**Torrance First Baptist Church** 

## the Proclaimer

June 2013

Volume 27 Issue 6



<b>Inside this issue:</b>		
The Pastor's Heart		2
Reflections		2
We Get Letters		3
<b>Baby Shower Invite</b>		3
All Church Work D	ay	3
<b>Orientation Class</b>		2 3 3 3 4
<b>CRUX Events</b>		4
<b>Summer Camps</b>		4
Jr. High Events		4
<b>Vacation Bible Scho</b>	ool	5
<b>Awesome Adventur</b>	es	5
Seaside Lagoon		5
Calif. Science Cen	ter	5
<b>Junior Summer Ca</b>	mp	5 5 5 5 5 5
Attendance/Giving	-	5
<b>Just for Kids</b>		6
Calendar		7
Singles' Ministry		8
TFB Academy		8
Srs. & Friends:		9
<b>Old Town Music I</b>	Iall	9
2013 Graduates		9
<b>Loaves &amp; Fishes Ne</b>	ws	9
<b>Global Outreach</b>		10
<b>Reflections (cont.)</b>		11
Sympathy		11
June Full-moon Hil	<b>ce</b>	11
<b>More Letters</b>		11
Men's Bowling Nigl	ht	12
May/June Birthday	S	12
Tornado Relief Fun	d	12



## Sunday, June 9 Special Events!

On June 9, all 6th graders will begin Sunday School upstairs in the Jr. High Class. All 8th graders will move into the High School Class.

This is also the first day of our "Kingdom

Rock" Vacation Bible School. So all preschool through those going into 6th grade in the Fall, please go to the Gym at 10:45. (You can read more about Vacation Bible School on page 5 of this newsletter.)

## Sign Up for Kamper Kamp June 21-23

It's not too late to sign up for our annual family camp at Indian Hills Campground in Jamul, California. Activities include group worship, swimming, biking, horseshoes, basketball and the ever popular "Zip-Line"! You can bring your own tent or motor home or sign up for one of the cabins. Registration forms in the patio give the costs.



Proclaimers are also available for viewing and printing on-line: www.tfbclife.org



# Sunday, June 23 10 a.m.

We will have one combined worship service led by Pastor Rog on Kamper Kamp weekend. There will be no Sunday School that day. There will be Worship & Witness that evening.

# 70m the Pastor's Hear



Spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

Over the years I have discovered how easy it is to forget God—to allow Him to drift away. both in my thought process and in my decision-making. I can get so caught up in trying to fulfill my goals and dreams and dealing with all the daily responsibilities of life that forgetting God can come pretty easy. I don't mean that I mentally forget that God exists. It is more that I place Him on the back burner of my priorities; that I do not include Him and His teachings as much in my evaluating and decision-making process; that my love for Him grows somewhat cold at times.

Life has a way of throwing so much in front of us that replacing God with other things is not hard at all. Jesus told us that in a story about a farmer planting his crop. He said "the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth" choke out the ways of God. To put it in my words, the things of this life can cause us to forget God.

In the Old Testament, when the Israelites were about ready to enter the promised land which was full of good things, God told them "Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God....when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied." In other words, *remember God*!

This "forget God" tendency is one key reason why we need each other as followers of Christ. It is a key reason we need to gather often to talk about God in our lives, whether here at 2118 West Carson Street, or in a home, or a coffee shop, etc.

So in all your business of living life: taking care of family; fulfilling your responsibilities at work; taking care of your things like a house or car; spending time in your hobbies, let me encourage you to *remember God*.

Remember God is God and you are not.

Remember that God loves and cares for you and is asking you to love Him.

Remember that God has your best interests at heart.

Remember that God is gracious and forgiving—always ready to reunite with you when you have forgotten Him.

Remember that God is the ultimate source of joy and happiness.

Remember that God is gentle and kind.

Remember that God is the best source of wisdom and understanding for life. He truly does have the best insights about how to get the most out of life.

Remember that God gave His Son for you.

Remember that God has promised you an eternal future with Him and He keeps His promises.

Remember that God has asked you to live for Him and is ready to empower you to do just that.

Remember that it is easy to forget God.

I would encourage you to add to this list and maybe place it somewhere visible so you can remind yourself to *remember God*.

Paston Charlie

# Reflections

by Pastor Rog

Dear Church Family,

I am so thankful that it is not up to me to make it through this life with all of its difficulties and turmoil. I just don't have the strength, wisdom or perseverance. But thankfully, the Lord doesn't expect me to make it on my own. No, He invites me to place my life in His hands. Isaiah, the prophet, understood this and encourages us to yield to the Lord and let Him lead us. He says:

"Who among you fears the Lord? Who obeys the voice of His Servant? Who walks in darkness and has no light? Let him trust in the Name of the Lord and rely upon his God." Isaiah 50:10

The nation of Israel often walked away from the Lord and she paid dearly for it—individually and collectively. As Isaiah reaches out to the nation, he invites his countrymen to trust in the Lord their God, but



some of the people might have wondered: "What does it mean to trust in the Lord?"

As you read the book of Isaiah, he makes it very clear that <u>trusting in the Name of the Lord means trusting in His</u> character.

Continued on p. 11



We Get Mail

Continued on page 11

Dear Church Family,

Our church family was always very important to my dad. He saw the importance of the relationships with the family of God. You all came through during his hospital stay and his going home to Glory. We, as his family, want to THANK YOU. Thank you for the prayers, the many cards, the encouragement and the support. We appreciate each of you. Thank you to Rog and Charlie for your visits and especially for sitting with us as we all said good bye to my dad. Thank you to all who came and celebrated Dad's life with us. May God bless our church as we seek to continue to serve Him!

Sincerely,
Marla Dodd and the family of Gerald Wissinger

I want to take the time to thank the many church friends at TFB, for their cards, visits, and prayers, during my knee replacement surgery and recovery.

Love in Christ, Dick Hills





All Church Work Day June 8, 9 a.m.

Calling all able bodies to join us as we pound, paint and pretty up the Lord's building here at Torrance First Baptist Church.

Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.



If you are interested in becoming a member of Torrance First Baptist Church, you are invited to attend this class, taught by Pastor Charlie, which deals with questions of Christian doctrine, church practice, and the organization of First Baptist of Torrance. There is also a discussion of the varying routes to membership at TFB: baptism, transfer, and statement of Christian experience. This class is a pre-requisite for becoming a member of TFB.

This class is also for anyone who just wants to know more about the church and what we teach.

Sign up in the patio or call the church office to let us know if you would like to attend.









Here's an easy way to help send our students to camp this summer. Buy a pound of coffee, and five dollars goes directly to TFB for camp. Lanna Coffee is a non-profit organization committed to assisting the Hill Tribes of Northern Thailand. Follow the link below and not only help send students to camp, but participate in the ongoing efforts in Thailand.

#### www.lannacoffee.org/tfbcrux



#### **NEWS**



Three years ago, Trev Schulte came to TFB as a single man and recent graduate with a degree in Youth Ministries. Today, we say goodbye to a friend and colleague who has tirelessly served our Junior High Quest students and their families as well as the larger TFB family. Trev and his wife, Mary, are expecting the birth of their firstborn, a son (Kai), this August.

Many can attest to the impact Trev and Mary have made on the lives of numerous students, and the words "*Thank You!*" just don't seem enough. As with ministry in general, and student ministries in particular, often the fruit of our labors come to full bloom later down the road. I know that we will continue to reap the blessings of their ministry in the months and years to come.

On **Sunday, June 30**, we will have a special reception for the Schulte's in the gym during our patio time. Please join us as we share our appreciation and memories with this special family. If you would like to present a personal gift or a card of appreciation to Trev and Mary, a basket will be available at the reception. Please continue to pray for the final weeks of pregnancy and Kai's safe arrival, as well as God's direction and open doors for new ministry.

## June 9 ~ July 14



## Remember the Dates! Invite your friends!!

Beginning Sunday, June 9, we will be doing 5 weeks of "Kingdom Rock" Vacation Bible School—where kids stand strong for God!

For 5 weeks every Sunday (except Kamper Kamp weekend when there will be no Sunday School), we will have VBS in the gym from 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Our last Sunday for this special program will be on July 14.

Volunteers are needed for this ministry. If you are able to help, please let Levana know by signing up at the Children's Ministries table.

## Awesome Adventures

### For Kids Going into 1st through 6th Grades

Seaside Lagoon Monday, June 24 10 a.m. ~ 4 p.m.



Meet at 200 Portofino in Redondo Beach. Pack a lunch or bring \$\$ for Ruby's Diner. Bring: a friend; sunscreen (ahead of time and bring extra to apply); a towel; sand toys; and a great attitude! Parents: pick up kids at 4 p.m. at the Lagoon.



California **Science Center** Friday, June 28 9 a.m. ~ 4 p.m.

Meet at the church.

We will tour the Science Center where there are over 100 mind-stimulating exhibits. It is also where the space shuttle "Endeavour" is housed. The cost is \$5 plus money for lunch.

Parents: pick up kids at TFB at 4 p.m.



Wise Up! (Proverbs 1:5)

Lightseekers' Junior Summer Camp at Oak Glen July 15-19

Everyone who is going into 3rd through 6th grades in the Fall is invited. The cost is a total of \$300; \$50 holds a spot. Sign up in the patio at the Children's Ministries table.

## Attendance & Giving

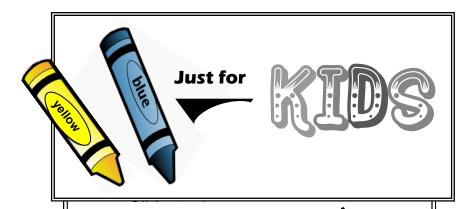


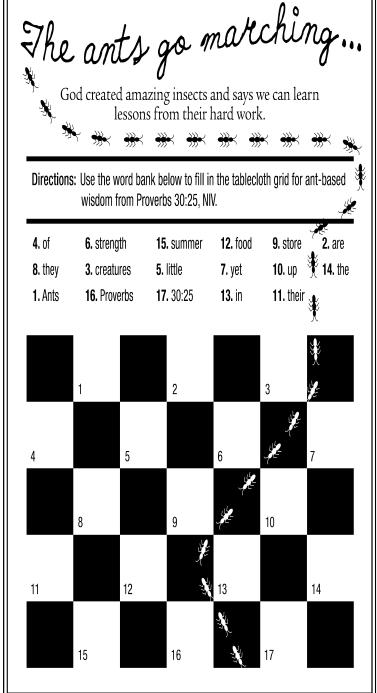
AVERAGE WEEKLY **ATTENDANCE** FOR APRIL

266



Thank you for giving approximately \$39,214 in the month of April.





Answer: "Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their tood in the summer." Proverbs 30:25, NIV

# \*\*\*\*\*\*

## **ANTS** ON A HILL

Make this fun snack for a summer picnic — and hope these ants are the only insects around!



#### What you need:

- one box instant chocolate pudding mix
- milk
- graham crackers
- zippered baggies
- rolling pin
- clear plastic cup
- chocolate chips, raisins or dried cranberries

#### What you do:

- 1. Make the pudding according to directions on the box.
- 2. Put one whole graham cracker (four rectangles) into a zippered baggie. Seal and crush the crackers with a rolling pin.
- 3. Fill half the plastic cup with spoonfuls of chocolate pudding (dirt).
- 4. Add the crushed graham crackers (sand hill).
- 5. On the hill, place chocolate chips, raisins or dried cranberries (climbing ants). Enjoy!

_
— Page
st Proclaimer -
First Baptis

rship & Witness: 6 p.m.

ol: 8:15, 9:15 & 11 a.m.

rean) Wrshp: 12:45 p.m. ean) Fellowship: 2 p.m.

hildren's S.S.: 11 a.m.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Recurring Weekly Events:
						1 11a Loaves & Fishes	Sunday  Worship Services: 9:15 & 11 a.m. Worship & Witness: 6 p Adult Sunday School: 8:15, 9:15 & 11 a Children's Church: 9:15 a.m.
2 11p Children's Sunday School 2p Sing @ Royalwood	3	4 7p Lauran Bethell Circle	S	6 10:30a Circle of Friends	7 6th Grade Graduation Dinner	8 9a All Church Work Day 6:30p Singles' Game Night	Patio Fellowship: 10:30 a.m. Youth S.S.: 11 a.m. [all above except 6/23] New Covenant Children's S.S.: 11 a.m. New Covenant (Korean) Wrshp: 12:45 p New Covenant (Korean) Fellowship: 2 p
Promotion Sunday 10:45a Kingdom Rock VBS 5p Prayer Gathering	10 7p C.E. Committee	11	12 6:45p Last Wednesday Night Children's program for the Summer 6:45p 8th grade	13 7p Beacon Light	14	15 9a Membership Class 11a Yng Families Picnic @ Wilson 2p Schulte Baby Shower	Monday Ladies' Prayer: 10:30 a.m. Open Basketball: 6:30 p.m.  Tuesday.  High School Revive: 7 p.m.  [except 6/18]
16 Happy Father's Day Graduate Recognition 10:45a VBS	17 7p Ad Ops	18 6p Committees: Fellowship, Finance, GO, Outreach & Wor. 7p Deacon/ess	"Goodbye Night"	20	21 Leave for Kamper Kamp	7p Share & Care 22 6:30p Singles' Dinner Out @ Kamper Kamp	Wednesday         T.F.B. (K-6th grades): 6:45 p.m.         [except 6/19 & 26]         Jr. High QUEST: 6:45 p.m.         [except 6/19 & 26]         Small Group Bible Study: 6:45 p.m.
23 10a Combined Worship Service Back from Kamper Kamp 5p Prayer	24 10a Awesome Adventure to Seaside Lagoon	25	26	27	28 9a Awesome Adventure to Calif. Science Center	29 8:30a Men's Bible Journey	Choir Practice: 7 p.m.  New Covenant (Korean) Bible Study: 8 p.  Open Volleyball: 8:15 p.m.  Thursday  Ladies' Bible Study: 2 p.m.  Worship Band Practice: 6:30 p.m.
00					Uncoming Inly Events	on ts:	Next Step Bible Study: 7:30 p.m.

- 6/30 -7/6 Jr. High Summer Camp at 1000 Pines
  - 7/7 Combined Worship Service, 10a

Jr. High leaves for 9:45a VBS

1000 Pines

- 7/21-27 H.S. Summer Camp at Hume Lake
- 7/26 Awesome Adventures Craft Day, 10a-3p

# Upcoming July Events:

- - - 7/7 All Church BBQ, Î1:30a
- 7/15-19 Junior's Summer Camp at Oak Glen

# Friday

ean) Bible Study: 8 p.m.

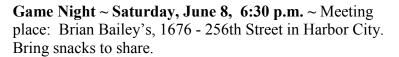
Ladies meet @ Denny's for Bkfst.: 9 a.m. Saturday

New Covenant (Korean) Prayer: 6 a.m.



## Enjoy Time with the Singles' Fellowship

Please invite anyone of any age to join us.







Dinner Out ~ No Dinner out in June as most of the group will be at Kamper Kamp on June 22. See you there!

For questions, suggestions, or more information, call Brenda-Jean Shephard, 310/901-0816.

"God's truth is more than good"

Psalm 119:65-72, The Teth Strophe by Laura Springer, M.Div., Th.M.

Bible knowledge is not enough. I say this as one with two graduate seminary degrees. One of the most important lessons I learned in seminary was that sharing pithy verses, repeating large chunks of Scripture from memory, and retelling the entire biblical storyline are worthless if I don't hold God's Word as valuable.

When we value Scripture, we place it where its value shines most gloriously: our lives. The psalmist declares this truth in verses 65 and 66 of the *teth* strophe. After recognizing God's goodness, he asks God to teach him to know and do the Word (65-66a), basing his

> request on his trust in God's commandments (66b). The psalmist came to value God's Word the hard way: the afflictions of his situation turned him from disobedience to obedience (67), an obedience having

value only in the context of God's good character and actions (68a). He asks his wholly good God to teach him his ways (68b).

Though the psalmist has learned obedience, affliction continues (69a), but he does not allow himself to become a slacker just because life is difficult (69b). He knows that the "insolent" have unfeeling hearts; he also

knows that his own heart feels deeply, delighting in God's law (70).

Looking back on his affliction, the psalmist summarizes the value of that affliction: "It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes" (71). Learning God's ways is a reward of great value and God's Word is of still greater value, so he ends this strophe with an extravagant declaration of worship: "The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces" (72).

When we value Scripture, we place it where its value shines most, gloriously: our lives.

## Next Event for Seniors & Friends



#### Old Town Music Hall June 22 (Saturday)

We will be going to see the movie, *All Quiet on the Western Front*. Academy Award® Winner for Best Picture and Best Director, this WWI epic is one of the most powerful war films ever made. With themes that remain relevant even today, *All Quiet on the Western Front* strongly deserves its place in cinema history as a true classic. Lewis Milestone's direction is pure artistry and the cinematography is breathtaking. This film is a must-see. It's a film you will never forget.

We will leave the church at **1:15 p.m.** and be back at 4:45 p.m. The cost is \$10.

If you want to sign up and/or want more details for any of our Seniors & Friends' outings, call Terri Mullin at 310/639-0396.

## Our 2013 Graduates



#### College

Mike Lloyd, Master's Degree in Music from Loyola-Marymount College Christopher Nelson Eyerly, BS (Cum Laude), Business Adm., Cal State Dominguez Hills Alaska (Norris) Bundoc, AA from Harbor College; Mathematics & Natural Sciences

#### **High School**

Christy Bailey
Haley Bundoc
Grace Kathryn Condon
Maeve Ehlers
Brett Miller
William Hayao Morris
Cynthia Perez
Brianna Powell
Cary Santa Ana
Ethan Stager
Jacob Taylor





#### **Junior High**

Emma Duane
Kylie Elce
Joey Fisher
Morgan Frederick
Caitlin Harris
Ashley Leyman
Dillon McKenzie
Jonathan Montgomery
Avalon Norris
Zane Sealey
Shannon Seifried
Marilyn Valdez

## Loaves & Fishes News

Just a note to let you know that Loaves & Fishes will no longer be giving out clothing beginning in June. You may take your clothing donations to Beacon Light Mission or Doors of Hope Women's Shelter. We will still be serving a hot meal and giving out hygiene items and sack lunches-to-go on the first Saturday of every month as usual. Thanks for all your support!



#### A letter from Turkish World Outreach

Dear Friends,

Turkish World Outreach and Crossover Communications International are merging! Together our combined ministry will be at the forefront of reaching Turkic Muslims for Christ.

TWO has a 43 year legacy of ministry, so this was not a decision we made lightly. It was the culmination of two years' prayerful discussion between TWO and Crossover. The motivating factor was a strategic vision to work together for greater kingdom effectiveness among least reached peoples of the world, including TWO's historic focus on the Muslim peoples of the Turkic world.

In 2011, TWO began to explore strategies to ensure a strong future for our growing ministry. Several opportunities needed to be developed. Our fruitful *Gospel Letter* program and *Internet evangelism ministries* needed to be grown into church planting teams to the Turkic peoples.

So a couple years ago we began partnering with Crossover who had a successful track-record applicable to all of these actions. Our relationship with Crossover has roots going back several years. They not only mobilize church planters from the reached to multiply churches among the unreached, but they even recently demonstrated great success in a Central Asian Turkic nation. We viewed our relationship with Crossover as an answer to our prayers for the future.

Together, we believe we can share the Gospel with the 165 million unreached Turkic people more efficiently and more effectively. God is fusing TWO's 43 years of committed outreach to Turks with Crossover's 25 years of successful church multiplication among the unreached for this purpose. In view of the merger, our combined team, which is currently engaged in ten new church planting initiatives in Turkey, is asking God for a collective goal of planting up to 50 churches in the country by 2020. Plans are also in motion to meet with 40-60 converts from

the *Internet ministry* to equip them for multiplying churches in nine European cities where a number of Turks have come to Christ.

While focused on providing access to the Gospel for Turks, TWO is also known for a long history of mobilizing prayer for Turkic Muslims through its *Call to Prayer*. The legacy of TWO's emphasis on intercession will continue as a valuable ministry for the deliverance of millions of lost Turkic people.

You are a valued member of the TWO extended family and we covet your prayers as TWO and Crossover merge together. We believe that God wants to do even greater things in reaching the Turkish world with the Good News of Jesus Christ and your continued partnership contributes to that vision.

Thank you for your ongoing prayer and financial support!

Yours for the Kingdom, Shawn Gardner Executive Director, TWO

[Editor's Note: Our missionary Kraig Meyer serves with Turkish World Outreach.]

# Reflections

Continued from p. 2

He is the Almighty God, righteous and pure, merciful and loving, wise and perfect. He is the Creator, Sustainer, and Owner of all things. He is the source of all goodness, and He has the power to do anything we could imagine. On this glorious One they can depend!

How different we are. Human character traits develop over time and can even change from day to day, but God is eternal. He never changes. Oh, dear people, how thankful I am for the Lord. Long before our lives began, He has been keeping all of His promises to people like us and bringing glory to Himself through His works. And thankfully, His character is **not** dependent on our emotions or circumstances. While we go through the highs and lows of life's difficulties or of our own feelings, He remains steadfast.

I don't know what you are going through today, but God does. He desires you to put your life in His hands and <u>trust</u> Him...trust in His <u>never</u>-changing character. In your quiet moments with Him, dwell on His trustworthiness and love for you, and invite Him to show you the step of faith you need to rely upon Him. He will not disappoint you.

I, too, am trusting in Him, Pastor Rog



Please pray for the following families that have recently lost a loved ones:

Two former TFB members are now with the Lord.

They are George Sharp, Jr. and

Robert Lee.



Saturday June 22 7:00 p.m.

Meet in the church parking lot and we will proceed by carpool to Palos Verdes Estates to the Gate House for our full-moon hike. It is an easy, paved dirt trail with beautiful views of the city. Since this is Kamper Kamp weekend, Gregg Kellogg will be leading this hike. Contact Art Sigsbury, sigsbury@ca.rr.com, or call 949/458-6062 if you have any questions.

## More Mail



Dear Church Family and Friends,

Thanks for all your prayers, visits, cards, flowers and support during all our years at TFB, and even more so during the past months of Jonathan's hospitalization and death.

Last summer, we sold our home in Torrance and moved to West Los Angeles with Jonathan to be closer to Mark's work. Stephen, Daniel and Kristy moved to new places but remained in the Torrance area. Little did we know that six weeks later Jonathan would be hospitalized for most of the rest of his life just a mile and a half from our new apartment. God works in mysterious ways!

At first we were commuting to TFB for church, but it became harder with Jonathan in the hospital because of the extra time in commuting. After a while, we began attending a church in Santa Monica to get back in the fellowship with other believers. We have missed the great friends at TFB but realize that we need to be connected in the community where we live. Please pray for us for wisdom in knowing God's will for us as we seek a new church home.

You have been fantastic in supporting us through the years, especially in regards to Jonathan's health issues and his going home to be with The Lord. We appreciate all who helped in making his memorial service a celebration of his life and witness to others of the Lord's salvation and hope. Thanks to all who have faithfully prayed for him, and us, all these years and given us encouragement in the Lord.

Mark and Jan Pribble

## Don't forget . . .

Men's Ministry Bowling Thursday, May 30, 7 ~ 9 p.m.

The Journeymen will have another bowling night at the AMF Bowl-O-Drome Lanes, 21915 South Western, in Torrance. Meet there at **7:00 p.m.** The cost is \$18 per person. Sign up and get more information at the Men's Ministry table in the patio.





## May & June Birthday Celebration

We will celebrate May and June birthdays with cupcakes during Fellowship Time in the patio on **Sunday**, **June 2**.

Please sign up in the patio or call the church office if you would be willing to bring a dozen cupcakes to help celebrate.



Tornado Relief Offering

On **Sunday, June 2**, our Benevolent Fund Offering collected that day will be sent to Samaritan's Purse to help those who have been devastated by the recent tornadoes in Texas and Oklahoma. Please give generously.

The Proclaimer is a monthly publication of the First Baptist Church of Torrance, California, located at 2118 West Carson Street (6 blocks east of Crenshaw). Sunday services: 9:15 a.m. Worship Gathering (Contemporary Service); 11:00 a.m. Blended Service (with Sunday School for all ages); and 6:00 p.m. Evening Service. Mid-week events for children and students: High School Revive; Jr. High Quest; and Task Force Bravo for children.

For more information, contact the church office: 310.328.5030 or info@tfbclife.org or visit us on the web at www.tfbclife.org