

# Faith Christian Assembly March Newsletter



March 1, 2022

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# Happy Maewyn Succat's Day! by Pastor Sheri Leming

"So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one." Ezekial 22:30, NKJV

Maewyn Succat was an ordinary man who accomplished the extraordinary by placing his faith in God. He was a courageous Irishman who was willing to stand in the gap for Jesus Christ.

He is most famously known as Saint Patrick.

Ireland was a beautiful island in

terrible darkness. But across the sea God in His sovereignty was preparing a teenager to bring this nation to Himself.

Although Patrick was born into a Christian family, he admitted that he was practically an atheist when he was a teenager.

When he was 16 years old Patrick was taken captive and sold into slavery in Ireland where he spent the next 6 years with the Irish people that he would one day return to convert.

Through much prayer and trial, he came to know the living God

Prayer of St Patrick Christ with me Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me. Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down. Christ when I sit down. Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees m Christ in every ear that hears me

as his protector.

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## Have You Ever Lost a Golf Ball? by Gary Leming

For those of us who enjoy an occasional 18 holes, I think it is safe to say that we all hate it when we lose a golf ball.

Why?

Because of the cost of the ball itself, of course, but we are especially grieved by the penalty strokes that go along with that loss. I was reading a golf devotional that asked a pene-

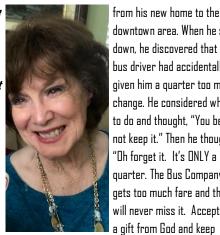
trating question: Do we spend more time looking for a lost golf ball than we do in seeking God?

~continued Page 2

## Only a Quarter by Earlene Leming

In this parable Earlene tells a story of a young preacher who unknowingly has his honesty put to the test by a man. Our actions, even when seemingly small, are indeed revealing to others, but even more-so to God who sees what man doesn't!

Once a young preacher moved to Houston, Texas, and had to ride a bus



Earlene Lemino

downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the bus driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change. He considered what to do and thought, "You better not keep it." Then he thought. "Oh forget it. It's ONLY a quarter. The Bus Company gets too much fare and they will never miss it. Accept it as a gift from God and keep quiet."

When the bus stopped, he

paused at the door, handed the guarter to the driver, and said, "Here, you gave me too much change." The bus driver replied with a smile. "Aren't you the new preacher in town? I've been thinking of going to church somewhere. I wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change." When the preacher stepped off the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole and whispered, "Oh God, I almost sold Your Son for a ouarter!"

Remember our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read!

"I pray to God to give me perseverance and to deign that I be a faithful witness to Him to the end of my life for my God."

~ St Patrick

# Happy Maewyn Succat's Day! continued

He found Jesus Christ in those sufferings.

Long before he became an icon for a commercialized holiday, Saint Patrick was full of missionary zeal, and was passionately faithful to the Great Commission.

"I pray to God to give me perseverance and to deign that I be a faithful witness to Him to the end of my life for my God."

Patrick's ministry lasted 29 years. He baptized over 100,000 people and planted 300 churches.

The Lord puts people in our paths every day if we are looking. Pray and ask Him to place someone in your sphere of influence.

- Pastor Sheri

## Have You Ever Lost a Golf Ball? continued

Are we more earnest in seeking a lost golf ball than we are in seeking our heavenly Father?

Jeremiah 29:13-14. NIV

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the Lord...

No. God doesn't hide from us. But we are the ones called upon by Scripture to seek Him and surrender our lives to Him. Are we seeking Him? Finding Him is better than a hole in one!

~ Gary Leming



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### March Calendar

#### **SUNDAYs**

Service Times: 10:30am and 5:30pm/Pre-service prayer 5:00 pm

March 6 10:30 am Communion service

March 13 Daylight Saving Time begins

#### **MONDAYs**

Church Office Closed

#### TUESDAYs

Church Office/Library Hours 10:00

am to 4:00 pm Call for appointment

#### WEDNESDAYs

Bible Study 11:00 am

#### THURSDAYs

March 17 1:00 pm
Men's Ministry—
main sanctuary
March 17 1:00 pm
Touch of Love
Women's Ministry—
Garden Room



#### **FRIDAYs**

Church Office Hours 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Call for appointment

## Getting to Know the Real St Patrick— Q & A

Who was Patrick? A: He was a 5thcentury Romano-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland

It is believed that he was born where? A: In Roman Britain in the fourth century, into a wealthy Romano-British family.

His father was a deacon and his grandfather was a what? A: A priest in the Christian church

Patrick spent six years as a slave in Ireland working as a what? A: A shepherd, and that during this time he found God.

The Declaration (written by Patrick) says that God told Patrick to do what? A: To flee to the coast, where a ship would be waiting to take him home.

After making his way home, Patrick went on to become what? A: A priest.

Patrick returned to Ireland to do what? A: To convert the pagan Irish to Christianity.

According to legend, Saint Patrick used the three-leaved shamrock to do what? A: To explain the Holy Trinity to Irish pagans.



## Easter is Coming—Who Will You Invite?

Easter is coming next month on April 17! It's time to start thinking about who we can invite to church this Easter. This most important holiday, commemorating Jesus' resurrection from the grave, is even by observation (and backed up by statistics) the most attended Sunday church service of the year.

Remembering the importance of the event, tradition and maybe just a great way to celebrate the holiday bring more people to the House of the Lord than any other day. While we can certainly invite anyone any time of the year, and hopefully do, Easter may be a time to more likely receive a yes to that invite, and in addition, for that guest to hear a great salvation message highlighting Jesus' resurrection. Neighbors, friends, co-workers, unsaved family members – who is in your world that you can invite? You just may change a life for all of eternity.



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Faith Christian Assembly is a member of the Grace International Churches and Ministries, Inc., which was originally organized as the California Evangelistic Association in 1934. Beginning with one church, Colonial Tabernacle, located in Long Beach, CA the organization has since grown to include more than 3800 churches in the United States as well as in many nations of the world. It is now headquartered in Houston, TX, and overseen by an Executive Team and a Board of Directors, including as President Pastor Steve Riggle. Pastor Sheri Leming serves on the Grace International Missions Board and on the Grace SoCal District Committee.

## From the Desk of Pastor Sheri Leming



As hard as it is to believe. March is upon us! Don't you find that the pages of the calendar turn more swiftly every year? But the thing that never changes is God's faithfulness to us. Garv and I can testify that He was faithful to us through our brief bout with Covid (Omicron) last month. We want to thank those who helped us at church to fill in the gaps for those two weeks. We also are grateful to Pastor & Ginny Vaughn for making the trip from Palm Desert to minister in our absence. We heard from so many of you who were blessed to hear Pastor Vaughn preach again. And we also thank Brother George for teaching Bible Study. It was such a blessing to

have these wonderful men of God grace our pulpit once again.

What a blessing it is to assemble together in God's House! God knew that we needed to be in His house and the strength it would provide for us and for each other as we gather. We also encourage you to be faithful to our Wednesday Bible Study at Ilam. We continue to teach on the Doctrines of Scripture. This month's focus is The Holiness of God. These are the truths that will change your everyday life! We have heard countless reports of people who are being blessed by this study. We invite you to come and allow God's Word to enrich your life.

Once again we want to encourage you to be faithful to Sunday Prayer at 5pm. As we often say, our Prayer Room is the most important room in our church. Gary and I are so encouraged by those who faithfully join us each week! "Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work." ~Oswald Chambers

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesisns 3:20-21 NKJV

Can't wait to see you Sunday,
Pastor Sheri (and Gary) Leming