together, or simply order take out and mention this flier when placing the order! All of the details can be found on the flier.

\*\*\*\*\*


[Click here](#) to download your flier from the Pioneer Clubs page of our website, and take it with you to Toppers!

*Always quality fun  
with your family!!*

### Pizza Night! Family Fundraiser

Benefitting  
**Valencia United Methodist  
Church Pioneer Clubs**

**Where:** Toppers Pizza Place  
23710 Valencia Blvd.  
Santa Clarita  
222-7888




**When:** Monday, February 13, 2017  
3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**What:** Toppers Pizza will donate back 20% of pre-tax sales generated by our group!

**How to Help:** Just follow these steps to help raise funds!

- 1) Bring the whole family to Toppers during the above period for a great pizza!
- 2) Mention / Show this flyer to the cashier **when you place your order** (or tell operator for phone orders).
- 3) No coupons or other discounts will be honored in conjunction with this fundraiser.
- 4) No flyers may be handed out in or around the restaurant during the event.



**TOPPERS  
PIZZA PLACE**

Proud to be part of the community!





## Teach Your Children Well: Basic Financial Education

*Please [click here](#) to read the full article covering all topics below.*

### **Making Allowances**

Giving children allowances is a good way to begin teaching them how to save money and budget for the things they want...

### **Take it to the Bank**

Piggy banks are a great way to start teaching children to save money, but opening a savings account in a "real" bank introduces them to the concepts of earning interest and the power of compounding...

### **Shopping Sense**

Television commercials and peer pressure constantly tempt children to spend money...

### **Earning and Handling Income**

Older children (especially teenagers) may earn income from part-time jobs after school or on weekends...

### **Creating a Balanced Budget**

With greater financial independence should come greater fiscal responsibility...

### **The future Is Now**

Teenagers should be ready to focus on saving for larger goals (e.g., a new computer or a car) and longer-term goals (e.g., college, an apartment)...

### **Should You Give Your Child Credit?**

If older children (especially those about to go off to college) are responsible, you may be thinking about getting them a credit card...

*Please [click here](#) to read the full article covering all topics above.*

## Who We Are



### Vision Statement

We are a community of faith where lives are continuously transformed through Jesus Christ.



### Mission Statement

Our Church exists to:

Invite people

Nurture them with Christ's love and the Word of God

Send them out to serve others.



### Our Core Values:

Worship - Public and private

Small Groups - Building relationships

Service - Using God-given gifts

**Please join us in worship on Sunday:**

9:00 a.m. Classic Celebration

10:30 a.m. Contemporary Praise