

# Tahoe Community Church

Notes, Announcements, Needs and Reminders

December 2013

A friendly Nevada Church, Teaching the Word of God, Sharing the Love of Christ, and Building Stronger Families.



## Ten Guidelines For Keeping Christ in Christmas:

**TAKE** time to be alone and ponder

your relationship with Christ.

**READ** the story of Jesus' birth and note how people responded- Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, Simeon and Anna.

**PRAISE** God at Christmas. Join other Christians in celebrations of music and praise.

**HELP** those in need at Christmas. Follow the example of Jesus whose heart was filled with compassion for those who were suffering.

**KEEP** your TO DO list as short as possible. Limit your social obligations so there is time for reflection.

**USE** cash when you buy gifts to avoid holiday debt.

**TELL** others about the Savior. Find opportunities to give a tract or a Bible.

**REMEMBER** Christ's church around the world.

**LIVE** like Christ in this season. Be compassionate, forgiving and sensitive to people.

**BE JOYFUL** at Christmas! You are celebrating the greatest event in the history of the world—the arrival of God in human form.

## Sunday Worship Schedule

- 9:00 a.m. Worship and Sunday School
- 9:00 a.m. Everyone meets in Sanctuary for Opening Prayer, Music, and Memory Verses.
  - 9:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School
  - 9:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School in MPR
  - 9:15 a.m. Prayer group in the Annex
  - 9:15 a.m. Optional message in Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up in Sanctuary
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship Time
- 10:30 a.m. Full Family Worship (Nursery Available)

## Advent 2013

From Church Staff

Why do we celebrate Advent? Christians have observed Advent for a thousand years as a time of thoughtful preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth. The word "Advent" is from the Latin word which means "coming." It refers to the coming of Jesus Christ



into the world. It is a time of preparation, anticipation and celebration. Make it your goal to come together as a family as many days as you possibly can. The four weeks of Advent this year begins on Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>. TCC has a new Advent booklet for family or individual devotions available. (*One per family, please*). The booklet gives instructions for making your own Advent wreath and celebrating advent.

## Debt Reduction

The debt reduction "matching fund campaign" ends on December 14, 2013. Remember that any funds given designated as "Building Fund," or "Debt reduction," will be matched by generous anonymous sources. Funds designated to "Building Fund" should be above and beyond your normal tithes and offerings. Please pray for God's guidance to participate and for His will in this endeavor to reduce our debt.

### 2013 Taxes

All contributions to be recorded as tax deductions for 2013, must be received by the Church **No later than December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

## Good News Club

The Good News Club is coming to Zephyr Cove School in January 2014. It is an after school activity designed to be an outreach to share the Gospel with children. If you are interested in participating in this program contact Wendy at (530) 544-7055.

## The Food Pantry is Blessed!



The Food Pantry was recently blessed with a generous donation of \$2,500 from the American Century Championship. Praise God for His provision!

## Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Beginning December 1st, Tahoe Community Church will be collecting the special Lottie Moon Christmas offering for the International Mission Board (IMB). We also have the 2013 "Week of Prayer" brochure available for your use. The theme this year is "Totally His" in fulfilling the Great Commission.

Lottie Moon was a missionary to China for 39 years. Upon her urging, the Baptist Women's Missionary Union began collecting funds for international missionaries. Special offering envelopes will be available, or you can designate on your check "Lottie Moon." Please be reminded this sacrificial offering is above your regular offering. You can read more about the IMB and Lottie Moon at [www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org).

As of April 2013, 4,867 missionaries were under appointment and 100% of our Lottie Moon offering goes to overseas missionaries. Because of your generous gifts, TCC sent \$2,200.00 last year. What will we send this year?

## Missionary Prayer Requests

### Ryan and Danielle Stuaffer

- The Stuaffer's will be traveling to Lake Tahoe for Christmas. Pray for safe travels to and from. While here, they are praying they will receive their international visa's which are essential for the continuation of their residency in Venezuela.
- Continue to pray for God to regenerate the hearts of their students to faith in Jesus Christ as Savior.

### The Hawatmeh's & Andreev's

- Pray for all whom they are reaching out to with the Gospel during this Christmas season. The Andreev's and the country of Macedonia celebrate Christmas in early January.

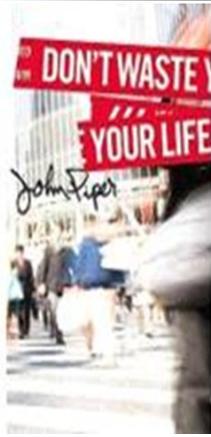
## 'Twas The Night Before Jesus Came

*written by Unknown Author*

'Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house,  
Not a creature was praying, not one in the house.  
Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care,  
In hopes that Jesus would not come there.  
The children were dressing to crawl into bed,  
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.  
And Mom in her rocker with baby on her lap,  
Was watching the Late Show while I took a nap.  
When out of the East there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here.  
With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray,  
I knew in a moment this must be THE DAY!  
The light of His face made me cover my head.  
It was Jesus! Returning just like He had said.  
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,  
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.  
In the Book of Life which He held in His hand,  
Was written the name of every saved man.  
He spoke not a word as He searched for my name;  
When He said "it's not here" my head hung in shame.  
The people whose names had been written with love  
He gathered to take to His Father above.  
With those who were ready He rose without a sound,  
While all the rest were left standing around.  
I fell to my knees, but it was too late,  
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.  
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight,  
Oh, if only I had been ready tonight.  
In the words of this poem the meaning is clear,  
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.  
There's only one life and when comes the last call,  
We'll find that the Bible was true after all!

## What is a Christmas Carol?

According to Webster's Dictionary, a carol is a song of joy or mirth; a popular song of religious joy. Wikipedia describes A [Christmas carol](#) as a [carol](#) whose [lyrics](#) center on the theme of [Christmas](#), or that have become associated with the Christmas season, even though its lyrics may not specifically refer to Christmas. Traditional Christmas carols mainly focus on the Christian celebration of the birth of [Jesus](#). Other [Christmas songs](#) focus on more secular Christmas themes, such as winter scenes, family gatherings, and [Santa Claus](#). So, when we sing Christmas Carols this year, let's sing them with religious joy, and let's sing carols that focus on the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!



## Family Bible Study

Formally known as Awesome Families, the Family Bible study group has expanded to include anyone who wants to participate. They meet on Wednesday nights in the MPR at 5:30 P.M. The evening

includes sharing food, fellowship, and studying God's word. They are currently doing a video series by John Piper called, "Don't Waste Your Life." Come check it out!

**Awesome Kids:** Awesome kids is still going strong and starts at 3:30. Contact Jacky Daly if you have questions about either of these ministries.

## Little Drummer Season

By Ted Beverage

To help us celebrate the Christmas season, we will be allowing time every Sunday in December for Church members to offer special Christmas music and presentations. This includes, but is not limited to, vocal music, instrumental music, sharing scripture, poetry, and personal testimony. All presentations need to be approved and rehearsed prior to performance. Please contact Ted if you would like to participate, and if you need ideas or help with what to share. The more people who share, the more spectacular our Christmas drummer season will be.



## Tahoe Resort Ministries

The Tahoe Resort Ministries is seeking people who would be interested in serving as mountain chaplains at ski areas around the lake. Services are held each Sunday

between Christmas and Easter at 2:00 p.m. at each ski area. A free lift ticket is provided; except Mt. Rose, who provides a \$20.00 discount ticket. All material needed to lead services are provided. Volunteers need to be able to lead worship on the mountain at least once a month. For more information contact Debbie Wohler at 530-583-2925 or at [debbiewohler@charter.net](mailto:debbiewohler@charter.net).

## Are You Thankful Yet?

By Elder Bob Daly

***Psalms 107:1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.***

The enduring love of the Lord is often forgot when we get full of ourselves. What do we really deserve? Camp out there to get the correct perspective. Be honest about what we've done; our lies, thievery, adultery, covetousness, gossip, slander, and un-forgiveness, just to name a few of our actions. If that doesn't put you in a position of gratefulness try looking at God's Holiness, if you can. Do you realize how holy, Holy is? Pure? Righteous?

***Isaiah 6:1-5 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above Him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory." At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty."***

Finally, if your wretchedness in light of God's holiness doesn't bring you to a place of gratefulness, ponder His Glory. Reflect on his love, kindness, mercy, forgiveness and patience. Not there yet? God's glory is magnified in our weakness, He is all powerful, all knowing, and eternal.....we are not.

***Psalms 8:3-5 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, what is mankind that You are mindful of them, human beings that You care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.***

The all-powerful, all-knowing, eternal, holy, merciful creator of the everything, is glorified when we magnify his attributes in our lives. Wow!....are you thankful yet?

## Parents' Night Out

Need a break from the kids? There will be a special Parents Day Out (PDO) from 9 a.m. to 3 P.m. on Saturday, December 14th. This is a great opportunity to leave your children in a safe environment while you get some Christmas shopping done. Remember, PNO and PDO are Youth Camp Fundraisers!

## Miscellaneous Announcements

- **Church Fellowship Meal :** Please join us December 1st for a Soup and Salad Lunch prepared by Karen.
- **Workers needed:** Workers are needed in a variety of ministries for the Lord at this local body. Check out the clipboards in the sanctuary foyer for details.
- **Need:** A lady in our community needs help in the home, 3 hours/3 days a week. Please see Rachela.
- **Need:** Family Bible study needs meals for Wednesday nights. Please talk to Jacky Daly.
- **Need:** The Music Ministry is in need of back-up sound technicians. Please see Ted.
- **Poinsettias Wanted:** Please bring in Poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season.

### Memory Verses for the Month:

- December 1<sup>st</sup> Give Generously: Proverbs 3: 9-10
- December 8<sup>st</sup> Develop World Vision: Acts 1: 8
- December 15<sup>th</sup> Develop World Vision Matt 28:19-20
- December 21<sup>st</sup> Review Week (last month)
- December 28<sup>th</sup> Review Week (Last Year)



## Praise the Lord!

What a privilege it was for our Church to participate in this life changing ministry once again.

A huge thank you to all who participated. Thank you for your generosity, time, and prayers. I truly believe that lives are changed on both sides of our shoeboxes. I know mine has! God has shown me that I need to dream bigger. I thought that setting a goal of 250 boxes for our Church was an ambitious goal. Little did I know that God would exceed that goal by 50 boxes! A special thank you to Leonard and Ted for lending their backs to pack up and transport all 300 shoeboxes from our church plus 115 boxes from our area churches. Thanks, too, to Bob for the use of his van.

Please join me in praying for all the children who will receive our 415 Tahoe boxes that they will receive the best gift of all, and that is knowing Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Joy in Jesus, Karen.

**Editor's Note:** Please submit anything you would like included in this publication to me no later than the 15th of the month. All feed back is appreciated. In Christ's service, Ted Beverage

## Here to Serve You:

**Elders:** Jeff Brumbach, Bob Daly, Leonard O'Malley, Mark Peterson, Pastor Paul Tracy, Gerry Wright

**Deacons/Deaconesses:** Susie Brumbach, Jacky Daly, Jerry Klosterboer, Bob Pavich, Kathy Pavich, Tootie O'Malley, Suzette Waite, Ted Beverage

**Church Staff:** Pastor Paul Tracy; Rachela Fazio, Women/Children's Ministries; Ted Beverage, Music Director

**Preschool Staff:** Beth Peterson, Director/Teacher. Teachers: Franca Tracy, Maria Arreola, Monica Chan. Teacher Assistants: Rosy Martinez and Maria Tracy.

# IN GOD WE TRUST

Tahoe Community Church  
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