

# Solemn Assembly Summit and Celebration

..... Seeking God For Ventura County 2002

A Cry for Holiness in the Ventura County Church, ending a 40-day season from Ash Wednesday February 13 to Palm Sunday March 24, of Fasting and Praying, Reflecting and Repenting, asking God for Restoring, Reviving, Reforming



**Saturday, March 23**

**8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Ventura Missionary Church**

*"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." (II Chronicles 7:14)*

***"Be holy, for I am holy, says the Lord"***

## **DAY OF FASTING AND SOLEMNITY**

This day is consecrated to the Lord and is a day of Fasting and Praying, Reflecting and Repenting. Please be respectful, in an attitude of quiet contemplation and seeking God.

For those children or others who may not be fasting today, there will be an approximate 20-minute lunch break in the afternoon and a brief break mid-morning and at noon. Please eat outside of the church sanctuary.

## **REFRESHMENTS IN FIRESIDE ROOM**

Coffee in the morning, fruit juice, and bottled water is available in The Fireside Room at the church today. Donations are requested. Thank you to Dan Harasty of The Water Store in Ventura for donating the bottled water. We also thank Ventura Missionary Church for the use of their campus for this historic gathering in Ventura County.

## **DONATIONS WELCOMED**

This county wide day of humiliation and solemnity is free to everyone in attendance, however costly. Any free-will donations would be appreciated. Please place contributions (cash or checks payable to cash) in the collection containers in the foyer. Thank you.

## **VENTURA COUNTY COUNCIL OF PASTORS & LEADERS**

We are Christian brothers and sisters, pastors and leaders throughout all geographical areas and Christ-honoring biblically-based denominations of the Church in Ventura County, exalting Jesus Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We believe in the Great Commission of our Lord to make disciples of all the nations of the world, and with believing faith, the enabling guidance of the Holy Spirit, working to advance the Kingdom of God on earth as in Heaven, in all spheres of life and living, with Christian self-government, in our own family homes and throughout Ventura County.

*Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God. - Deuteronomy 28:1-2*

*But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments, and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you. - Deuteronomy 28:15*

# **Program Agenda**

## ***Registration***

- please fill in & return registration cards
- water, juice, coffee in Fireside Room - Fasting all day

## ***Praise/Patriotic Music***

- Natalie Marie, Vocalist, Simi Valley - (8:15 a.m.)

## ***Call To Order/Greetings***

- Gerald Christian Nordskog, Chairman, Ventura County Council Pastors & Leaders, Ventura

## ***Pledge of Allegiance***

- Rylan Chieruzzi, Eagle Boy Scout, Troop 633, Simi Valley

## ***Welcome & Opening Invocation Prayer***

- Dr. Leonard DeWitt, Sr. Pastor, Ventura Missionary Church, Ventura

## ***Historical Background for Solemn Assemblies***

- Dr. Marshall Foster, Founder/President, The Mayflower Institute, Thousand Oaks

## ***Praise & Worship Music***

- Greg Humbles, Worship Leader, Community Presbyterian Church, Ventura

## ***Focus on Youth***

- Alex Field, Exec. Director, Epic Ministries, Ventura
- Betty Alvarez Ham, President, City Impact, Oxnard
- Clint Garman, Assoc. Pastor, The Bridge, Ventura
- Greg Russinger, Pastor, The Bridge, Ventura

## ***Break***

- (approximately 10:00 a.m.) - 10 Minutes

## ***Focus on the World***

- Bryan Sexauer, Founder, Ignite India Ministries, Moorpark
- Jackie Yockey, President, High Adventure Ministries, Simi Valley
- Bill Greig, II, Chairman of the Board, Gospel Light, Ventura

## ***Healing America's Wounds***

- John Dawson, President, International Reconciliation Coalition, Oxnard

## ***Focus on Civil Government***

- Bob Brooks, Sheriff, Ventura County, Thousand Oaks
- Dan Goodwin, County Assessor, Ventura County, Ventura
- Dennis Downs, Fire Chief, City of Ventura, Ventura
- Greg Totten, Assistant District Attorney, Ventura County, Ventura

## ***Focus on the Nation***

- Dr. Jay Grimstead, President, Coalition On Revival, Murphys
- Eugene Clingman, Exec. Director, International Church Council, Hathaway Pines

## ***Worship & Praise Music***

- Jamie Owens-Collins, Singer, Songwriter, Recording Artist, Newbury Park

### **Break**

- (approximately noontime) - 10 Minutes

### **Focus on the Media**

- Dr. Theodore Baehr, President, Christian Film & TV Commission, Camarillo

### **Focus on the Church**

- Priestly ministry: Dan Miller, Sr. Pastor, Ojai Foursquare Church, Ojai
- Prophetic ministry: Nils-Erik Bergstrom, Author (Fasting/Praying), Simi Valley
- Redemptive ministry: Steve Dittmar, Sr. Pastor, Jubilee Church, Camarillo
- Mission: Mike A. Lade, Sr. Pastor, Sonrise Christian Fellowship, Camarillo
- Covenant Fellowship: Steve Pope, Sr. Pastor, Royal Avenue Baptist Church, Simi Valley
- Covenant Obedience: Dwayne Epler, Sr. Pastor, Calvary Chapel, Camarillo

### **Focus on Self Government**

- Tony Cervero, Sr. Pastor, First Assembly of God, Ventura
- Bob Irish, Sr. Pastor, Calvary Chapel, Ventura
- Don Loomer, Sr. Pastor, First Baptist Church, Ventura
- Lance Ralston, Sr. Pastor, Calvary Chapel, Oxnard
- Stan Wilson, Sr. Pastor, Sonrise Christian Fellowship, Simi Valley
- Leonard DeWitt, Sr. Pastor, Ventura Missionary Church, Ventura

### **The Lord's Supper - Holy Communion**

- Served by Ventura County Pastors

### **Declaration, Commitment, Covenant to God**

- Jerry and Gail Nordskog

### **Break**

- (approximately 2:00 p.m.) - lunchtime if not fasting - 20 minutes
- (resource materials available in foyer)

### **Celebration of God's Mercy in Music**

- Dennis Agajanian, Singer, Songwriter, Recording Artist, San Diego

### **Family Life Outreach Ventura County/ Video**

- Dave & Gayle Ide, Chairman FLOVC

### **How I Praise You**

- Cathy Gilchrist & Praise In Motion Dancers, Ventura County

### **Praise & Worship in Music**

- Lisa Miller & Ojai Foursquare Church Worship Team

### **Closing Benediction Prayer**

- Pastor Dan Miller - (4:00 p.m.)
- (resource materials available in foyer)

# STEERING COMMITTEE

Coordinator - Gerald Christian Nordskog, Ventura  
Dr. Ted Baehr, Camarillo  
Pastor Dwayne Epler, Camarillo  
Dr. Marshall Foster, Moorpark  
Pastor Bob Irish, Ventura  
Gail Grace Nordskog, Ventura  
Bryan Sexauer, Moorpark

# GENERAL COMMITTEE

Bob Baker, Camarillo  
Pete & Billie Baptiste, Ventura  
Nils-Erik Bergstrom, Simi Valley  
Peggy Behrend, Santa Barbara  
Lou & Lynda Blais, Camarillo  
Karen & Kristen Boone, Ventura  
Tim & Linda Bradley, Westlake Village  
Sheriff Bob Brooks, Thousand Oaks  
Dr. Robert & Mary Carson, Ojai  
Jim DaPra, Ventura  
Becky Friday, Ventura  
Bob Goodwin, Simi Valley  
Don & Gail Hubbs, Simi Valley  
Gerald Hurty, Ventura  
SusAnne Lee Jenkins, Oxnard  
Bill & Betty Jones, Simi Valley

Rick Jimenez, Ventura  
Manley & Mary Klassen, Ventura  
Joe Kleemann, Ventura  
Larry & Linda Matheney, Ventura  
Ron Matthews, Oxnard  
Cliff Norton, Ojai  
Mylon & Julie Nelson, Ventura  
Daniel & Christine O'Neil, Ventura  
Kathleen Parsa, Ventura  
Jim & Irene Rippy, Ventura  
Robin Rodriguez, Ventura  
Donna Smith, Ventura  
Pamela Spencer, Thousand Oaks  
Asst. D.A. Greg Totten, Ventura  
Andy & Marcia Zimmermann, Ventura

God is present in all life with the influence of His omnipresent and almighty power, and no sphere of human life is conceivable in which religion does not maintain its demands that God shall be praised, that God's ordinances shall be observed, and that every labor shall be permeated with its ora in fervent and ceaseless prayer.

Wherever man may stand, whatever he may do, to whatever he may apply his hand, in agriculture, in commerce, and in industry, or his mind, in the world of art, and science, he is, in whatsoever it may be, constantly standing before the face of his God, he is employed in the service of his God, he has strictly to obey his God, and above all, he has to aim at the glory of his God.

Abraham Kyper



Dennis Agajanian



Ted Baehr



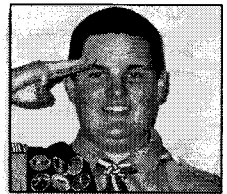
Nils-Erik Bergstrom



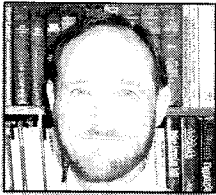
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Tony Cervero



Rylan Chieruzzi



Eugene Clingman



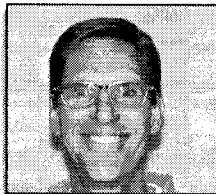
Jamie Owens-Collins



John Dawson



Leonard DeWitt



Steve Dittmar



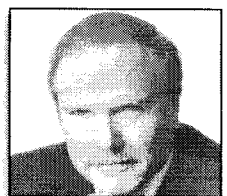
Dennis Downs



Dwayne Epler



Alex Field



Marshall Foster



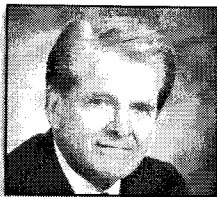
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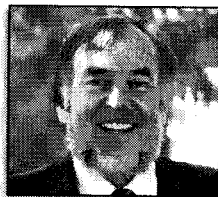
Cathy Gilchrist



Dan Goodwin



Bill Greig II



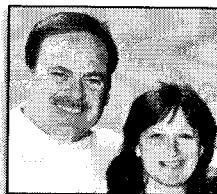
Jay Grimstead



Betty Alvarez Ham



Greg Humbles



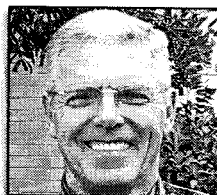
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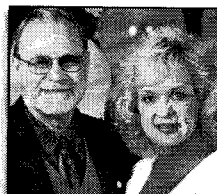
Don Loomer



Natalie Marie



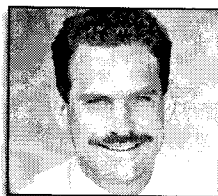
Dan & Lisa Miller



Jerry & Gail Nordskog



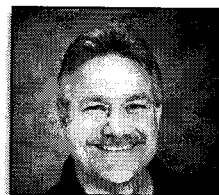
Steve Pope



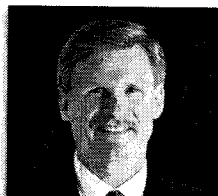
Lance Ralston



Greg Russinger



Bryan Sexauer



Greg Totten



Stan Wilson



Jackie Yockey

THE COVENANT UNTO GOD BY THE  
SECOND CHURCH IN BOSTON, NEW ENGLAND  
MARCH 17, 1680

*We who through the exceeding riches of the grace and patience of God do yet continue members of this church, being now assembled in the holy presence of God and in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; after humble confession of our manifold breaches of Covenant before the Lord our God and earnest supplications for pardoning mercy through the blood of Christ and deep acknowledgement of our great unworthiness to be owned as the Lord's Covenant people; also acknowledging our inability to keep Covenant with God or to perform any spiritual duty unless the Lord Jesus do enable us thereunto by His Spirit dwelling in us; and being awfully sensible that it is a dreadful thing for sinful dust and ashes personally to transact with the infinitely glorious Majesty of heaven and earth, we do in humble confidence of His gracious assistance and acceptance through Christ, each one of us, for ourselves, and jointly, as a church of the living God, explicitly renew our Covenant with God and one with another in manner and form following. That is to say,*

*We do give up ourselves unto that God whose name alone is Jehovah, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as the only true and living God and unto our blessed Lord Jesus Christ as our only Saviour, Prophet, Priest and King over our souls and only Mediator of the Covenant of Grace; promising (by the help of His Spirit and grace) to cleave unto God as our chief good and unto the Lord Jesus Christ by faith in a way of Gospel obedience as becometh His Covenant people for ever. We do also give up our offspring unto God in Jesus Christ, avouching the Lord to be our God and the God of our children and ourselves with our children to be His people; humbly adjuring this grace of God, that we and our offspring with us may be looked upon as the Lord's.*

*We do also give up ourselves one unto another, in the Lord according to the will of God, freely covenanting and binding ourselves to walk together as a right ordered congregation and Church of Christ; in all the ways of His worship, according to the holy rules of the Word of God; promising, in brotherly love, faithfully to watch over one another's souls and to submit ourselves unto the discipline and government of Christ and His church and duly to attend the seals, censures or whatever ordinances Christ has commanded to be observed by His people, according to the order of the Gospel, so far as the Lord hath or shall reveal more unto us by His Word and Spirit.*

*And whereas the Messengers of these Churches, who have met together*



*in the name of Christ to enquire into the reason of the Lord's controversy with this His people, have taken notice of many provoking evils as the procuring cause of the judgments of God upon New-England; so far as we, or any of us, have been guilty of sin in respect to any of them, we desire from our hearts to bewail it before the Lord and humbly to entreat for pardoning mercy for the sake of the blood of the everlasting Covenant.*

*And as an expedient unto reformation of those or whatever evils have provoked the eyes of God's glory among us, we do subjoin unto our church Covenant a further engagement, whereby we do, as in the presence of God, promise,*

*1. That we will (by the help of Christ) labor, every one of us, to reform his own heart and life by seeking to mortify all our sin and endeavouring to walk more closely with God than ever we have done and to uphold the power of godliness; and that we will continue to worship God in public, private, secret, and this (as God shall help us) without formality and hypocrisy; and more fully and faithfully than heretofore, to discharge all Covenant duties one towards another in a way of church communion.*

*2. We promise (by the help of Christ) that we will endeavour to walk before God in our houses with a perfect heart and that we will uphold the worship of God therein continually, according as He in His Word doth require, both in respect of prayer and reading the Scriptures, so that the Word of Christ may dwell richly in us; and that we will do what in us lyeth, to bring up our children for Christ, that they may become such, as they that have the Lord's name put upon them by a solemn dedication to God in Christ, ought to be; and that therefore we will (so far as there shall be need of it) catechize them, and exhort and charge them to fear and serve the Lord, and endeavour to set an holy example before them, and be much in prayer for their conversion and salvation.*

*3. We do further engage (the Lord helping us) to do what in us is, that we may be pure from the sins of the times, even those provoking evils that have brought the judgment of God upon New-England; and in our places to endeavour the suppression thereof; and that we will make conscience to walk so, as that we may not give occasion to others to sin or to speak evil of our holy profession.*

*Now, that we may observe and keep this sacred Covenant and all the branches of it inviolable for ever, we desire to deny ourselves, to depend wholly upon the power of the eternal Spirit of Grace, and upon the free mercy of God, and upon the merit of Jesus Christ, and where we shall fail, there to wait upon the Lord Jesus for pardon, and for acceptance, and for healing, for his name's sake.*

# DECLARATION, COMMITMENT, COVENANT TO GOD

## An Act of Contrition and Humble Repentance before our Lord

On this 23rd day of March, in the year of our Lord 2002, with my brothers and sisters in Christ as witnesses, I have solemnly gathered with other serious and convicted Believers in the Ventura County Church, in contrition and humble repentance, confessing many of the multitudinous and grievous sins of our Nation, our Church, and personally. Dear Lord God my Creator and my Father, from the depths of my heart in honest and genuine sincerity, I make a solemn oath to You, to turn away from my wicked ways, having fallen short in honoring and glorifying You. I repent of my personal sins, and acknowledge those of our Nation and the Church corporately.

I humbly ask and plead for your gracious mercy and grace through the atoning work of my Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ at this most holy Easter season. I confess, I repent, and I promise and commit in a consecrated personal covenant with You Lord God Almighty, to trust You, honor You, love You and obey You with a heart and lifestyle change, through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit, Who gives me the ability to do so, as a new creation in Christ. I commit to You all areas of my life as a living sacrifice unto You, to be well pleasing in Your sight, and as much as I am able, to pursue holiness, righteousness and peace and to work and serve You wherever You have called me and do so with perseverance, thankfully and joyfully to the praise and honor and glory of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace and King of Kings.

Signed by \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed by \_\_\_\_\_

*...As He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." - 1 Peter 1:15-16*

*For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. - 1 John 5:3*