

Cliff's Notes

Random Musings about 'What in the World is going on?'; past & present...
(May 6, 2007; Vol. I, Num. 8) www.GBFSV.org



GBF is now 8 months old! Still a growing, needy, dependent baby. In April we averaged 87 people per Lord's Day, have had a 1st time visitor every Sunday since we started (36 weeks is a row), had 56 visitors in April, and have had 360 people attend at least once. We are now in Ephesians 5 and we celebrated our first Good Friday and Easter services. Our six Elders continue teaching the 20 biblical distinctives of GBF in the Adult Sunday school hour, where we've been averaging 24 people per Lord's Day.

At The Movies...

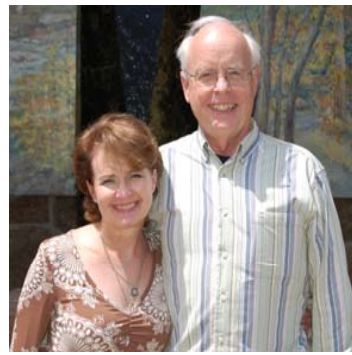
I virtually never recommend movies. Mostly because Hollywood is so corrupt, revisionistic and blatantly anti-Bible, anti-morality and anti-God. But here's one you can actually see and should see—'Amazing Grace'—the story of William Wilberforce and his 20-year crusade in the English parliament where he sought to abolish the slave trade. He was greatly influenced by Rev. John Newton of England, former slave-trader and later author of the classic hymn, *Amazing Grace*. I am amazed whenever I meet a believer who is not familiar with Wilberforce and his impact on history and Christianity. This is a great film for the whole family to get an education of how God uses normal sinners to accomplish great good for His kingdom. ☺☺



National Day of Prayer

"I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity" (1 Tim 2:1-2)

A National Day of Prayer (NDP) was first declared by President Truman in 1952. In 1988 it was formalized by President Reagan to be recognized every year on the first Thursday in May. Each year, the President signs a proclamation, encouraging all Americans to pray on this day. God commands Christians to pray for their country and their leaders. Thank God we have this liberty in our country for now...let's pray for our nation...see www.ndptf.org



Hasta la Vista!

Today we bid farewell to our dear friends, **Walt & Nancy Heine**, as God moves them on to the next phase in their journey of life...boldly going where no Heine has gone before—Ajijic, Mexico. **Who are Walt & Nancy?** Walt was born somewhere in Canada. Nancy was born at Stanford. Walt got his PhD at Stanford...I don't think those 2 events happened the same year. Walt is really smart—his doctorate field of specialty was in orbital mechanics and optimal estimation and control theory—he's a spy! Nancy is multi-talented, with a degree in Information Systems, an accomplished musician playing piano, violin, harp and percussion, not to mention voice and dance. Walt plays bass, cello, and jokes on the unsuspecting. They were married in 1975 & have lived in the Cupertino area for many decades. Walt began teaching Bible in Sunday School in 1964...before Pastor Cliff existed. They have 5 wonderful children: *Jason* & his wife *Caryn* & their children *Alexa* [7] & *Cassie* [5]; *Adam* & wife *Cindy* with baby *Isaac*; *Andrew*, *Eric* and *Kirstin*. **Where are they going?** They will be living in a tiny village called Ajijic [Ah-hee-HEEK] about 45 minutes from Guadalajara. To see a detailed pictorial overview of this area go to www.casadelosolina.com/about.htm God has already blessed them with a beautiful home there. Moving to Mexico is not just retirement for the Heines, but rather a new venue to serve God and further His kingdom. They have been in contact with local churches and pastors there over the past year in anticipation of using their gifts of service to reach the lost and edify fellow believers. They will be leading a Bible study on "Basic Christianity" the moment they arrive to a home full of unbelievers. **Ministry at GBF** Walt & Nancy were 2 of the key foundational 12 or so folks that God brought together about a year ago to start GBF. Their contribution to laying the foundation of our church has been invaluable. Walt served as an elder overseeing the corporate worship ministry and was an ongoing voice of reason and stability during the formative hurdles. He also played bass, taught adult Sunday school & ate a lot of dessert at fellowship meals. Nancy coordinated worship music, the order of service, helped design and manage the website, designed the GBF logo, and kept Walt from eating even more dessert at fellowship meals. They both testify that being a part of the GBF church plant has prepared them for their ministry in Mexico while at the same time it drew them closer to their God and to each other. Keep these 2 wonderful saints in your prayers as they step out in faith and begin their new, exciting journey. "Adios!"