

Tahoe Community Church

Notes, Announcements, Needs and Reminders

October 2019

Worshiping Together, Making Disciples, Reaching our World

VBS 2019 "The Amazing Race"

I included some photos in the last newsletter. Here are a few more I thought you would enjoy



Above: Bill Kolstad with the daily "Creature Feature"



Left: Mondo, Angela teach 5th & 6th grade



Below: Emily and "Speedy" teach 1st & 2nd grade

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

Preschool in Session 7:30a-5:30p

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

Life Groups as scheduled

Thursday 9:00 a.m. Women's Study

The Navigators 555 Guide



5 minutes a day

If you're not used to reading the Bible daily, start with this easy to use 5 minutes a day. This reading plan will take you through all 260 chapters of the New Testament, one chapter per day. The Gospels are read throughout the year to weave in the story of Christ all year long.

5 days a week

Determine a time and location to spend 5 minutes a day for 5 days a week. It is best to have a consistent time and a quiet place where you can regularly meet with the Lord.

5 ways to dig deeper

Pause in your reading to dig into the Bible. Below are 5 different ways to dig deeper each day. These exercises will encourage meditation.

(Continued on page 4)



Cynthia Merrill Resorts to Tahoe Missions

In lieu of a pastoral article this month, we have

this special "flashback" article from the Home Missions magazine dated October 1977.

Note: This article has been edited to fit our format

By Celeste Loucks
HMB Staff

South Lake Tahoe, NV—In the distance came the muffled roar of a white boat cutting through stark blue water. LAKE Tahoe lapped against warm gray boulders where a bronzed woman basked in the sun.

Sitting on a rock across from her—barefoot and wearing a cotton sundress—was Cyndi "Tootie" Merrill.

The conversation between Merrill and sunbather Gale Stevens drifted from Steven's job as a resort masseuse, to Estes Park, Colo., where Steven's used to live, to the snow cross marking a mountain that overlooks Lake Tahoe.

Merrill 24, and single, was making a church visit. Her style was low key. And in the course of conversation, she gave witness to her Christianity.

Merrill is a semester missionary and associate director of Tahoe Resort Ministries (TRM), a special mission ministry which circles the deep lake straddling the California-Nevada border.

For a year, Merrill worked with Campus Crusade in Hawaii. "I wanted to go away as a missionary," she admitted. But after talking with Sam Worley, director of TRM, Merrill, who grew up in the Tahoe area reconsidered. "Sam told me, 'Tootie, I think your mission field is in your back yard.

Note: Tootie is a founding member of Tahoe Community Church and Sam Worley was its first Pastor.

Merrill's mission field consists of many young people, often singles like herself. Both her nickname and her ministry in the transient Tahoe area, reflect Merrill's tugboat tenacity.

Church prospects and members include people from every aspect of a community built on resort and gambling income: blackjack dealers, photographers, waitresses, entertainers, and club security guards. Wedged between a sidewalk café and professional offices in the round Hill shopping mall, the church is as unorthodox as its people.

And, she admitted, "we've just trusted the Lord to bring the people. It hasn't been the usual way. It surprises me ho God brings them here."

As an example, Merrill said, "I'd been praying for about six months that the Lord would bring me several single women my age." Hoping to begin a Bible study, Merrill prayed, and after awhile, two girls passing the "church" saw the sign. "They said they knew right then that this was the church they wanted to go to.

Now, on Wednesday afternoon, these two girls-blackjack dealers-and several others working in and around the casinos, meet at Round Hill. "We have a lot of baby Christians," she said. "Some do not know how to pray, that's why we decided to have a discipling class." Referring to steps toward Christian maturity. Merrill and her sister, Suzanne, study the Bible and field questions popped by the new Christians.

Because the class member's work hours are subject to change, the discipling classes meet according to a flexible schedule. Theological discussions and prayer often extend past 10:00pm.

With instant smile and gregarious manner, Merrill also has made friends with several of the merchants and shoppers at the mall.

As she walks through the mall, people wave. A young boy munching on a doughnut called "hi" from a balcony. An artist/merchant greeted Merrill with a hug.

When Merrill discovered that the artist's husband was ill, she and the "church" prayed for him. Merrill also visited him at the hospital.

The work around Tahoe could be discouraging. "People aren't really committed around here," confessed Merrill. "They sort of wander in and wander out. Tahoe is so transient,"

Yet she has taken time to cultivate individuals and watch Christian growth. An example is Carla. On the job, Carla, who is petite and 25, wears a black costume with a red rose-working as a photographer at one of the casinos.

Merrill met with Carla, prayed for her, called her on the telephone, and supplied her with scriptures when Carla ran into difficulties.

Finally, Carla told Merrill. "I've been so excited. I realize that Christ would never leave me or forsake me."

"For the first time," said Merrill, "Carla wanted to share with others. She was ready to pass her love of Christ on to others."

Wow! Great job Tootie! Mathew 25:21 came to mind when I was typing this article "**His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! ... Come and share your master's happiness!'"**



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 Skopje, Macedonia and the Balkins

Our support for this ministry is far reaching. Recently we heard from several of the churches and what the Lord has been doing. Included are just a few;

- Pray for the missions team at the Negotino Church as they travel to Kavadarci, reaching out to the people, meeting in their homes, establishing friendships, and inviting them to events. The vision is a new church plant in Kavadarci.

- The church in Resen, Macedonia reaching out in the same way to the people of Demir Hisar seeking to plant a church there. As well as the church in Tetovo is reaching out to their nearby town of Gostivar. Several families in these towns live in poor conditions and the missions teams would like to provide wood for heating for the coming winter, showing Christ's love.

- The new Bogdanci Church has established regular Sunday services, teaching for children, and a Thursday prayer meeting where people can encounter God and experience His Goodness and mercy.

- People in the town of Radovish agree with the Gospel preached and are open and friendly. Pray for God's guidance to plant a church there.

- Pray God would change hearts and add new people among the Iranian migrants to the fellowship at the church in Vranje.

- Pray for planting a church among the migrants.

- Praise our Lord for brothers and sisters in Christ already among them.

Central Asian Family

We are praising our Lord that He provided for them to buy a house. They have now bought it. Pray for God's continued provisions moving in and getting settled.

Pray the owner of the neighboring vacant lot would be willing to sell to us for a good price.

- J desires patience and wisdom as he develops leaders for the sandwich business.

- Pray for us to find a person of peace (Matt 10, Luke 10) in our new community.

- Pray for A & her husband A who are receiving physical therapy help from H. for their daughter. Pray they have open hearts.

- Pray for the leaders J & H are developing to bear much fruit, as they meet weekly to learn how to make disciples.

Tim & Susan Driscoll, Tokyo, Japan

We long for there to be a great harvest of souls in Japan. This means not just missionaries going to Japan but that God would raise up Japanese Christians as harvest workers. Pray for boldness to step out and be different with a strong faith to count the cost of Jesus being worth everything to them.

Continue praying for the difficult situation with an OMF related church. That truth would be spoken and wisdom to know the role God wants the Driscolls to play. Pray for unity, godly attitudes and words.

Tim is part of training Japanese believers in evangelism. Training took place September 29th. Pray people are willing to share the message of Jesus to their friends. Pray more churches would desire to have this training at their church.

English classes are another avenue to build relationships with non-Christians. At the end of each English class a one-point Bible lesson is taught. Pray more Japanese Christians desire to learn how to share God's Word with non-Christians at these English classes.

Continue praying for a church home for the Driscoll's.

Pastor, FMI-Asia

Tahoe Community Church recently sent the full amount needed for a new generator for Pastor W. This will be a great help when electricity goes out for 12 hours at a time.

God has fortified Pastor W. in his ministry across multiple congregations now totaling 250 people. By mid-year 15 people placed their faith in Jesus Christ and 16 people were baptized. Seven church members were trained in evangelism and three they witnessed to have new life in Christ.

(Continued on page 4)



Missionary News (Continued)

Pastor W. helped and exceeded FMI's expectations with Church Security & Crisis Response even though his own place of service needed the generator.

Continue praying for the Lord's provision and guidance for Pastor W.'s adult children as they attend university.

The family of A. are now in the eastern part of the USA and getting settled.

Continue praying for the FMI board as they meet to discuss budget and proposals for the coming year.



Its Operation Christmas Child shoebox packing time!

By: Karen Beverage

Our annual opportunity to live out the Great Commission, by sending Gospel Opportunities throughout the world. Remember that each shoebox we pack gives one more child the chance to learn about Jesus.

A couple things to remember as you shop for and pack your boxes:

- Please don't use the plastic boxes from the dollar store. At my training meeting we learned that they do not hold up to shipping and often they are broken before they get to the processing center.
- Include a "wow" item, something special so when the recipient of your box opens it they will say "Wow!"
- Toothpaste and candy should not be included.

We have had two members of our Northern Nevada Team go on distributions with OCC and both came home with stories of how bars of soap and letters with a photo were the most appreciated items in the boxes.

The most important thing to put into our boxes is our prayers and God's love. If we don't put them in, how can they come out and bless these children?

Shoebox Drive Kick-off: Sunday October 20

Shoebox Packing Party: Saturday November 16, 1:30

Note: We already have items for 220 boxes!

Shoebox Dedication: Sunday November 17

Why \$9?

A donation of \$9 per shoebox gift is critical for Operation Christmas Child. It provides for:



Ready to make your \$9 donation online?

Give now to Follow Your Box and discover the destination of your shoebox gift.

Every shoebox needs a \$9 donation to provide for collecting, processing, shipping, and other project costs. If you make this donation online, you can Follow Your Box and receive a special label. Attach the label to your shoebox, and use our Look-up Tool to find out the country where your box will be delivered with the message of Christ's love. Find all information @ samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child

The Navigator's 555 Guide (Continued)

- Try a single idea for a week to find what works best for you. Remember to keep a pen and paper ready to capture God's insights.
- Underline or highlight key words or phrases in the Bible passage. Use a pen or highlighter to mark new discoveries from the text.
- Put it in your own words. Read the passage or verse slowly, then rewrite each phrase or sentence using your own words.
- Ask and answer questions. Questions unlock new discoveries and meanings. Ask questions about the passage using these words: who, what, why, when, where, or how. Jot down your answers to these questions.
- Capture the big idea. God's Word communicates big ideas. Periodically ask: What's the big idea in this sentence, paragraph, or chapter?
- Personalize the meaning. Respond as God speaks to you through the Scriptures. Ask: How could my life be different today as I respond to what I'm reading?



Off to a Good Start!

Sarah Tran, Director

Our new Preschool year is off to a wonderful start! We are blessed with so many wonderful teachers. We were very excited

to celebrate Teacher Theresa's two year anniversary here at the Preschool and Teacher Bonni's one year anniversary this September. We look forward to celebrating Teacher Katie's one year anniversary in November and Teacher Tom's three year anniversary this coming January. We were also very excited to welcome a new teacher this Fall, Teacher Misha, who is assisting in our Lambs class.

It is such a blessing to start the new Preschool year with such a strong teaching staff. Thank you for all of your prayers that God would bring more teachers to the Preschool!!

Please continue to pray and help us in recruiting high quality Christian teachers. We still have a great need for at least one and preferably two more teachers to join us in this Preschool ministry.

Providing a year-round, full-day, high-quality Preschool program becomes very challenging when we have teaching positions that remain unfilled. We are so blessed to have dedicated teachers who continually rise to the occasion to meet those unmet needs with flexibility, grace, and endurance. We have faith that God will fill those remaining positions in His perfect timing.

Meanwhile we are grateful that the past two years of unfilled teaching positions has provided the Preschool with a financial surplus. After much prayer and consideration it was decided that **a portion of that surplus would be set aside to begin building an endowment fund** that could help to meet Preschool needs in future lean years. The remainder is being used for current capital improvements. We are very pleased with the **new floors that have been installed in both the Kids Zone (Sheep class) and the Discovery Zone (Lambs class)** with this surplus and we look forward to having **a new floor installed in the main Preschool room (Woolies class) as well.** We are also **pleased that the financial surplus will enable the Preschool to contribute significantly to the new roof** that is going to be put on the Kids Zone this year. The planning and implementation of these wonderful improvements have significantly increased the Preschool's administrative tasks.

It has been such a blessing to have Ted Beverage, who is now serving as the Church Office Administrator take on a more active role in managing the Preschool. Ted has served as the Preschool bookkeeper for many years and has always made himself available to meet Preschool needs as they arise. His availability to work with Mondo in helping to oversee the Preschool has come at a perfect time. Ted will continue to take an active role in providing a weekly Music Time for the Preschool children. **Please mark your calendars for Friday, December 20 when the children will perform the songs they learn from Mr. Ted at our annual Christmas program**

Administration is of course a necessary part of a successful Preschool, but it is not nearly as much fun as Curriculum planning. **The Teachers had so much fun working together to plan our Fall curriculum.** We are starting this Preschool year by introducing the children to the **Parables of Jesus.** They are delighting in all of the stories that He told and the lessons they teach us about God and Heaven. We are also learning about **trees and forest animals and signs of autumn and harvest.** We went on a **field trip on the Church bus to Kahle Park in September.** We are looking forward to **taking the Church bus to Taylor Creek in October** and if driving conditions allow we will use it to go to the **Zephyr Cove Library in November.** You can find pictures of our first field trip and other Preschool activities on our Facebook page. The bulletin board in the back of the Church has copies of the October Calendar and Director letter if you would like more detail on what is happening at the Preschool this month.

Thank you for your continued Prayers!

"See what great love God has for us, that we are called Children of God, and that is what we are!" I John 3:1



Special Women's Event "Be all you can Be"



Join us for a Soup-er Evening

Saturday, October 12, 2019
5:00 pm—7:00 pm
[TCC's Fellowship Hall](#)

Please RSVP to Jan Hurts: 775-781-1783



September 4,th 2019

Dear Ted,

We want to thank you for choosing Children's Hunger Fund four 2019 VBS Mission Moment during "The Incredible Race: Hope Exploders!" Your kids' efforts to raise meals for CHF Food Paks reflect young hearts that want to honor God and care for others.

Your VBS kids and their families raised \$198.00 Thats 792 meals! Please let them know that their hard work has made a real difference for children in need.

We are proud to recognize your group as "Amazing Ambassadors!" To see their recognition on our website, visit <https://childrenshungerfund.org/vbschurchrecognition>.

We'll be partnering with Answers In Genesis (AiG) again next summer. We hope Tahoe Community Church will join us! You can view AiG's newest curriculum at www.answeringenesis.org/vbs/2020.

Thank you for delivering hope with Children's Hunger Fund.

For the children we serve,

Carleigh Fernandez
Donor Care Coordinator
Children's Hunger Fund.

Arriving San Pedro Sula Int'l Airport on Thursday, April 23, 2020

Returning from San Pedro Sula, Honduras on Saturday, May 2, 2020

Arriving at Reno/Tahoe Int'l Airport Saturday, May 2, 2020 at 8:30pm

The Cost:

\$1875.00 per person and covers all travel (air and land), hotel accommodations (shared for single persons, private for married couples), meals and 3 days/2 nights R&R (rest and reflection). A trip deposit of \$200 is due with your application and a portion of your total balance will be due each month before we leave unless you plan on paying the total at one time. The total balance is due 03/01/2020. See below for the on-line webpage submission of the application and payment.

The Project:

- Construction: to be announced (Could be a real variety of projects)
- Medical: 5 days of general medical and dental clinics arranged by the ministry at local Lenca villages
- Children's Program: Games, including the parachute, stories and other teaching in coordination with the national children's ministry team.

To Apply:

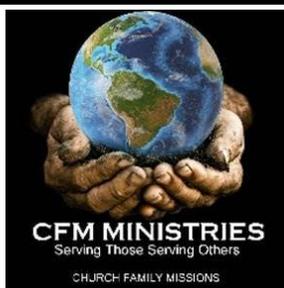
You will find the application form and payment options on our website at cfministries.org after October 31st. Our new webpage is being completed and will be in full operation then.

Scroll down to very bottom of our page and you will see under "Quick Links" Trip Deposit and Trip Payment. Click on Trip deposit and you will find the application to complete, submit this with your deposit. You may return to same page using the Trip Payment button to make your additional payments until your balance is paid. You will receive automatic receipts.

More Information:

We will be having an informational meeting on Monday November 25, 2019, 6pm, at Lake Tahoe Christian Fellowship, 3580 Blackwood Rd, for all those interested in meeting us, and past team members, and getting answers to your questions specific to your needs.

Bendicidos! Bill and Liz Gieg



Honduras 2020

Dear Family and Friends of CFM Ministries;

We are so excited to invite you to Honduras 2020! We will be returning to work with Eric Sanchez and Isaias Cantarero

in their ministry to the Lenca Indians of South West Honduras.

The Travel:

Leaving out of Reno-Tahoe Int'l Airport Wednesday,

Gary E. Martin, RPh
PO Box 946
Redwood City, Ca. 94064
September 23, 2019
gmart2198@gmail.com

Pastor Mondo Gonzales
Tahoe Community Church
tahoechurch@gmail.com

Pastor Gonzales:

To introduce myself – I am Sandy Martin's nephew. I was hoping to meet you Sunday the 15th. However Sandy had other plans she decided to leave us and join her mother and brother.

I just wanted to let you know that you and your community are very much appreciated. Sandy spoke very highly of you and the bible study group and the knitting group. I appreciate the wonderful help you all gave her when she went back to her home. It was so very special in her time of need. I am so happy she found you and your church when she did. You made this last time in her life meaningful and fulfilling.

Her ex-husband, Cameron Erridge, also spoke highly of you. During those last days he would call on my mobil phone and I would put the phone to Sandy's ear and let him talk to her. I believe it was very comforting for her.

I was with her as much as I could be those last days. I would go back in the evening around 10 or 11 for 3 or 4 hours to be with her so she would not be alone. I will miss her very much. But I know she is happy with her family in heaven and no longer in physical discomfort.

Thank you again,
Gary

Two: Praise the Lord; praise God our savior! For each day He carries us in His arms. Psalm 68:19 (NLT)

Three: May all who search for You be filled with joy and gladness in You. May those who love Your salvation repeatedly shout, "the Lord is great!" Psalm 40:16 (NLT)

Four: All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing realms because we are united with Christ. Ephesians 1:3 (NLT)

Five: I will praise You, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all the marvelous things You have done. I will be filled with Joy because of you. I will sing praises to your name, O most High. Psalm 9:1-2 (NLT)



lifegroups

Life Groups

Tahoe Community church has three live groups up and running:

East Shore Group

Host: Jan Hurst/Don and Linda Baker

Facilitator: Bill Kolstad

This group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month and is studying: "Six Core Values of Biblical Community." A study from Watermark Community Church

South Shore Group

Host: Jacky Daly

Facilitator: Bob Daly

This group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month and is also studying "Six Core Values of Biblical Community."

Kingsbury Group

Host: Suzette Waite

Facilitators: Mondo/Jeff Brumbach/Jerry Haynes

This group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month and is also studying "Six Core Values of Biblical Community."

If you are interested in being part of a group, hosting a group, or facilitating a group, please talk to Mondo, Bob Daly or Bill Kolstad.

Acts 2: 42 "They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. Verse 2: 47 "... and the Lord added to their numbers daily those who being saved."



Our Daily Bread
Ministries™

Five Versus to Lift Your Heart in Praise

Article taken from "Our Daily
Bread" Ministries

Feeling discouraged? Do you need to lift your eyes above your circumstances today? Use these five verses to praise the Lord and thank Him for all He has done!

One: All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. 2 Corinthians 1:3 (NLT)

Announcements

- **Fellowship Meal:** Our next fellowship meal will be November 3 after church. This Will be a Youth Fundraiser for Winter Camp.

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

- **Sunday Study Class at 9:00am in Fellowship Hall:** We are going through a 6-8 week study on understanding the theological truths behind election, pre-destination, free will, human responsibility and our calling. Everyone is welcome!

Women's Event "Be all you can Be": Saturday October 12, 5:00pm-7:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Jan Hurst

Scripture Memory Verses for May

- October 6th Luke 11:28
- October 13th Philippians 3:20
- October 20th Psalm 116:8-93
- October 27th Mark 2:17



And two Final VBS Pictures



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 Director, Ted Beverage, Office Administrator

Preschool Staff: Sarah Tran, Director/Teacher. Teachers: Theresa DeGraffenreid, Katie Oliver. Teacher Assistants: Bonni Leon, Misha Wassick. Office Manager/Teacher: Thomas Tran. Parent Volunteer Sakuna Rosas

IN GOD WE TRUST



**Tahoe
Community
Church**

P.O. Box 6598
Stateline, NV 89449