

PALOS VERDES BAPTIST CHURCH

# YOUTH MINISTRY

WORSHIP HIM COMPLETELY.  
WALK WITH HIM CONSISTENTLY.  
WITNESS FOR HIM COMPASSIONATELY.

## MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER

### Upcoming Events

March 3: FNF @ 7:00 PM

March 5: Baptism Class @  
11:00 AM

March 10: FNF @ 7:00 PM

March 17: Skyzone @ 8:00-  
10:00 PM!

March 24: FNF @ 7:00 PM

March 25: Medical Missions  
Adventures @ 8:00 AM

March 31: FNF @ 7:00 PM



### Partnering in the Gospel...

// We often teach our youth about the need to be connected to other Christians. By this, we usually mean that they should be connected to, and have meaningful, growing friendships with other youth from PVBC. This is true, and it is good.

There is another type of partnership, however—partnership between churches—that is also incredibly beneficial. This past March was a month of *partnership* for our youth. On the first Friday of the month, **February 3**, we partnered with the youth from **Cerritos Baptist Church** to hold a **Joint Worship Night**, at their church. Through games, worship, a message, and fellowship—not unlike our FNF—our youth learned, and several expressed, the value of forming bonds across the wider Christian community. This event, however, was simply in preparation for our



### QUESTIONS? SUGGESTIONS?

Feel free to e-mail Ben at [benfriedman@pvbc.com](mailto:benfriedman@pvbc.com), call/text (310)-703-2065, or contact any one of our awesome Youth Advisors!



Worship Him completely



Walk with Him consistently



Witness for Him compassionately

# March 2017

... **Winter Retreat**, over the weekend of **Feb. 17-20**.

Winter Retreat this year was an awesome experience, partnering with Cerritos Baptist, at **San Marcos Christian Camp**, up in Santa Barbara. Our speaker, **Micah Gilmore**, spoke powerfully on Romans 12, and the themes of worship, adoption, love, and forgiveness. Micah highlighted that though we all seek life change, true and lasting life change only comes when we ourselves are changed by a worshipful response to the gospel, and from the “view of God’s mercies” (Rom 12:1) we see in it. Without seeing the mercy of God, clearly presented in the gospel, we have no hope of real life change.

Retreat was also full of fun, relaxing, and sometimes-crazy activities, from daily group games, to a rock wall, to a ropes course, to our “fireplace campfire” the last night. For additional spiritual nourishment, we also held two Q&A “panels” on the topics of “Living As a Christian in College” and “Dating & Relationships.



Undoubtedly, though, the most memorable factor of the weekend was the category-6 storm that blew through Southern California precisely on the weekend of Retreat. The storm ended up forcing us to sleep at CBC on Friday night, but the youth rolled with it excellently, and God moved even more powerfully on that account, as he reminded us that he was, in fact, in control of the whole weekend. And that is a good, good thing!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, March 5 @ 11:00 AM:**

- **Baptism Class:** After church on this first Sunday of March, we will hold a Baptism Class for all who are interested in taking the “next step” of baptism, or even for those who simply want to learn about the meaning of water baptism. Youth and adults are alike welcome and encouraged to attend. We will meet in Room 5/6.

**Friday, March 17 @ 8:00 PM -**

- **10:00 PM: Skyzone Night:** Come, bring friends, and get excited for our next Fellowship Night, which will be at **Skyzone**, an indoor trampoline park in Gardena! We will have a “glow” session of jumping, with lights, music, and our own room. After jumping, snacks and pizza will be provided. The cost will be **\$25**. We will meet at PVBC @ **7:15** to carpool over, or meet us directly at Skyzone.

**Saturday, March 25 @ 8:00 AM:**

- **Medical Missions Adventures:** Jesus had a heart for the poor, and we do, too. We are looking for youth and adults alike to serve at a Medical Missions clinic at **Beacon Light Rescue Mission** in Wilmington, on the morning of 3/25. You do not need any medical experience, and can serve with checking people in and other “behind the scenes” tasks. Sign up with Mrs. Uemura or contact Ben for more details.

# Winter Retreat Reflection: By Malia



After returning from our annual Youth Retreat over President's Day Weekend, I have had some time to reflect on my character and spiritual life. It became an evident trend in my life that every retreat, I would recommit my time to God but often grew distant a few days after leaving the mountains and settling into the usual rhythm of life back home. The theme this year was "Changed", illustrating how God has changed our lives through his love and mercy and compassion to give us a renewed purpose.

God has changed our lives, but He calls on us to maintain that change and not to fall back into our old ways of worldly living. Our relationship with God should not be something that is only evident on Sundays at church and forgotten about during the rest of the week; it should be a constant in our lives and we must strive to strengthen our relationship, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (**Romans 3:23**)."

Nonetheless, the journey in life is an uphill battle. I find it increasingly difficult to find time to fit God in school schedule. Most days I would rather succumb to sleep tugging at my eyelids at 2 am than to read a chapter in the Bible. I make excuses, justifying my neglect for God with my tiredness or the never-ending mounds of homework. **2 Corinthians 4:8-9** states, "We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair, persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed." Yet, this is not how life should be structured; it is not school and work and outside activities first and maybe squeeze five minutes in for God throughout the day. Rather, we should put God first because the only thing that matters in His kingdom is how we spent our time on Earth glorifying Him, as everything else will fall away. **Proverbs 3:6** states, "In all our ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Therefore, we must eagerly and actively seek God to have a purpose. Without Him, we are nothing.



**2017 Youth Winter Retreat: Palos Verdes Baptist Church & Cerritos Baptist Church**

Prayer Points: How to be a "Persistent Widow" in March (Luke 18:1-8)

This March, please join us in prayer:

- 1) For God to help our youth **begin personal Bible-study** times.
- 2) For God to sustain our youth's **spiritual hunger** after February's Winter Retreat.
- 3) For God to bring **three more new youth** to FNF this month.