

Walter Mencken's



# S.D. ON THE Q.T.

The News You Won't Find Anywhere Else

## Coronado Pastor P(r)ays for Protection

Worship Service Praises God's Selection of Appropriate Targets for His Destructive Fury

"God Save the Hotel Del"

CORONADO CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, CORONADO — An evening of thanksgiving to God for His continued favor toward the rich and powerful was held here last night, following the failure of two underwater earthquakes off the coast of San Diego to cause any damage at all to this beautiful, moneyed enclave.

The nearer of the two quakes, which occurred on May 25 just four miles from Coronado, registered a paltry 3.6 on the Moment Magnitude Scale, nowhere near the massive 8.8 and 7.0 quakes that recently devastated the relatively impoverished nations of Chile and Haiti, respectively. No damage or injuries were

reported, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration did not issue a tsunami warning.

"We just want to gather together and thank God that He has seen fit to shepherd His faithful people and to guard them as the apple of His eye," said CCCC pastor Wayne Rogers at the opening of the sparsely attended service. "God says in Scripture, 'I know the plans I have for



A sign of God's good taste

you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you.' And God keeps His promises. He has already prospered us, and now He has not harmed us as well."

"Some people might wonder why God seems to have it in for poor people," added cohost John Hampstead, pastor at the city's recently planted Rejoice! Church. "But they're looking down the wrong end of the telescope. I have a personal relationship with my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and if there's one thing I know about Him, it's that He's not out to bury His friends under tons of rubble and angry seawater. I mean, why would He want to destroy a beautiful house like this one?" he asked, gesturing toward the 1915 Craftsman home that serves as Rejoice! Youth Ministry's clubhouse.

Not in attendance was Father Michael Murphy of Coronado's Sacred Heart Catholic Church, who was critical of the service's tone. "Pride goes before destruction," warned the priest. "Seismologists have warned that these minor quakes could be the forerunners of larger ones, perhaps large enough to bring on a tsunami. And I'm sure I don't have to remind people that the wealthy and powerful city of Lisbon was destroyed by an earthquake in 1755. Over 100,000 people lost their lives — and on All Saints' Day, no less."

Reached for comment, Pastor Rogers replied, "Lisbon is in Europe. And All Saints' Day is a Catholic holiday invented to replace the pagan holidays of Samhain and Lemuria. I don't think I need to say any more than that."



## Barona Casino Billboard Campaign Throws Down



28 San Diego Reader June 10, 2010



Local TV News Anchors — Are They Getting Too Much Work Done?

## San Diego Reader critics — EXPOSED!

Naomi Wise  
Food Critic



"All tastes like styrofoam to me."

Duncan Shepherd  
Movie Critic



"Barney's movie had heart, but Football in the Groin had a football in the groin!"

Matthew Lickona  
Church Critic



"There's one God; only one. Well, sometimes there's three."

Jeff Smith  
Theater Critic



"What you ladies don't understand is that Blanche is a delicate flower being trampled by an uncouth lout."