



Whispering Pines Church Praise Report



A (somewhat) Quarterly Newsletter

July-Sept. 2018

Pastor's Corner – What is Church

From Pastor Tony

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First a note from the editors ...

Well church family, we are attempting to restart our Church newsletter. The plan is to publish the newsletter every 3 months or once a quarter. We have asked our Pastors to contribute a *short* story each quarter. We are calling this story "Pastor's Corner". Our hopes are to get some personal tidbits about each of our Pastors that could bring us just a little closer as a family.

Sometimes we might feel that our Pastors are a little unapproachable, or that we don't want to bother them because they are too busy. Let me tell you from personal experience that this could not be further from the truth. In fact, I am here to encourage you to grab any of our Pastors and share anything with them. They need us to share with them, to encourage them, and to love them.

Since this is a newsletter re-start, we thought it was only fitting that Pastor Tony be our first target. We asked him to give a quick overview of what he saw as our greatest strength, and our greatest weakness, where he felt we were doing well as a church, and where

we needed to grow as a church, we asked him to touch on something personal, as well as to give his thoughts on the growth of *our* church body.

Well, it wasn't really a surprise when, instead of a quick overview, we got a 25-page series of Pastor Tony's thoughts of "What is Church". (We all know that Tony can get long winded.) Needless to say, there's just no way for us to print, or publish all of the amazing information that Tony has rolling around in his head in just 1 newsletter. So, we have decided to pull a couple of Tony's thoughts out of what we received for this publication, and later, create a full-blown series of "What is Church". As of right now we don't know what that is going to look like, but we hope that you will read the entire series.

Enough from the editors, now from the words of Pastor Tony:

I believe that many Christians accept Christ as their personal Savior but not as their Lord and I'm here to tell you that you cannot accept one without the other. I was raised in the American Christian



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PRAISES!

I praise God for leaders soundly grounded in teaching God's word. Never taking liberties with the Word. Teaching truth. I am blessed to be a part of this body.

Judy T.

I praise the Lord that my eldest daughter is now attending church. First step to a changed life. Prayers continue...

Kelly R.

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Psalms 150:6

Pastor's Corner – What is Church

From Pastor Tony

(Continued from page 1)

church and I bought into a church system of *consumerism*. I thought I knew what church was supposed to look like only to realize in my late 30s that I had missed it. It took me almost 30 years to figure out that church was *not* all about attendance, or *consumerism*. My view of what church was supposed to be was so far off, I was absolutely mortified when I took a look at what God's Word has to say about what a church should look like. That growing a church was the responsibility of each member. We, in America have gotten so far away from the Biblical example of church, Satan has done a masterful job of making us ineffective. How exactly has he done this? Simple, by making church about us instead of God. *Consumerism!*

Let me begin by stressing, I do not believe all churches in America are bad or wrong and I don't believe this church is perfect, but let me say this. This church, like many others out there, strives to do it Biblically. The Bible is our standard and nothing else.

Now, I want you to know that this church usually does not do *topical* sermons. We teach expositionally through the word, one verse at a time. We take a book of the Bible and move through it verse by verse,

then move on to another book because we always want to study God's Word in context and not jump around, right? Right.

Every church begins to reflect its pastor, it's just a fact. Every church focuses on the strengths and gifting of its pastor because the pastor is guiding the ship. Every pastor is gifted with specific gifts but he does not have them all. I cannot be all things to all people because God did not give me every gift. That's where an elder board comes in but we'll get into that later.

The burn out rate of pastors is about 5 years because of the misinformed congregations across the country who believe that the pastor is supposed to be all things to all people.

For now, I want to openly recognize that this church is not perfect, I am not perfect. Because this church reflects my strengths and weaknesses, I want to expose those strengths and build on them, and expose our weaknesses and fix them.

..... (continued to page3)



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PRAISES!

O Lord, you are my God;
I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

Isaiah 25:1

Praise God for our pastor who is faithful to preach the whole Word of Scripture and not skim over or omit what is not "pleasant" to hear.

Carolyn A.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Psalms 103:1

Pastor's Corner – What is Church

From Pastor Tony

(Continued from page 2)

I am going to start a series I call "What is Church?" The reason I call it that is because I believe that the model and message of the early Christian church as described in Acts 2 has been lost in our American culture, what I call *consumerism*. I don't think that's by accident; the enemy, Satan has been hard at work trying to make

us completely ineffective and he has for the most part, succeeded.

I want to close by saying that I am so very proud of our little church and all of you. You make this church as strong as it is, and I am very blessed to be leading it. Keep a look out for my upcoming series of "What is Church".

What we've been doing

VBS Food Auction Fundraiser 5/18



We had great fun baking and auctioning over 50 items (thank you Lord for all of the cooks), and raised over \$2,000 (praise the Lord for the generosity of our congregation), to fund our VBS.

Dress a Girl 6/18



We had many seamstresses make 100 dresses again this spring (that makes 300 complete to date with another 100 in the works) to be used to dress and protect the young girls in 82 countries. (Thank you Lord for the hands and machines to make this happen).

If you would like to get involved with this project please contact Colleen Gulas at colleengulas@gmail.com.

If you take pictures at any church function or activity or if you have anything that you would like to see in the newsletter please send it to Jayne.biscotti@gmail.com



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PRAISES!

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

1Chronicles 16:34

My mouth is filled with your praise, and with your glory all the day.

Psalms 71:8

Thank you, Lord, for sending a constant flow of caring brothers and sisters to comfort Cyndi through her last days. The love I saw gives me confidence in your caring hand that is always upon us.

Jayne B.

What we've been doing (continued ...)

Vacation Bible School 7/16-20/18



Basic Elements VBS was a great time of learning about God and how science points to Him. We had anywhere from 25 to 30 kids throughout the week, and we had about the same number of volunteers helping.

Thank you all who were apart of this amazing time....

4th of July BBQ



Fireworks, fellowship, chili cook-off and fun for our entire church family.

If you take pictures at any church function or activity or if you have anything that you would like to see in the newsletter please send it to Jayne.biscotti@gmail.com

WISE summer event – Blankets for Living Well Clinic 7/12/18



Seven of our WISE women spent a summer's evening stitching 18 blankets to be donated to the Living Well Medical Clinic. The Clinic loves to receive handmade items to show the women they work with how much this community cares.

To get involved in supporting the Living Well Medical Clinic contact Jayne at 530-559-6499 or Jayne.biscotti@gmail.com

Family Camp 7/28/18



50 Campers spent a weekend of fellowship at the lake and enjoyed the baptism of Jonathan and Tristen. Congratulations boys!



If you would like to be baptized please call the church 530-273-1722



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What we've been doing (continued ...)

PRAISES!

We need your praises to fill this space.....

Write them on the "Prayer Request Card" and slip them into the tithing box at the back of the church.

Write one every week and let's fill this space with praises to the one and only God that loves us while we are still sinners.

Take notice of all the small miracles that surround us every day... the perfect timing that happened in spite of our plan

Fair Time Parking Lot Ministry



We made over \$1,200 during our parking lot ministry this year. There were fewer volunteer, only 10 but we had the parking lot open from 9am to 9pm plus Bob and Jax (the German Shephard) providing 24-hour security. Forty percent of the folks using the parking lot were return customers and Bob himself had the opportunity to share the Word 6 times. God is Good!

Let's Learn S'mores about Jesus 8/18



S'more night was a blast. We had about 24 people there, 11 little ones, 2 youth, and the rest adults, we had a devotion, music and we made s'mores... It was an awesome night of learning s'more about Jesus.....

Coffee Shop Outreach

Most of the summer there has been weekly outreach at local coffee shops, engaging patrons in meaningful conversations about their eternal prospects.

Team Reports

Contact Team

The contact team is working hard to usher folks from parking into the church, and to maintain our church grounds Thank you to Bob, James and Wayne for keeping the place mowed and raked and thank you to Pauline Murphy for planting the beautiful flower pots for us. If you are interest in helping out on this team please contact the church at 273-1722.

Follow-up Team

The follow-up team has been busy connecting with new comers. We

have hosted 2 pastor chats this quarter giving our new comers an opportunity to meet our pastors and discuss the beliefs of our church.

There have been cards sent to welcome the new and to encourage the ill or struggling and there have been meals prepared for members who need assistance.

We are always looking for more members to help us to support our church in these ways. If you are interested please contact Jeff at 916-759-7950



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PRAISES!

From WPC W.I.S.E. Ministries

It is so obvious that the women of WPC are very wise. They seek the Word of God with great intention and perseverance. They try not only to be hearers of the Word but doers of the Word as well. If they are not part of the more than 30 women attending the study of Colossians on Thursday night they attend Monday afternoon's study of Genesis at Brown Bag. Some of them attend both. They are committed to respecting their husbands, raising up their children and grandchildren in the Scriptures, and serving the church with their time, talents, and treasures. They minister to their sisters battling illness, dress children around the world, build a children's ministry, and commit to influence those around them by keeping Jesus the center of the holidays. These women continue to educate God's women, demonstrate God's love, and communicate God's Gospel to their community.

It is my privilege to grow and serve with these Women In Search of Excellence (WISE). Love you my sisters, Lisa P

Team Reports (continued ...)

Outreach Team

Our outreach team has many ministries:

-*The Evangelism Team* which has purchased over 100 sharing New Testaments, additional materials, and has taught a large portion of our church family the "Argument Free Evangelism" method.

The current team consists of John Vogel, David Stanley, Wayne Bryan, and Mike and Nancy Wayne. To get involved contact is John Vogel 530-432-2316

- *Cascades Senior Living Sunday morning worship team* which have a service every week at the assisted living facility. The team consists of about a dozen musicians and teachers with a rotating schedule. If you are interested in exercising your gifts in these areas please contact Jeff Olson at 530-272-2204

-*Outreach events team* – If you want to initiate an outreach event such as, a comedian night, block party, community whatever, contact Shelli at 530-913-2109

-*Dress a Girl or Guy* – Contact Colleen at colleengulas@gmail.com

-*Inter Faith Food Ministry* – Contact Sheila Roberts at 530-265-5922

- *Living Well Clinic* – Contact Jayne Biscotti at 530-559-6499

Worship Team

Providing our service every Sunday morning are gifted and tested pastors and musicians. Our musicians are asking us to please pray for a drummer 😊 (they would love to hear the beat). We are also looking for help with the audio and visual portion. We will train, experience welcomed but not required. Contact Jeff 916-759-7950

Small Groups Team

Our current small groups are bible study groups. That's just a great thing to do when you get together in a small group.

-**The Brown Bag Bible study** group meets on Mondays from noon until 2 PM. They are finishing off a study of Genesis. This is a very dedicated group. Join in and bond with a group of men and women who love to discuss, explore and really delve into the truths of God's word.

The Brown Bagger will be having a Christmas celebration some time in Dec. Date still to be determined.

-**Men's Bible study** meets at 7:00 on Thurs. evening and have been studying Colossians. This is an opportunity for the men to get together on a regular bases to fellowship and do a deep study of God's word and how to apply it to everyday circumstances. Contact Dan Papararo 530-272-1665.



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PRAISES!

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.

1 Chronicles 29:11

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Romans 11:36

Team Reports (continued ...)

Small Groups Team (continued)

-Women's Bible study (WISE) also meets at 7:00 on Thurs. evenings and have also been studying Colossians. I have personally learned so much from this group of ladies in very personal studies that brings God's word to life in daily application. It is amazing! Highly recommended! Contact Lisa P. 530-272-1665

Both Men's and Women's Bible study groups will be going on holiday break at the end of Oct. and will start up again after the first of the year.

-Adult Sunday School Classes – we have two classes meeting every Sunday morning at 9:00:

-A Walk Through the Bible – Read through the Bible, chapter by chapter, cover to cover. Listen as John Vogel reads through the Bible. Ask question in a relax environment.

-Iron Sharpens Iron - This group is studying Ephesians. An in-depth study with Mike Wayne for mature Christians interested in discussing challenging questions.

What's Coming

General

Movie Night: Join us for the movie Monumental. Our culture is telling our kids that at Thanksgiving we celebrate thanking the Indians for their help. Let us reacquaint ourselves with the true meaning of Thanksgiving. Join us for this historical and fascinating movie for families on **Nov. 8th at 6:30**. We will be sharing a soup, salad and bread potluck supper before the movie. Child care will be available.

Night of Worship: On Nov. 29th at 6:00 PM we will be meeting at Pastor Tony's house. Here is an opportunity to worship the Lord, fellowship with the church body in an intimate setting. Pot luck, please bring a dish to share and join us as we seek out how God would have us serve.

Christmas Program: Our Christmas program will be on Dec 23rd the Sunday before Christmas. Watch the bulletin for more information and how you may be able to help out.



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PRAISES!

For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

Romans 14:11

Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

Psalms 105:1

There is none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.

1 Samuel 2:2

What's Coming (continued...)

Men's Ministries

Men's Breakfast: Meets on the *first Saturday* of each month, come join your church brothers for a fellowship breakfast at WPC, **7:30-9:30 am**. Contact is Mike Wayne (530) 265-2060

Children's Ministries

Let's Speak Life Children's Ministry has started as of September 2018. We are excited about this adventure that God has called us on. We are in the Gospels, learning about Jesus our Savior and Friend. We meet at 9am for Sunday School, and in the sanctuary for the song with the adults to be dismissed during greeting time to Children's Church around 10:45. Please tell everyone you know that we do have a children's program

And invite them to join us...

Thanksgiving Bible School – For the kids ...*Nov 11th, 5 to 7 pm*. Come join us as we learn why we really celebrate Thanksgiving. There will be crafts, food, devotion, music. It is going to be a fun time.....

Contact for children's ministry is Brenda Lloyd 530-955-5732

Women's Ministries

Women Prepare Your Hearts and Home for the Holidays

Ladies please join us for our advent preparation that helps us keep Jesus as the center of our hearts and homes during the holiday season. Starting with a potluck dinner at 6:30 Thurs. Nov 15th. Bring a friend. Child care is available. Contact Lisa (530) 272-1665

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NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

My Whispering Pines Family,

During my time of need many if you stepped up to help Stan and I with food and housekeeping. But more of you carried us in your prayers. Your prayers helped my faith to stay strong. They gave my doctors insight into how to treat my disease. And when I returned to the hospital with a virus it was God's power that allowed them to find and begin treating it within 2 days. Your prayers have given me a spirit of joy and peace. God listens to and acts on prayer. Thank you so much for yours.

Christy M.

Who to Connect With

If you are inspired by what is going on in your church and would like to get involved, please connect with these people to get you plugged in.

Contact team - Maintaining the property, driving and maintaining the shuttle bus, parking lot attendants and ushers.

The Church 530-273-1722

Follow-up team – Connecting with new comers and taking care of the church body through cards, helps, and visitation.

Dan Papararo 530-277-0215

Jeff Biscotti 916-579-7950

Outreach team – Senior living outreach, events, evangelism, Coffee Shop Outreach, Interfaith Food Collection, Living Well Medical Clinic, Dress a Girl or Boy, Children's Christmas Boxes.

Shelli 530-913-2109

Worship team – Responsible for the Service, music, sound & visual.

Tony Stanley 530-272-5715

Jeff Biscotti 916-579-7950

Small Groups team – Bible studies and other small group gatherings.

The Church 530-273-1722

Children's Ministry

Brenda Lloyd 530-955-5732

Men's Ministry

Dan Papararo 530-277-0215

Mike Wayne 530-265-2060

Women's Ministry

Lisa Papararo 530-272-1665

Linda Girton 530-272-4610

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Take notice of all the small miracles that surround us every day... the perfect timing that happened in spite of our plan

Saying Hello & Goodbye

Hello and welcome:

Welcome to Alan Merrell and Sherlyn Vogel.

Both Alan and Sherlyn finished the Fundamentals of the Faith classes and have decided to become members of our church.

Please pray for all of these church family members as they depart from us to find their way down new paths; that they stay centered in God's will.

Goodbye to:

Greg, Liz, Noah, and Sam Peterson moved to San Antonio Texas as Greg retired from Beal Air Force Base.

Bill, Michiko, and Corbin Walton moved to Wilsonville Oregon as Bill retired from the Placer County Sheriff and is working in a family business.

Nate, Sharea, Kayla, and Elijah Waddle moved back east as Nate was deployed to the middle east.

Cindy Voigt is going to a church in Auburn to be closer to her home.

Joe and Jacque Thompson felt called to work in a new church in the south county.

Doug and Rosetta Edwards felt called to work in a new church in Grass Valley.

Mary Alice Colwell moved to San Luis Obispo to care for her daughter.

Final Goodbye.....now dancing with Jesus

Cyndi Pelli

Nov. 2, 1950 – Aug. 17, 2018

Billie Teninty

July 31, 1928 – Aug. 18, 2018

*We are missing you sweet ladies so much. Rest now in the arms of Jesus.
We love you!*



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NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Professional Services

Christians supporting Christians

These listings are for church members who are looking to hire help, for their personal projects, from within the church body.....Christians supporting Christians.

Cleaning and Book Keeping

Lisa Giannoni
Household Solutions
530-388-8632

Decorating – Event and Household

Carolyn Arneson
530-432-8456

Small Engine Repair

Jeff Biscotti
JJ's
916-759-7950

Real Estate

Stacy Stanley
Home Smart I care
530-277-9577

Stained Glass – Windows, Panels, Gifts

Jayne Biscotti
Son Light Glass
530-559-6499

Website Development and Digital Marketing

Alexzander Flores
530-444-0228

If you have a professional or semi-professional skill and would like to be included on this page, please send your information to
Jayne.biscotti@gmail.com