

Tahoe Community Church

Notes, Announcements, Needs and Reminders

March 2018

Worshiping Together, Making Disciples, Reaching our World



He is Risen...

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

**Alleluia. Christ is Risen.
The Lord is Risen indeed. Alleluia.**

"The Angel said to the women, "do not be afraid, for I know you are looking for Jesus, who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. ..." Matthew 28:5-6

Holy Week Schedule

Sunday March 25th —Sunday April 1st

Palm Sunday: March 25th Regular Service Schedule

Good Friday: March 30th Service at 5:00 pm

Resurrection Sunday:

9:00 Sunday Morning Study Class

10:15 am Coffee/Fellowship time in the MPR

10:30 am Resurrection Celebration Service

Sunday Worship Schedule

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Study Classes
- 9:30 a.m. Praise Team Warm Up in Sanctuary
- 10:10 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship Time in MPR
- 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
(Nursery and Children's Church Available)
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Group in the MPR

Weekly Church Activities

- Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study Fellowship at Lakeside upstairs restaurant
- 8:30 a.m. Prayer Gathering
- 3:30 p.m. Awesome Kids
- 6:00 p.m. Praise Team Practice
- Thursday 9:00 a.m. Women's Morning Study
- 5:30 p.m. Women's Evening Study
- 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study



What We teach at Tahoe Community Church

Do you know what we teach at Tahoe Community Church? If you want to find out, Mondo will be leading a five week class during the Sunday Morning study time beginning March 4th.

Here is the topic outline:

Session 1: Intro to TCC (History)/"Why Membership?"

Session 2: Understanding God and the Trinity

Session 3: Understanding Salvation and the Church

Session 4: Understanding Angels and End Times

Session 5: Understanding our Spiritual Gifts/Stewardship

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!



Is it OK to be angry at God?

Mondo Gonzales, Pastor

One of the realities of our modern culture is the trend towards being open and transparent with our feelings. I hear stories from my parents that certain comments I have made to them in the past, they would never consider saying to their parents. In previous generations, respect towards our elders and silence were often the norm within family relationships. This newer tendency of openness, which often includes family counselors, is providing opportunities for healings of previous hurts to occur. Counselors often encourage us to vent or get our feelings out. We are told that it is not good to bottle things up, that we need to be open and honest no matter the content... that healing cannot come until we express ourselves, bluntly if necessary, to those we feel have wronged us. Yet, it should be realized that this direction towards speaking in ways that are casual and familiar to our earthly parents or elders has made inroads into the ways in which we communicate at times with our heavenly Father.

This is not surprising because so often we will look to the Bible to find justification for our current behaviors. It is common to hear people say that since Moses or Abraham argued with God, why shouldn't we? Weren't many of the psalms written with anger and accusations towards God for abandoning them? For example, the psalmist writes in 10:1, "Why O Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?" In 13:1, "How long O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?" Or Psalm 74:1, "Why have you rejected us forever O God? Why does your anger smolder against the sheep of your pasture?" It is easy to empathize with the emotional grief our spiritual ancestors felt when times were turbulent. During these difficult times, the writers expressed their heartfelt emotions through some serious accusations against God. God is accused of forgetting the plight of His children, being aloof or indifferent to their pain, ignoring them in their times of trouble, and rejecting those whom He promised to uphold by His mercy. Unfortunately, because these open and transparent prayers are written in the Bible, we have come to believe that these are prayers that we should imitate. However, we need to remember that just because the Bible contains the accurate record of a person's prayer or psalm, we need to take into consideration the whole counsel of God and whether God was pleased with their "honest accusations".

(Is it OK to be angry with God? Continued)

The Bible also records some serious accusations made by Job against God during his grievous trials. Just two examples will suffice. He says in 10:2-3, "I will say to God: Do not condemn me, but tell me what charges you have against me. Does it please you to oppress me, to spurn the work of your hands, while you smile on the schemes of the wicked?" Or in 27:2, "As surely as God lives who has taken away my justice, the Almighty who has made my soul bitter". In the midst of our pain or grief, we might be tempted to make accusations against God in anger similar to Job or the psalmists. In Job's case, we do see God's response to his accusations. God finally shows up in an intimidating storm and says to Job in 38:2, "Who is this who questions my wisdom with such ignorant words?" God then proceeds to ask him dozens of questions showing that Job is not as wise as he has been acting like. God again confronts Job in 40:2, "Do you still want to make your accusations against me to correct me? Let the one who rebukes me answer my questions!" Job recognizes that his anger and accusations towards God were ignorant and foolish. Job 42:1-6 reads, "Then Job replied to the LORD: 'I know that you can do anything, and no one can stop you. You asked, 'Who is this that questions my wisdom with such ignorance?' It is I-- and I was talking about things I knew nothing about, things far too wonderful for me. You said, 'Listen and I will speak! I have some questions for you, and you must answer them.' I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes. I take back everything I said, and I sit in dust and ashes to show my repentance."

There are legitimate reasons at times to be angry at other people because they do wrong us. We are instructed in these times to be angry but for us to not sin (Eph 4:26). Yet, we know that God has never wronged us and has infinitely greater wisdom for doing the things He does in our lives (Isiah 55:8-9). His goals are always good for His children (Rom 8:28) and we would do well to never make angry accusations against Him. Otherwise, we will just be showing our great ignorance similar to Job and risk God rebuking us for it. This understanding of the overall message of the book of Job and the rest of the Bible isn't meant to condemn us or for us to hide our feelings. In fact, the opposite is true.

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(Is it OK to be angry with God? Continued)

There are times when I have asked if anyone has ever "felt" that God let them down. Almost always people will say yes. Then I ask a similar question. How many of you know and believe that God has *actually* let you down. No one says yes to this question. This reveals to us that we are often in a battle between our feelings and truth. We need to embrace these feelings/emotions and submit them to the truth of God's Word and His character. However, God knows we are weak and times we think or voice our accusations against Him. When we repent of them, He is quick to forgive us. Here is a passage that I find extremely encouraging,

"¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. ¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; ¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. ¹⁵ The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field; ¹⁶ the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. ¹⁷ But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children-- ¹⁸ with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts. ¹⁹ The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his sovereignty rules over all."

(Psalm 103:11-19).

~Mondo



Congratulations to our Preschool!

Tahoe Douglas Christian Preschool is officially a 3 Star Center!

The Nevada Silver Stars Quality Rating and Improvement Scale program, administered by the Nevada Department of Education has awarded our Preschool 3 Silver Stars. This indicates that our Preschool is now meeting or exceeding High Quality Standards of Care. During our pre-assessment rating in February 2015 we were operating at a 1 Star level. This indicated that at that time we were meeting only the minimum child care licensing requirements, but that we were committed to quality improvement. Our Preschool has made significant quality improvements in all rating areas including Child Care Environment, Health and Safety, Policies and Procedures, Family and Community Partnerships, and Administration and Staff Development.

It is by God's grace that we have made these improvements in the midst of dramatic changes in Church leadership, substantial fluctuations in child enrollment and an extended time period of unusually high Preschool staff turnover. I am very pleased to say that we are now very blessed to have a stable staff of predominantly Christian Teachers who are committed to fulfilling the mission and ministry of the Preschool.

Our Woolies class (~18 mos to 3 years) is held in the main preschool classroom taught by Annie Preciado and Heather Knisley.

Our Lambs class (~3-4 years) is held in the annex classroom taught by Lauren Marshall and Isabella DeLallo.

Our Sheep class (Pre-K, ~4-5 years) will soon be held in the nursery classroom on a part-time basis taught by Theresa DeGraffenreid and other teachers as available. (When the Sheep class is not meeting separately they will continue to combine with the Lambs class.)

My husband, Thomas Tran continues to serve as the Preschool Office Manager and has also completed all necessary training and requirements to serve as a substitute teacher in any of the classes as needed.

We are so grateful for the support of the Church and so many individual Church members as we work together to meet the needs of the Preschool. A special Thank You to Don Huggins and George Waite who helped us to get our new half wall designed, built and installed in our Woolies classroom to meet Fire Marshall specifications.

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Children's Choir To Sing For Resurrection Sunday

Our Children's choir will be singing in church again on Sunday, April 1st. (Resurrection Sunday) Practices will be held every Saturday morning at 10:00 am in the worship center.

The Children's choir is open to all kids in grades 4 and up. We had all girls at the Christmas service, but it would be nice to have some boys in the choir! Please contact Christi Laremore or Suzette Waite for more information.



Church Directories

If you would like a copy of the latest Church Directory you may pick one up in the Sanctuary Foyer. If you would like one mailed or e-mailed to you please contact Ted in the Church Office.



Missionary News & Prayer

by Carol Borsos

For more details, and photos on missions, check out the bulletin board in the church lobby.

Mirco & Nada Andreev Macedonia and the Balkans

- Pray the Holy Spirit's work is wide spread in this part of the world and that God's laborers of His harvest are doing the work God has called them to do.
- The Women's Evangelization outreach is March 17th. Pray for those planning to attend that there are no hindrances, that those God is still calling to come will sign up, and that God's Truth is heard and accepted.
- Continue prayer for the two new church plants; Kriva Palanka and Aerodrom. Also, the new church among the Albanians in Skopje, capital city of Macedonia and Andreev's home town.
- Continue prayer for Aleksandar, who suffers from severe depression. No update as yet. Pray God breaks through to his heart and Aleksandar is counseled by God's people.

Tim & Susan Driscoll Japan/Currently on USA Home Assignment

- Tim and Susan will be visiting Tahoe Community Church Sunday, March 4th. Please make plans to be at church that Sunday and welcome them as part of our family. We support them financially and with prayer.
- They will continue to travel to their supporting churches for the month of March. Pray for travel mercies.
- Pray for all preparations and details for their return to Japan in June. Pray for financial support to be what is needed.
- Pray for their boys and the lives they live for Christ. Chad and Brenton are away in college and Joel is married, getting his pilot's license to become a missionary pilot.

Pastor Warris Pakistan with FMI

- A new evangelistic tool called "Snapshot Evangelism" was introduced last year in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Indonesia. They believe it has had a lot to do with the growth of churches and ministry sites. Teens and young adults have enjoyed learning how to build bridges for spiritual conversations using this simple and low-tech image-based tool.
- Pray for "Snapshot" training and those to be reached with it are in the path of God's people.

(Missionary News and Prayer Cont.)

- Pray for Pastor Warris as he oversees several churches as well as pasturing his home church. Pakistan is in the top 10 countries where persecution and discrimination against Christians is most severe.
- The February 15th update for Ahmed (name changed for safety) in Pakistan was not very encouraging. Ahmed is still able to stay at home with his family for his safety. Good thing as the court room became a place of violence as the prosecuting attorney verbally and physically attacking the defense attorney. This was with consent from the judge and the judge himself turned a blind eye and walked out of the court room. The defense attorney was treated at a hospital.
- Continue to pray for changes to blasphemy laws and that vigilantes would be brought to justice. Pray God would remove corrupt judges.

Ryan & Danielle Stauffer Lima, Peru

- Ryan is in his new role as "all-school Principal". Pray for God's leadership and wisdom in this role and his interaction with staff and students and their families.
- Continue praying for the interim director in his new position.
- The hiring of new teachers/staff for the 2018/2019 school year is in progress. Pray those hired will seek to glorify God in all they do and for a God glorifying second semester going on right now.
- Danielle heads a preschool ministry in their home with expatriate moms and their children. Pray this outreach opens up dialogue about the One True God and His Son Jesus Christ. Pray God's Word convicts and leads these women to a saving knowledge of Jesus.

(Preschool continued)

A special Thank You to Liz Cordero who continues to volunteer her time and expertise to help our Teachers meet their health and safety training requirements. A special Thank You to Karen Beverage and Kathy Pavich for all of their behind the scenes support and encouragement. A special Thank You to Ted Beverage who volunteers his time each week to provide a Music & Movement activity. And a Special Thank You to Mondo Gonzales for all of the time, energy and support he gives each week to overseeing the Preschool as we work to move the Preschool to a place of financial sustainability.

Thank you all for your prayers! Please continue to pray for our Preschool. Please pray for the continued stability of our Preschool Teachers, increased enrollment and stability of our Preschool families, and continued blessings as we work towards fulfilling our Mission and Ministry goals.

Sarah Tran



HOW CAN WE SHINE A LIGHT In a Dark and Fallen World?

When we focus on the news today, it can become very discouraging with all the negative stories. Where is the goodness and hope in a broken world that seems to be immersed in hardship and darkness? In the night before bed and right when you get up in the morning— focus on one thing: God. Choose to turn your attention to God's Word for truth, hope, and encouragement. Take time to balance the news of today with the Word of God. Quiet your heart before the Lord and read the following passages from the Bible:

"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." -John 16:33

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." -Matthew 5:14-16 (ESV)

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." -Romans 15:13 (ESV)

Here are a few ideas on how to be a light in your sphere of influence:

- Start and end your day reading the Word of God.
- Memorize God's promises.
- Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.
- Love your neighbor.
- Pray for people in your life.
- Pray for the world. Pray for our leaders.
- Pray for people who are oppressed.
- Share God's love with others.
- Give to those in need.
- Get involved in meeting a need.
- Show acts of kindness.
- Encourage those who are discouraged.
- Give the gift of love, peace, gentleness, patience, grace, kindness.

Add to this list and share God's love with those who need the Good News!

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Worry List

(From Our daily Bread Ministries)

Read Matthew 6:25-34
Matthew 6:34 ***"Therefore Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble on its own."***

I was worrying about a good few things as I sat in my car under a shady tree at lunchtime. Then a robin, with a fat worm dangling from its mouth, landed near my door and looked up at me. It was a vivid reminder of Jesus words in Matthew 6:25-26. ***"Do not worry about your life... Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store re away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable then they?"***

Years ago, in an article for the Denver Seminary magazine Focal Point, Paul Borden gave some helpful suggestions for worriers:

- **Start a Worry List.** Write down what you're worried about. The bills, Your Job. Your children, or grandchildren. Your health. The Future.
- **Turn Your Worry List into a Prayer List.** Ask the Lord to work in those situations you're concerned about. Pray specifically for your needs and depend on Him.
- **Turn Your Prayer List into an Action List.** If you receive insight on something you can do about your cares, do it. As we turn our worried into action, Borden says, "Paralyzing anxiety can be replaced by concern for the responsibilities of life."

Why not start right now?

What you have made a matter of prayer should cease to be a matter of care.

Used by permission. Daly Bread Ministries

Food and Clothing Donations

Since we are no longer operating the Food Pantry, Tahoe community Church is no longer accepting food and clothing donations. There any many other places in Lake Tahoe that will gladly take your donations such as: "The Attic," "Christmas Cheer," and "Barton's donation location."

Announcements

- **Fellowship Meal:** Join us on March 4th following our morning service for our next Church Fellowship Meal. Food will be Provided by Jacki Wright.

- **Deacon Ordination:** Tahoe Community Church will be ordaining Bill Kolstad and Jan Hurst as deacons as a part of our service on March 25th.

- **Special Fellowship Pot Luck:** There will be a pot luck lunch on March 25th to celebrate the ordination of our two new deacons.

- **Electronic Giving:** You can now donate to the church online at: Tahoecommunitychurch.org/giving

Scripture Memory Verses for February

- March 4th Psalm 16:11
- March 11th Psalm 34:3
- March 18th Nehemiah 8:8
- March 25th Luke 19:38



- **Prayer Gathering:** Acts 1:14 tells us that the disciples joined constantly in prayer. Following that example, our church gathers in prayer on Wednesday mornings at 8:30 am in the MPR. Everyone is welcome to join in.



Did you know that TCC had a room during the service for families?

Yes we do! It's our Multi-Purpose Room! Every Sunday morning the 10:30 am service is played on a large TV in the MPR. This room is open to anyone with small children who want to see the service without feeling like they are a distraction to other worshipers.

Keep in mind that this still a room for worship, and casual conversations and distracting activities should be saved for later.

Here to Serve You:

Elders: Jeff Brumbach, Bob Daly, Mondo Gonzales, Leonard O'Malley

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

Church Staff: Mondo Gonzales, Pastor; Ted Beverage, Music Director

Preschool Staff: Sarah Tran, Director/Teacher. Teachers: Lauren Marshall, Theresa DeGraffenreid, Annie Preciado
Teacher Assistants: Heather Krisley and Isabella DeLallo. Office Manager: Thomas Tran

IN GOD WE TRUST



P.O. Box 6598
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