



SUGAR LAND BIBLE CHURCH
"BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE FOR 33 YEARS"



THE CORNERSTONE

May 2015

For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account. Heb. 4:12-13



*Our Nation's Healing will Come from the Lord as a Result of Prayer.
 Join Others in Prayer for Our Government, Schools, Churches,
 Families, Business, Media, and Military.*

Fort Bend County National Day of Prayer 2015 Locations

Missouri City-City Hall	10:00 AM
Meadows Place City Hall	10:00 AM
Sienna Brushy Lake Pavilion	10:00 AM
Sugar Land Town Square	12:00 PM
Simonton City Hall	12:00 PM
Fulshear City Hall	7:00 PM
Stafford City Hall	7:00 PM
Katy Merrell Center	7:00 PM
Rosenberg City Hall	7:00 PM

Contact Mary Cook 832-651-7771 maryhuntcook@comcast.net
<http://www.ndptf.org>



Missionaries of the Month

Phil and Arleen Blycker

Phil and Arleen are serving the Lord on the U.S. border as professors of music, just as they did for almost forty years in Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Mexico.

Arleen is excited about her students of piano and cello. Phil enjoys teaching wind instruments, hymnology, music theory, and solfeggio. Both are playing in the seminary's orchestra and in nearby Bibleville, a large Bible conference park.

Musicianaries, Rio Grande Bible College

Prior to serving with Camino Global, Phil taught in a Christian school in Alabama, a public school in Illinois, and a Christian college in Indiana. Both Phil and Arleen played trumpet and cello in symphony orchestras and led church choirs in those three states. After joining the mission, they played in the Costa Rican National Symphony Orchestra and various orchestras in Guatemala and Mexico.

Phil has written and recorded hundreds of songs and hymns (mainly in Spanish) based on biblical verses or passages that are currently being used all over Latin America and Spain. In addition to teaching in seminaries and Bible institutes, they have both collaborated in a number of music camps and so have reached hundreds of young people with their biblical music.

Update from the Blyckers:

We can only look back on 2014 and thank God for life and ministry in His name. It is hard to believe that we have been on the Rio Grande Bible College (RGBC) music faculty for ten years following our missionary service in Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Mexico. Arleen and I have so much to be thankful for. We could not have done that without the Lord's guidance and the prayers and gifts of God's people throughout the years, so we thank you.

In the RGBC, 27 new students from seven countries have been accepted with three more hopefully to finish their visa requirements. There is room in the dorms, but the Admissions office has had to turn down three Latin married couples for lack of campus apartments. Join us in prayer that soon there will be additional apartments available for these young families.

One of the December graduates was Crescenciano from Tepic, Mexico. His story is difficult: He does not know his father. His step-sisters are from different men. He has no home to return to and had to work to exist from his earliest years. A Venezuelan pastor led him to the Lord and recommended RGBC to him for training. He earned high grades in my music class and was always sitting in the front row in chapel service taking notes with his "omnipresent" tablet. He'll be working with his pastor to reach out to mountain villages in the hope of starting small churches. He has no visible support. Will you pray fervently for him?

Two graduates from last May were featured last week at a Mission's Banquet as new missionaries. Rogelio is working in the mountainous region of Chiapas, Mexico. This area is where we sent a box of our Old Testament CDs and books of our Spanish songs and hymns to pastors that have been under religious and governmental attack. Victor founded his ministry just across the border in Reynosa with children and young people. Some drug lords have sent their children to his Bible classes. He will be married at the end of March. Please pray for God's blessing on their ministries, also.

Phil and Arleen Blycker



Andy Woods—Pastor

Personal Reflections on the End of a Family Journey and the Beginning of a New One

At the end of March my Father, Fred Woods, turned 80. Consequently, he has opted to retire from his position as a California Court of Appeals Justice at the end of March on his 80th birthday. Being a California jurist is a position that he has held for the last 27 years. He was originally appointed to the CA trial court. Then about four years later he was elevated to the California Court of Appeal. He has enjoyed a prolific career on the bench. During his 22 years on the California Court of Appeal he has authored roughly 3100 judicial opinions. Many of his opinions remain influential in the California legal system up until the present day.

My father owes both his original appointment and elevation to then California Gov. George Deukmejian, who was one of the last conservative governors the state of California ever had. What people sometimes forget is that California at one time was considered a red state. Remember, in past presidential elections California was carried by Nixon, Reagan, and George Herbert Walker Bush (in 1988). It's not until more recent times that California has trended in the Democratic direction. Consequently, my father has spent his waning years on the court being a faithful conservative voice in a state that has largely moved in more and more of a progressive and bluish direction.

In early March, when we discovered that the court was having a retirement reception in his honor, our family traveled from Houston, TX to Los Angeles, CA so that we could attend. It was a moving experience for our entire family as we contemplated both God's blessings and faithfulness over these last several decades and the end of an era. Interestingly, at this event, many of the court staff as well as fellow justices and lawyers spoke on my father's behalf. The common thread or theme that seemed to weave its way through these various testimonies related to my father's consistent character, congeniality, and steadfastness. I could tell that some of the various speakers may not have agreed with my father on every single matter of law or policy. However, all expressed an appreciation and likability for him in terms of who he is and how he treated all people fairly.

I think this whole experience, as well as growing up in his household, has taught me at least *three* great truths. *First*, character still counts. At the end of an era character is what most people will remember about you. They may not remember your intellect or the specific views you held on different issues. Rather, what they recall is you and who you are as a human being. Sometimes in the heat of battle it's easy to want to win an argument. However, in this very process sometimes we end up losing the war because of the way we mistreated and alienated people along the way. It seems that today's landscape is filled with people who are often more bent on pursuing victory than they are in pursuing justice or discovering truth. However, my father was never that way. While he took solid positions on a host of issues, at the end of the day people still actually liked and respected him.

This is something that I have been personally convicted of over the course of the last several years. One of the verses that keeps coming to my mind recently is the command by the Apostle Paul to speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). For me, speaking the truth is the easy part. Doing so in love is more difficult. What a



difficult balance this is. We should never compromise the truth. But as we present truth we must do so in a loving way. While I may have a lot of personal growing to do in this area, at least I have the wonderful example of my father to follow.

Second, I feel that we have bought into an overly simplistic and narrow definition of what Christian service means. Most people think that you need to become a pastor, missionary, elder, or deacon to really serve God. While these are all wonderful callings and vocations, serving God is something that is far more diverse and comprehensive. My father's life and career showed me that you can actually be a servant of God in a non-church related institution such as government. This shouldn't be surprising in light of the fact that the apostle Paul calls government agents "ministers of God" (Romans 13:4; KJV). It doesn't take long to discover that many of our most revered Bible characters served God primarily within the institution of government. Examples include Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Daniel, Nehemiah, Esther, etc.... While some are called to serve God directly in the church and through full time evangelism, others are called to serve God in the fields of government, politics, law, education, entertainment, media, finance, medicine, etc...All of these vocations and callings should receive the same recognition and respect that are also given to pastors and missionaries.

One of the things I love about our church, Sugar Land Bible Church, is that many political activists have become either members or regular attendees. I'm glad that these individuals feel at home in our church. My hope and prayer is that our church can be used to equip them for the ministries that they have in bringing desperately needed salt and light to the American system of government. I see these political activists as fellow ministers and foot soldiers of the cross. While we may all serve God in different ways, we are all equally servants of God.

Third, elections have consequences. Many people have the mistaken idea that it really doesn't matter which party or candidate wins elections. In the case of my father's career, I can tell you that such a notion is completely false. Because George Deukmejian in the early 1980s won one of the closest gubernatorial elections in the history of American politics, Deukmejian's judicial policies continued long after he left office through my father, who was just one of the many judges the governor appointed. Because Deukmejian left office in 1989 and my father is now retiring in 2015, Deukmejian's policies continued on almost 30 years after he left office through one of his appointed judges. The point I'm trying to make is political appointments long out last the short career of a typical politician. Long after that politician is gone their policies will continue to survive through the appointments that they have made during their brief tenure in office. This is especially true with judges. This is why every election matters. This is why we as Christians should show up and vote in every election. It is also why we should carefully examine and scrutinize the political ideology of anyone running for office. This is especially true of those offices where vast appointment powers are granted to the victor, such as Presidents and Governors.

So congratulations Dad on a wonderful judicial career. Your family is very proud of you. Even your eight year old granddaughter Sarah at your retirement party remarked, "Wow, I did not know that Grand Pa was famous." I'm not sure what you will end up doing in your retirement years. However,

The Cornerstone Newsletter deadline for News articles is the 19th of each month. You can e-mail Patricia Chandler at:
earlbudc@att.net or send information to Carol Henry at Carol@SLBC.org

Bulletin Board



Home Fellowship Groups

First Colony East—Adults Only: Host: Eric and Veronica Wasek—Meets 2nd & 4th Fridays at 7 pm—2801 Hidden Knoll Court—281-980-3742— A study in 1 & 2 Timothy -.Leader: Earl Chandler

First Colony West—Children Welcome: Hosts: Keith and Judy Kurrus- 2803 Pineleaf Drive—281-242-3031 Co-Hosts: Brooks and Elizabeth Sellers—281-313-0527 : Meets 2nd & 4th Fridays at 6:30

New— Young Couples Fellowship—Held at SLBC—7 pm. Coordinator: Andrea Merkin, 1-210-367-6452; Meets 2nd & 4th Friday They meet in the fellowship room.

Men's Weekly Bible Study— Tuesday, 8:00 pm David Sandlin—Teacher

Ladies Bible Study—Thursday—9:30 to 11:30

Ladies Bible Class—Hostess and Teacher: Betty Cooke

21926 Rustic Canyon Lane, Richmond, 281-232- 1795 Meets every Tuesday at 7:00 pm



Scripture for the Month: 2 Chronicles 2:13-14

When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.





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whatever you set your heart and mind to I know it will bear great fruit. So congratulations on the end of a journey and the beginning of a new one. And thank you for all of the lessons that you taught me along the way. From, not only your eldest son, but also one of your biggest fans.



Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power

SLBC 2015 EVEREST VBS



DATES: JULY 6, 2015—JULY 10, 2015

TIME: 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

**LOCATION: 401 MATLAGE WAY,
SUGAR LAND, TEXAS 77478**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

JULY 06, 2015

CHURCH PHONE: 281-491-7773