

Tahoe Community Church

Notes, Announcements, Needs and Reminders
July 2019

Worshiping Together, Making Disciples, Reaching our World



The Incredible Race **READY, SET, GO!** It's a Vacation Bible School like no other!

Kids will race from continent to continent uncovering clues and attempting challenges as they fill their score cards.

They'll also discover that, no matter where we live, what shade of skin we have, or what language we speak, we are all part of the same race—the human race—and all part of the same family from Adam and Eve.

As they examine the events surrounding the tower of Babel, kids will learn that God is calling people from every tribe and nation through his Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. And that he wants us to share this good news in kindness and love with our neighbors nearby and far away.

**Coming to Tahoe Community Church
July 29th through August 2nd**

Mark your calendars and get ready to race!

Please be praying about how to get the word out!

Contact Jacky Daly to see how you can take part!

Jackydaly@AOL.com

Sunday Worship Schedule

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

Weekly Church Activities

- Wednesday 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study Fellowship at Lakeside upstairs restaurant
 - 8:30 a.m. Prayer Gathering
 - 9:30 a.m. Knitting Group
 - 5:00 p.m. Praise Team Practice
 - Thursday 9:00 a.m. Women's Study
(Resumes on September 5th)
 - 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study
- Please see our Church website for specific Bible Study Topics



The Praise Team on June 23rd, 2019



Is Prayer Conservative? Liberal? Independent?

Mondo Gonzales, Pastor

Several weeks ago there was a firestorm of controversy surrounding a pastor who prayed for President Trump. Yes, it's true. A pastor was condemned pretty harshly by some for praying for the President at their church service. I remember being quite shocked at the time at how any Christians would allow themselves to be upset over a relatively simple but Biblical prayer. My hope and prayer is that here at TCC we always speak the love in truth (Eph 4:15), but seasoned with compassion and edification (Eph4:29). I was going to write an article on the circumstances behind all this in case you hadn't seen the news, but this article came into my inbox this week. It didn't list who the author was, but it was a solid perspective. Put yourself in the shoes of the pastor who was trying to please God, but also sensitive to the various political viewpoints of the church members. How would you have responded?

~Mondo

(see article below)

Imagine being pastor of a church on a Sunday afternoon. The services have gone pretty much as usual, and now you are enjoying an afternoon of worship music in the sanctuary. A staff member crouches down next to you and says, "The president just pulled up outside and is asking for you to pray for him and for the victims of the Virginia Beach shooting." The shooting is the May 31 incident in which twelve people were mercilessly gunned down at the Virginia Beach Municipal Center. After you picked your jaw up off the ground at the bizarre circumstance of the most powerful man in the world rolling into your visitor parking, how would you respond?

This is essentially the situation that presented itself to David Platt, pastor of McLean Bible Church in Vienna, Virginia. During a Sunday on which there had been a nationwide call for prayer for President Trump within the nation's churches, the man himself showed up asking to be prayed over. And Platt responded exactly as I would have expected him to—he brought the president before the church and prayed for him. Unfortunately, that choice has caused him grief within his own congregation and in the greater Christian community.

I was immediately drawn in by this story. First, because my wife and I attended McLean Bible Church for 24 years. When you are part of a church

for that long, you will always have a "family" connection. The event also intrigued me because it emphasized so strongly the political divide within the nation and even within the church. There are many evangelical Christians who love Donald Trump. They see the validity of many of his policies and the support he gives to Israel. They can't help but see him as the man God has appointed for the times. There are also many in the church who cringe at the roughness of the president's character and are greatly concerned about his approach toward minorities and the disadvantaged. In their minds, a pastor bringing President Trump onto a church stage is tantamount to giving a blessing to all the negatives they see in the man.

Let me be clear: my purpose here is neither to affirm this particular president nor condemn him. The pros and cons of the man are irrelevant to the issue. The concern I have is with Christians condemning a pastor for praying for a president. I would have this same unease if these were conservative Christians berating David Platt for praying over President Barack Obama, as I'm sure some would. If the leader of the world's most powerful nation asks a pastor to pray for him, what would you have him do? Turn him down? Tell him, "Until you clean up your act, I will not pray for you"? The apostle Paul writes to his protégé, Timothy, **"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness" (1 Timothy 2:1-2)** As Christians, we have a responsibility to pray for leaders, whether we agree with their politics or not.

Not all the responses were negative. Many watched the actions of Pastor Platt and read his subsequent statement with understanding and respect for the way he handled an extremely unusual situation. But the most vocal ones definitely picked their sides. There are some who say Pastor Platt should have simply prayed for the president backstage or in his office. They claim that bringing him onstage implied support for Trump's character and his policies. Others from the opposite side are taking issue with Platt's follow-up statement. They assert that he is too apologetic of the course he took.

Anyone can have their opinion of what a pastor could or should have done. But here is where we need to show grace. Remember the situation that Platt faced. Out of the blue, the president of the United States and his entourage pulled up to his church. I think we can forgive him having to make an on-the-spot decision—and I believe his instincts were good. The president asked for prayer. Out of obedience to God and respect for Trump's position, Platt honored his request. For that, he deserves our appreciation and affirmation.

Worship Team In Transition

By Ted Beverage

Ecclesiastes 3:1 "There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under Heaven."

After 11 years and approximately 590 worship services, my "season" as worship leader has come to a close. I knew when I started that sooner or later God would call someone else to lead worship, and he did, Allie Jones. Allie is a great talent and a young woman dedicated to serving the Lord. I look forward to watching the Lord work through her.

My primary job now is office administration. I have taken the spiritual gift test several times and I always come up strongest in the gift of Administration. Coincidence? I don't think so. I believe God has placed me where I can be of the most use to his church at this time. However, you will still be seeing me on stage from time to time playing xylophone and some of my other various "toys."

I am pleased to inform you that most of the team pictured on the front cover will continue to serve in the music ministry. God has supplied us with a very talented group of musicians and vocalists and I am convinced He will supply more as the need arises.

I wish to thank everyone who has supported me over the years and all those whom I have had the pleasure of working with. I especially want to thank Karen for supporting me and running video for the last nine years. It has been a great adventure!

Continuing to serve the Lord,

Ted



Meet Our New Worship Leader

Allie Jones

One of my favorite sounds in the world is the bride of Christ lifting up their voices in unity to worship their Father in heaven. I believe that our praise & song are

also one of God's favorite sounds... and I love being able to partner with the church in bringing that melody to His ears!

I was raised as a pastor's oldest daughter living in various places including Oregon, Illinois, & Washington state. I have loved ministry and been involved in the church from a young age. From teaching at Vacation Bible School to leading worship at my youth group, using my gifts in a church setting has always been a part of my life. After my third concussion rendered me incapable of playing soccer year round in high school, I turned to music. Soon after, I knew that God was showing me a newfound passion in worship & song. I began to lead worship occasionally on Sundays and eventually managed and led our youth worship as well.

I attended Azusa Pacific University in Los Angeles where I received my B.A. in Biblical Studies in 2018. Throughout those years, I still practiced leading worship in several capacities and continued to lead mentorship groups and bible studies. Some of my academic interests include *women in the biblical tradition* and *early Christian origins*. I published my first book titled "Dear Sarah" written as a *big sister* guide for girls going into High School in 2018, and I plan to continue pursuing writing.

Some of my hobbies include world travel, social media & blogging, and *learning* just about anything! In 2018, God blessed me with the most amazing husband & life partner, Christopher Jones. Christopher and I had the joy of doing a four month long European adventure traveling to various countries in the first part of 2019.

Now we are so excited to be a part of the family of Tahoe Community Church and see God's works continue!



Women's Kayak Camping Trip

@ Emerald Bay Boat Campground

Monday, 7/15/19 to Wednesday, 7/17/19

An Awesome, Godly Adventure for Women

Ladies, if you have Questions or to Sign-Up contact:
Suzette Waite @ 775-790-2224
hairbysuzette@yahoo.com



Preschool News New and Exciting Changes:

Sarah Tran, Director

A NEW BIG A MOTTO

Tahoe Douglas Christian Preschool was established as a licensed Preschool and Childcare in 1981 to serve a need in our community of providing early childhood education to children in a Christian environment, but the ministry of providing Christian education actually began in 1977 when Tahoe Community Church was first founded. It all started with the Big A Club and the Big A Motto: ***"You shall love the Lord your God with ALL your heart, with ALL your Soul, and with ALL your mind."* Matthew 22:37**

This motto (also known as the Greatest commandment) has been an important part of daily activities in the Preschool for the past 38 years!!! There are references to the Greatest commandment or to the second that is like it in all four gospels. This summer for the first time we have introduced the children to the Luke version of the Big A Motto that includes both commandments: ***"You shall love the Lord your God with ALL your heart, with ALL your Soul, with ALL your strength, and with ALL your mind, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."* Luke 10:27**

It has been exciting to see how quickly the children memorized the Luke version and we may keep that as our permanent Big A Motto going forward.

IMPROVED CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS

For the past two years the Preschool has voluntarily participated in the Nevada Department of Education's Silver Stars program, a quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) designed to raise the quality and improve Preschools in Nevada. As part of that program we received \$6000 in federal grant money that was used to purchase furniture and materials to raise the quality of the Preschool environment. At our first assessment in December 2017 we were awarded a 3-star high quality rating. Our next assessment will occur sometime before December 2019. We hope to be assessed mid fall when we will have the best chance of maintaining or improving our 3-star rating.

UPCOMING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Maintaining and improving upon the quality of the Preschool environment has often been a challenge with low staff numbers and frequent turnover in staff. However, the ongoing challenge of low

staffing has brought a surprising blessing. When the Preschool finances were separated from the Church finances almost two years ago, we planned a budget for a fully staffed Preschool. As a result of low staffing the Preschool has been operating under budget and now has enough savings to consider making capital improvements in the Preschool classrooms. These improvements are still in the planning stage but we hope to have new flooring and freshly painted rooms by the end of the Summer. We also hope to make some improvements to the Preschool playgrounds.

GREAT SUMMER CAMPS

In the midst of all of this the Preschool is still operating year round, 10 hours a day, 5 days a week and a lot of our time and energy is invested in offering a high quality Summer Camp program to our Preschoolers and children up to age 12. This summer we have a series of week-long camps including: Dance Camp, Science Camp, Pirate Camp, Circus Camp, Red, White & Blue Camp, Cooking Camp, Dinosaur Camp, Summer Olympics, Drama Camp, Art Camp, Nature Camp and Space Camp. During the Camps each week we are also introducing the children to many of the Bible Heroes. The Heroes this summer include: Joshua, Gideon, Samson, Ruth, Hannah, Elijah, Elisha, the servant Girl who helped Naaman, Josiah, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Daniel.

PLEASE KEEP US IN PRAYER!!! And HELP US RECRUIT MORE TEACHERS!!!

Thank you for all of your prayers! In the midst of changes and challenges I know that it is only the grace of God and all of your prayers that sustains us. To quote Alfred Lord Tennyson: *"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of: Wherefore, let thy voice, rise like a fountain for me night and day."* I am certain it is your prayers that brought us our wonderful current teaching staff. We still have all of our dedicated teachers who were honored during our May Teacher Appreciation Sunday (Theresa DeGraffenreid, Katie Oliver, Bonni Leon, Anne Norman, and Thomas Tran). We are also very excited to welcome Adele Kopp, one of the CRU missionaries to our teaching staff for the next six weeks!! We are still in need of two assistant teachers for fall. Please pray, help us recruit and spread the word!!!

Sarah Tran

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19"



Safety Team Notes

By Matthew Petty

Good people,
Thank you for giving the Safety Team some of your time after church on 6/9/2019. It was important to share

with the congregation some of our more urgent issues. For those who were unable to make it; here is a quick recap of what we discussed:

The TCC Safety Team assesses potential events within the spectrum of attack in terms of their "probability" and "consequences." For example, the probability that vandalism or theft will take place at the church is relatively high, but the consequence may be relatively low. The other extreme, a violent attack such as an active shooter situation is less probable, but the consequences could be devastating. The most effective safety programs are those capable of assessing potential events in terms of both probability and consequence and using assessment as a basis for designing and employing adequate force protection measures to minimize the consequences.

In response to an active shooter situation in the church, or other violent attack, we are recommending that people **"run, hide or fight."** In the sanctuary, during services, there is no place to run to. The safety team is asking that everyone **hide** by getting as low as possible as quickly as possible, even if you just lay over on the row of chairs. The floor is best if you can get down there. This serves to remove potential targets from the field of view and allows the Safety Team to **Fight** and engage the threat. Safety Team members will yell at you to "get down!" We want to minimize collateral damage and injury to the extent possible. It is important to stay down until the Safety Team gives the all-clear after confirming the problem has been contained.

After the critical incident has concluded, triage will begin and first aid will be given to those in need until the arrival of Police and EMS. An AED and a mass casualty bleeding control kit is located in the Narthex behind the sound booth. Let's pray together that none of this is ever needed at TCC.

Four good follow-up questions were asked:

Q - If other visitors or congregants are present that happen to be armed, what should they do?

A – **Please stay out of it** unless asked to assist or circumstances leave no other option but to assist. Safety Team members have been vetted, trained and identified to local law enforcement. There is a plan in place. Unscheduled and unanticipated assistance could lead to disaster.

Q – Elderly and/or disabled people may have trouble getting on the floor, what do they do?

A – Lay over on the seats in the row and get your head and torso below the backs of the chairs, making yourself the smallest target possible and clearing the room/airspace above the chairs.

Q – Will the greeters get further training on how to assess and respond to potential threats as they arrive at church?

A – Yes. The greeters or those outside the sanctuary will be the first to recognize a potential problem. We are working on procedures for this including techniques to assess visitors and people that may be suspicious or in distress. Adding the ability to monitor and participate in the service from the Narthex is important to this effort and is in process.

Q – There are five buildings on campus. The bathroom in the Nursery is not yet adequate for shelter-in-place purposes. What do people do that are not in the sanctuary, in the event of an emergency?

A – Our communications capabilities are being upgraded to connect all five buildings together and adding the ability for anyone in an auxiliary building to contact the sound booth or the church office. Physical security upgrades, including CCTV surveillance cameras are being installed. The Safety Team is working on an Emergency Response Plan that will cover these issues, including the preschool, which is in session all week.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service and remember: **RUN – HIDE - FIGHT**

VBS Items Needed

The following items are need for VBS:

- Top Hat
- Stuffed Llama
- Traditional flowered teapot and cup
- South American style woven blanket
- Potted plantsvat least three feet high

Please contact Nina Brox or if you can supply any of these items.



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

- During June we were able to pray for many summer events, outreaches, camps and trainings. Pray for gospel seeds planted by the Holy Spirit would grow into Christian maturity.
- Pray for those who were baptized in June to rise up in faithfulness to our Lord.
- Continued prayers for God to save the newly elected socialist president of Macedonia and other government officials.
- July 8 prayer gathering in Skopje of all pastors and leaders of the churches in Macedonia.
- July 22-28 a camp with Royal rangers.
- July 28-31 mostly Roma teens with a group of Korean and Skopje teens gather for translation study.
- Every Saturday gatherings and services for the migrants take place in Vranje. Pray for God's saving grace in salvation.
- Pray for all the churches that have been planted and are ongoing in the Balkan countries to honor our Lord by preaching God's truth faithfully, to worship in spirit and truth, and to make disciples.

Central Asian Family

- Both J & H desire ability to manage time well and allow the Spirit to lead. Also, patience and faithfulness with disciples. For opportunities and ability in sharing God's story. Patience and endurance in language learning.
- Purpose in their work and times of rest and time for life giving hobbies (they have been enjoying biking).
- Protection from any of the enemies plans.
- J desires wisdom and discernment as he starts a sandwich business to provide disabled and like-minded people with job opportunities and ownership.
- The boys are sleeping better. PTL. Salvation for both.
- Big E to have good friends; time with his teacher is going very well.
- Baby E is teething and has a re-occurring rash/infection. Pray God would heal it completely.
- J asks for wisdom in disciplining big E.

- Pray the Spirit causes breakthroughs in God's Truth in the hearts of the lost. Those who started reading God's word will continue and persevere. Pray for salvation and obedience for them. Pray J & H sowing the gospel extravagantly while investing deeply in those they already have.

Tim & Susan Driscoll, Japan

To view readings from Susan & see photos go to <http://memoirsofamissionarymom.blogspot.com>

- Prayers for travel mercies and blessed time with family while in the US. Son Joel graduated June 22, in Spokane and son Brenton and bride, Debbie's wedding July 12 in Nashville.
- Pray for OMF missionaries and Japanese believers to be better equipped and more intentional about discipleship in Japan.
- Praise God for a good pastor at their first church plant in Hokkaido, north island.
- Continued prayers for pastor Yusuke and congregation of Saitama International Church; submission to new leadership and unity. No problems reported.
- Ask God to show Tim & Susan a local church near their home where they can worship and serve.
- Pray for Tim's hope to start tennis lessons or join a gym to try and meet Japanese.
- Pray for Tim and Susan to have God appointed meetings and friendships.
- Susan will oversee short term workers coming from the UK in July. She is also working on a schedule for a team coming in December.
- Continued prayers for Miho battling cancer and her encouragement to others of God's hope, strength and love.

Ryan & Danielle Stauffer, in transition

The Stauffer's returned to the US in June. Praise God He has guided every step as they leave Peru. They have sold everything and will come with practically nothing. Pray for God's continued provisions for this family. So far the whole process has felt unusually smooth. They are staying with the Daly's in South Lake Tahoe while their new house in Fernley, NV is move-in ready. Pray they stay healthy during all the chaos.

Ryan's teaching position starts in August. Pray for encouragement and wisdom from God and others at the school. **(Continued on the next page)**



Missionary News Continued

- Pray for Ryan's students and relationships to build right away and for opportunities to sow gospel seeds.
- Pray for their marriage and raising their daughters in God's truth amidst

getting re-settled in the USA.

- Pray for the TCC family to welcome them and take time for conversation and how we can care for them during this season of transition.

Pastor Warris, Pakistan

Message from pastor's Warris and Aziz; "Thank you for praying, you encourage us very much".

When believers gather at one site, Muslims in community try to intimidate asking prayers and worship to stop. Pray God would grant peace during their worship.

Pray God would provide Warris's church with a power generator as electrical power failures are very frequent. Pakistan has a load shedding policy with daily rolling blackouts. Type of generator needed costs \$220. If anyone would like to help please contact Carol Borsos for how to give directly to FMI.

A prayer request was sent out in May for pastor Aziz when he and his family were attacked in their home. Aziz pastors 3 congregations and engages in pioneer evangelism near the border with Iran. He and pastor Warris are close friends.

Update from pastor Aziz: the national director for FMI-Pakistan, Nehemiah, spent 2 recent visits with Aziz and his family. He was impressed with Aziz's focus on ministry in the midst of chaos of losing their home and all possessions except the clothes on their backs. The family has a temp. house in a new community. Aziz's wife's foot (injured in the attack) is not in good condition yet and must visit a doctor/clinic daily to get bandages changed. Thank you for cont. prayers for this family. Pray that his church members would not succumb to fear and that they would demonstrate great care for their pastor.

Higher "Education" Versus the Genesis Flood By Bill Kolstad



Did God really say he created all things in six days? Does He actually admit to destroying all life on land in judgement of sin less than 2,000 years later? Must Christians in general and students in particular, learn to defend scripture from such claims as "there is no evidence for a global flood?" Come see how fascinating Christian or biblical apologetics can be when these big challenges are applied to visible evidence in the Sierra Nevada region!

A three day sequence next month will explore these big controversies in light of 21st century tools and technology. Everything from diamonds to dinosaur fossils will be re-examined when the 20th century notion of geologic time is put on trial beginning Friday evening July 19th at Lake Tahoe, continuing Saturday afternoon at the Nevada State Museum with displays of plate tectonics and the fossil evidence and concluding Sunday morning back at Tahoe Community Church with author Dennis Petersen starting at our 9 AM Sunday School class and finishing from the pulpit with a "search the scriptures to see if these things be true."

Contact for further details; Bill.Kolstad@gmail.com or (775) 901-0860

New Round Tables



Three new round tables were donated to the church for the High Tea event and are now available for any church function.

VBS Volunteer Meeting

There will be a meeting for all VBS volunteers on Sunday July 21st after church in Fellowship Hall. Please bring salad bar items to share.

Announcements

- **Fellowship Meal:** Our next fellowship meal will be July 7th after church. This will be a Youth fundraiser. Please come and help our youth get to camp.

- **Save the Date:** September 19, 6:00pm at Sierra Community Church for "Adams Road Ministry", a presentation of music and testimony.

- **Church E-mail list:** If you are not receiving church e-mails and would like to, please contact Ted.

- **VBS Volunteer Meeting:** Sunday July 21st after church in Fellowship Hall

- **Church Baptism and Picnic:** Our annual baptism and picnic will be on August 11th after church at Nevada Beach. Look for more information to follow.

Scripture Memory Verses for May

- July 7th 1 Samuel 17:45
- July 14th Psalm 8:4
- July 21st Mark 5:36
- July 28th Hebrews 6:11



Please Collect Shoebox Stuff!

By Karen Beverage

When you are out shopping please consider picking up a few items for our annual OCC Shoebox packing party. This is what we need:

Spiral notebooks
Crayons
Pencil sharpeners
Toothbrush
Beanie babies
Toy jewelry

Coloring books
Pencils/colored pencils
Mild soap/washcloths
Brush/comb/hair clips
Tennis balls/hot wheel cars
Plastic tumbler

Donations of any or all of these items will be greatly appreciated for our packing party on November 16th. We also need monetary donations to cover the shipping cost of \$9 per box.

Items can be dropped off at the church or to Karen at any time. Please label your donation OCC if dropped at the church.

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, Bill Kolstad, Jan Hurst

Church Staff: Mondo Gonzales, Pastor; Allie Jones, Worship Leader, Ted Beverage, Office Administrator

Preschool Staff: Sarah Tran, Director/Teacher. Teachers: Theresa DeGraffenreid, Katie Oliver
Teacher Assistants: Bonni Leon, Anne Norman. Office Manager/Teacher: Thomas Tran

IN GOD WE TRUST



**Tahoe
Community
Church**

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