

March 31, 2007

Pray4Alhambra@juno.com
www.KingdomCauses.org

kingdom causes



ALHAMBRA



Church Pastor of the month:

This month we recognize Pastor Phil Hilliard of Bethany Church of Alhambra who serves as the Senior Pastor. On March 4th, he celebrated 15 years of ministry at Bethany Church. He also serves as a Chaplain at the Alhambra Police Department.

Pastor Phil is a man of great humility, compassion and authenticity. He genuinely cares for people and is a blessing to Bethany Church and to our community. And he loves Jesus.

We thank God for Pastor Phil, for who he is in the Lord and all he gives in the name of Jesus' love!!



Our MISSION is to be catalysts that *inspire, connect and mobilize* people toward personal and community transformation by bringing God's hope, love and shalom to all in the city of Alhambra.

Our VISION is to see Alhambra transformed as God's people live out the Great Commission in Alhambra; to see God's Kingdom come to Alhambra as it is in Heaven.

INSPIRING people to pray for Alhambra, to have a Kingdom paradigm and to share stories of what God is doing in Alhambra

We pray together "God's Kingdom come, God's will be done in Alhambra as it is in Heaven" Matthew 6:10. Pray 4 Alhambra March 2007
Prayer focus: **Transformation of Alhambra.**
Prayer points are distributed to every Alhambra Church monthly in English, Chinese & Spanish.
Monthly prayer points are available @
www.kingdomcauses.org



I have been meditating this past month on the word: GRACE. We are in the season of Lent, a time of preparation and reflection upon God's grace. What does God's grace look like? As Jesus was on the cross, He was thinking of us and how much He loves us; that is GRACE—a gift undeserved.

I just finished reading a book that stirred in me. Shane Claiborne's book *The Irresistible Revolution* challenges our faith and what it means to follow Jesus. As God has shown us grace, mercy and love, so are we to demonstrate this to our world around us. In his book he writes, "Mother Teresa was one of those people who sacrificed great privilege because she encountered great need. People often ask me what Mother Teresa was like...there is one thing I will never forget—her feet. Her feet were deformed." A sister told Shane why her feet were this way. "Her feet are deformed because we get just enough donated shoes for everyone, and Mother does not want anyone to get stuck with the worst pair, so she digs through and finds them. And years of doing that have deformed her feet." Years of loving her neighbor as herself deformed her feet. This is the kind of fasting that creates the divine longing for justice, where our feet become deformed by a love that places our neighbors above ourselves, where our own stomachs groan with the hungry bellies of the world. "

The love of Jesus compelled Mother Teresa to live in this way—to love her neighbor as herself. This is grace. Jesus has shown us the ultimate grace by giving His life for us. Can we afford to do anything less for our neighbor? How will we show this kind of love and grace to Alhambra?



Mother Teresa

Do not think that love, in order to be genuine, has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired.

Jesus

Matthew 25:40 **"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'**

Alhambra Fact of the Month:

"Mrs. Harriet Abbie Bishop, a warm intelligent woman, usually managed to be the first to welcome Alhambra newcomers, and always with a small gift in hand, Circa 1890". (Alhambra book, 2004.)

Alhambra historically been a city of hospitality. How is God challenging us to extend this grace and love to those around us?

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CONNECTING the Church and engaging the Church and City

2007 Alhambra Good Friday Service

The nails of Jesus' Cross set us free!

Friday, April 6, 2007 @ 7:30pm



Location: Holy Trinity/St. Benedict's Episcopal Church
Senior Pastor: Father Rick Byrum
412 N. Garfield Ave, Alhambra, CA 91801
(626) 282-9118

All are welcome!

Free children's program (ages 4-11).
Sponsored by the Church of Alhambra

Prayer Requests:



Please pray for the Kingdom Causes Alhambra Board.

Please pray for a unified prayer ministry for Alhambra. Please pray for Seek God for the City 40 days of prayer to be a catalyst for corporate prayer in the City.

Please pray for the upcoming Good Friday Service. Thank God for Father Rick Byrum of Holy Trinity/St. Benedict's Episcopal Church and for his faithful service to the Church and to the Lord.

Please pray for the Alhambra Pastors who meet monthly for prayer—please pray for God's protection, encouragement and blessings upon them.

Please pray for prayer and financial partners; for an expanded ownership of God's work in Alhambra.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities to Serve:

- **Good Friday—Stations of the Cross** from 12-3pm at Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church. Please call Pastor Phyllis at 284-3229
- **Easter Sunrise Services in Alhambra:**
6:30am—1st UMC in the parking lot, free pancake breakfast to follow. For more info, Please call Pastor Richard at 626/289-4258.
7:00am—Emmaus Lutheran Church at Almansor Court Gazebo (Lakeside). For more info, please call Pastor Vern @ 626/289-3664.
- **Art Exhibition ("Resurrection") and Free Dinner on April 13th, Friday at 7pm with Resurrection Celebration Service to follow**—Alhambra Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 220 S. Chapel Ave, please call Pastor Elizabeth at 626/289-6137 for more info. To participate in the art exhibition please submit artwork by 4/9 (1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes will be awarded).
- **Alhambra Relay for Life; May 19-20th, 2007 @Alhambra Park.** Join the RELAY FOR LIFE of Alhambra! Form a TEAM and take turns walking or running, relay-style, around the track. SURVIVORS are honored by walking the first lap around the track. Purchase a LUMINARIA to honor a cancer survivor or remember a loved one. Cancer never sleeps so relays are a 24-HOUR event. For more information on forming a team, survivor activities, becoming a sponsor, luminarias, or volunteering in the event, contact: Katie Holmes: 213.700.7485/kholmes@cancer.org www.relayforlife.org/relay

Contact info:

KINGDOM CAUSES ALHAMBRA



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Kingdom Causes is a registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit community mobilizing organization.

Ministry Advancement Funds. God is bringing together people of good faith and people of good will to bring about His Kingdom purposes in Alhambra. We are excited to serve that cause. Kingdom Causes Alhambra is responsible for raising ministry advancement funds for the work here including staff salaries and local program funds. The monthly budget is \$4,998. With individuals, local churches (ATLPC, Emmaus Lutheran Church, 1st Methodist Foundation and 1st Baptist Church), and businesses we have on the team already, we are at \$2,898/month. Would you please prayerfully consider joining the monthly partner/support team? **Thank you!**

	\$4,998
	\$2898



MOBILIZING people around key Kingdom issues

Task Forces:

1. **Emergency Preparedness of the Faith Community**—this taskforce began in January and has grown to 15 churches now represented. (We have 35 churches more to go). Pastor Phil Hilliard (Bethany Church) and Mary Glenn are the co-leaders. The next tasks: to collect resources surveys from every church and to encourage every Alhambra church to complete the A.L.E.R.T. program with the Alhambra Fire Department (http://cityofalhambra.org/government/fire_department/ALERT.html). In the months to come, this task force will provide spiritual training for the Alhambra Churches to be a resource in emergency situations.
2. **Youth**—BELIEVE is a mentoring program for at risk students. The directors: John Lewis (UYWI) and Mary Glenn are partnered with the PD to provide alternatives to the court system for first time offending high school students. We are currently looking for mentors. If you are interested, please contact us and we'll send you an application.
3. **Mental Health**—Dr. Christine Wong leads this task force of gifted mental health professionals. They are currently working on ways to encourage and equip/resource the churches in the area of mental health. If you are interested in volunteering for upcoming events/programs, please contact the Kingdom Causes Alhambra offices.



We need representatives from the community to be part of these task forces, collaborating for Alhambra! Together we can partner for God's Kingdom Causes! If you see a need in the community, an area that needs to be looked at, please let us know and let's work together!

March 10th—Kingdom Causes led a workshop at the regional RELOAD conference for the Urban Youth Worker's Institute (www.uywi.org) at the Union Rescue Mission. The workshop was entitled: Cultivating a Vision for your City. We are excited to see how God is raising up local people throughout the Los Angeles area to be His catalysts, passionate and committed to working for His Kingdom in the local city.

Mother Teresa—I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God who is sending a love letter to the world.
Bono (of the rock band U2) - I love the bit when Christ asked for his greatest hits and he says, 'OK, love God, and love your neighbors as yourself.' Christianity is not complicated, that's what it is.