

Whispering Pines Church Praise Report



A (somewhat) Quarterly Newsletter

Oct-Dec 2018

Pastor's Corner – Apostle's Feet Ministry

From Pastor Mike

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING

- Men's Conference
- Movie Night
- Women's Christmas Prep
- Thanksgiving VBS
- Christmas VBS
- Operation Christmas Child
- Christmas Program
- Dress a Girl or Dude
- Living Well Medical Clinic
- Compassion International

Team Reports:

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WHAT'S COMING

- General
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WHO TO CONNECT WITH?

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The Apostle's Feet Ministry is designed to help the members of Whispering Pines Church with a focus on widows. The following passages are the primary scriptures used to guide the ministry.

Acts 2: [42](#) And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. [43](#) And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. [44](#) And all who believed were together and had all things in common. [45](#) And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. [46](#) And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, [47](#) praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Acts 4: [32](#) Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. [33](#) And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. [34](#) There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold [35](#) and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. [36](#) Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means

son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, [37](#) sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 6: [1](#) Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. [2](#) And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. [3](#) Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. [4](#) But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." [5](#) And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. [6](#) These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

As we looked at these scriptures several things became clear:

1. These scriptures address the needs in the local body.
2. The believers were devoting themselves to the fellowship, studying the word, and prayer.
3. The need of clothing and food were being met by those in the body that were moved by God to sell their possessions and



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PRAISES!

Praise God for taking care of my niece and her unborn baby. She has passed the critical time in her pregnancy and she and the baby are healthy.

Anonymous

Praise God for Mike W. Iron Sharpens Iron Class.

Anonymous

Praise God for the strength, wisdom, patience and faith to endure life's situations. I'm claiming it!

Anonymous

Praise to God! My employer is doing the right thing. God is faithful.

Anonymous

Pastor's Corner – What is Church

From Pastor Mike

(Continued from page 1)

belongings to meet the needs in the body.

4. The management of the distribution process was turned over to a group of men which allowed the Apostles to focus on teaching God's word.

With this model in focus at Whispering Pines Church:

1. We limit the Apostle's Feet Ministry to members in good standing.
2. Our primary concern is the spiritual health of our members. Our desire is that the member be actively involved in Bible study, and fellowship.
3. We ask the member to fill out a Request Form so the need can be given to the ministry team for prayer and consideration. Knowing and communicating the exact need is more difficult than in the church in Acts that met daily and could see that a person lacked clothing or food.
4. We have a team which prays for, and makes recommendations as to how to handle the need.
5. In the cases of a financial need, our desire is to help with short and long-term solutions by assisting with budgets and

financial suggestions. These suggestions come mostly from "Crown Ministries".

With the following scriptures in mind the ministry encourages the members of body to be Spirit led and act according to God's guidance.

James 2: [14](#)What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? [15](#)If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, [16](#)and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? [17](#)So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

The beautiful thing in Whispering Pines Church is you don't have to go long before you notice that when there is a need, someone is stepping up to fill it. From providing meals, to trimming trees, there are many members serving each other. Maybe you have wondered how you can serve. In time, we are going to have a location on the website where you will be able to list any of your skills you would like to share with the body.

We also want to avoid getting in the way of God's call to believers to care for their family as seen in the scripture below. But there may



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PRAISES!

Praise God for
Brenda's beautiful voice

Anonymous

Thank you Lord, for the amazing care you have given my grandson. He's 2 years old now. He is doing well even with his health challenges. Lord, you are continuing to keep him in your loving, caring arms. This little guy is thriving. Praise God!

Anonymous

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

Psalms 150:6

Praise God for Pastor
Tony's leadership.

Anonymous

Pastor's Corner – What is Church

From Pastor Mike

(Continued from page 2)

be times that the family cannot help family, so when completing the request it is important to clarify the circumstances.

1 Timothy 5: **3**Honor widows who are truly widows. **4**But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God. **5**She who is truly a widow, left all alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day, **6**but she who is self-indulgent is dead even while she lives. **7**Command these things as well, so that they may be without reproach. **8**But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Hopefully this gives some insight to the Apostle's Feet Ministry. Our desire is to serve the body. If you find yourself or family in need, please let us know. There are forms in the office in the mail boxes on the right-hand side, or ask one of the pastors and we would be happy to get you one. When you complete the request it can be returned to a pastor or placed in the offering box. Upon receipt, the team leader will put the request to the ministry team and normally contact you within the week.

God Bless.

What we've been doing

Men's Conference

Oct 12-13th



Men's conference began with the idea of addressing these main points:

- Affordable cost
- Closeness to home
- Messages from God's Word relevant to a man's needs taught by the men of the church.
- Encouraging men to build relationships and inroads to trust

with the goal of loving one another as the Savior commanded us.

This has brought great teachings taken from Romans 12, Colossians 3, the Five Solas of the Reformation, and Ephesians 5. These have strengthened the bonds and deepened the trust and

respect among the men. We have also improved our nerf gun target competition skills, and our golf putting prowess.

We will be looking forward to another International Men's Conference for 2019.



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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.

Praise God for all the things that Shelli does.

Anonymous

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

Psalms 103:1

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

Movie Night – Monumental

Nov 8th



The women of WPC are not only wise, (pun intended) they are a great influence on those around them. This Fall we had some wonderful potlucks while preparing our hearts and homes for the coming holidays. We partnered with the men's Bible study and shared the Kirk Cameron documentary, "Monumental". Over 50 men and women attended and enjoyed amazing soups, salads, and cookies. The movie was very informative and told the historical journey of the pilgrims and what truly motivated them to come to this new world. It chronicled the hardships and abiding faith that helped to build the foundation of this country. Many men and women attending that evening were amazed to learn what they had never heard from their public schools, and/or churches, about the real reason we have Thanksgiving. Many were motivated to get more informed, and to intentionally share these truths with their families.

Women's Christmas Season Preparation Night

Nov 15th



The WISE women hosted another pot luck gathering for just the gals. We shared how to use the advent candle ring, reinforced Bible study commitments, and other traditions, that keep our hearts truly Jesus centered during the typically harried and hectic Christmas season. Out of the 30 women who attended, 7 had never seen these advent opportunities and appreciated the practical and simple suggestions. More than one woman said, "The candle ring time" I started in my home, while awkward at first, opened up many opportunities with my husband and family, to talk about Jesus and his coming!" Thank you gals, for all your faithfulness to plan, prepare, and then actually follow through and act upon these biblical principles of being a woman of influence.

These simple pot luck fellowship times do make an opportunity for fellowship and instruction on how to be the light and salt in a dark and decaying world. We would love your suggestions on what would be inspirational to you in 2019!



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PRAISES!

Praise God for Sheila R. taking care of the Interfaith Food Ministry

Anonymous

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

Psalm 71:8

Thank you, Lord, for the wonderful sisters I have found in this church. The fellowship, support and joy that they bring is so amazing. It keeps me warm in a dark and cold world.

Jayne B.

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

Speak Life Ministry

Last year ended with a glorious shout!



Thanksgiving VBS Nov 11th

The Thanksgiving VBS was awesome. We prayed for 15 kids and God brought in 16. We had a wonderful time singing and learning about gratefulness. And the crafts: Placemats with super bright turkeys or just designs. We did two more crafts one including decorating a sugar cookie.

Christmas VBS Dec 15th

The Christmas VBS was beautiful "for unto us a child is born, a son is given. ..." Isaiah 9:6

God brought 17 kids to us and we had a wonderful celebration of Christ'

Please continue to pray for "Speak Life Children's Ministry", for us and for how you might become involved in His service.

Operation Christmas Child



Our Adopt-A-Shoebox for Operation Christmas Child 2018 was a success! We were able to send out into the world 100 shoeboxes - 50 for boys and 50 for girls!! They were filled with necessities and special items. All the boys received fishing kits, and the girls received sewing kits, along with a necklace. Wherever in the world they were received, we pray that each child is blessed by our offerings, and lives a life knowing and loving God.



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!

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

Write them on the "Prayer Request Card" and slip them into the tithe 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

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

Christmas Program Dec 23rd

Our 2019 Christmas program came and went with a blink of an eye. I have seen many of our past Christmas programs, but never been involved in one. I have always just sat in the audience laughed, clapped, cheered and then headed out the door. This year was different, in a good way. I got involved and, in the end, there were lots of praises.

Well, the praises and thanks have to go to all of our little angels for the great job they did, all 8 of them,



as well as our three wise men, Mary, Joseph and Gabriel. Some of them started out a bit scared, some a bit bored, but in the end they all preformed magically. God is so good to us, we are a Church of very few little one's but by his grace, our pack of angels kept growing by the day as we put the word out. In the end we were graced with enough angels dancing all around the Church to really put smiles on the faces of everyone that attended. The Christmas story is magical in itself. Sometimes we forget that the whole idea of the story is to

explain to our little angels that the story of Christmas is really about the birth of our Lord and our Savior, Jesus Christ. Not all of the treats that we have come to expect. When we get the privilege to see our story acted out by children, it truly becomes a gift. Their smiles, their sparkle, their excitement is something that we should try and etch into our memories so that every time we see a child we can remember that our goal is to teach them about Jesus.

So maybe, just maybe, instead of seeing Santa Claus giving us that wink and a smile, we should all replace Santa with God. I truly believe that God was very pleased with what He saw that morning in our little Church, and that wink and smile was from God himself saying thank you.

This year's Christmas program was a huge success. I just want to personally thank everyone that participated in the story. The chore was amazing, our narrators were fantastic, and our musicians were incredible. So, thank you all that made this happen.





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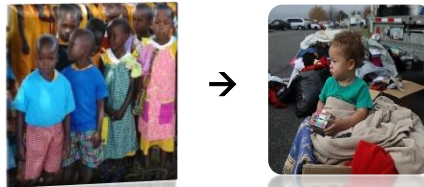


October-December 2018

PRAISES!

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

Dress a Girl or Dude 10/18



This fall our seamstresses added boys to the project by making 100 pairs of shorts, in addition to the 100 dresses. Since we joined this ministry in 2017, we have completed 400 dresses and 100 pairs of shorts. We are looking for a new ministry with a more local focus for 2019.

On a side note, we were quite pleased to learn that our last batch of dresses and shorts were re-directed to the Paradise Fire victims. 😊

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

Support for Living Well Medical Clinic 11/18



Some of the women who were not able to participate in our WISE summer evening sewing made an additional 20 blankets to donate to

the Living Well Medical Clinic. The Clinic loves to receive handmade items to show the women they work with that this community really cares.

There were also 7 baby bottles of change collected as cash donation.

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

Compassion International

This is a new ministry within our church designed to raise children around the world out of poverty. For \$38 dollars a month sponsors provide food, clothing, education, and healthcare. The children learn about Jesus in a safe, caring environment. Most of the children become doctors, teachers, pastors, etc., as well as Compassion Int. workers.

To become a Compassion sponsor today! See Tracy Olson or Sharon Stockwell.

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!

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

Contact Team

The Contact Team is working hard to usher folks from the parking lot into the church, and to maintain our church grounds Thank you to Bob, James and Wayne for keeping the place mowed and raked.

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 hosted 1 pastor chat 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 comers, and to encourage the ill or struggling. There have been meals prepared, and rides provided for members who have needed 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 Biscotti at 916-759-7950

Outreach Team

Our Outreach Team has many ministries:

-The Evangelism Team – Even during the Christmas Season, the Evangelism Team has been active with our Argument Free

Evangelism method. This tool for evangelism is extremely simple and easy to use. No memorization, skill or debating – just The Good News. To find out more about Argument Free Evangelism contact John Vogel at 432-2316.

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

- Cascades Senior Living Sunday Morning Worship Team 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: colleengulas@gmail.com

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

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



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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

Praise God for Jayne B. putting together the Praise Report.

Anonymous

Team Reports (continued ...)

Worship Team

Providing our service every Sunday morning are gifted and tested pastors and musicians. Our musicians are asking us to 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 Biscotti 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

For anyone with Mondays between noon and 2pm free, please join us. Currently we are studying the book of Revelation, and when we resume January 7th it will be in chapter 3, the church at Sardis. As we have studied the first 4 churches, it is interesting to note that not only was the scripture addressing the church that the letter was addressed to, but also all churches, and each of us as individuals. The real blessing about Revelation is it is the revealing of Jesus Christ in His glory and kingship. We eat our lunch between 12 and 12:30 along with fellowship, and start Bible study about 12:30 till 2pm. Hopefully you can bring your lunch and join us in this fun fellowship time.

-Men's Bible study

This group will be on break until Mar 21st For more information contact Dan Papararo 530-272-1665.

-Women's Bible study (WISE)

This group will be on break until Mar 21st For more information contact Lisa P. 530-272-1665

-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 questions in a relaxed environment.

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

-The Fundamentals of The Faith Class (FOF) – This group is for those who are new to our church. It is a class covering what every Christian needs to know about what we believe. We encourage folks to ask questions regarding our church's beliefs. This creates valuable theological exchanges. Want to know what our core convictions are here at WPC? Find out in our FOF Class with John Vogel 530-432-2316.



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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

Praise God for Jeff B. working the sound board.

Anonymous

What's Coming (continued...)

General

Small Group Home Bible Studies:

Starting the week of Jan 21st, join a small group. These groups are held in a home atmosphere, searching the Word of God, and will *Discover His Peace that Surpasses all Understanding*. This 8-week small-group study will explore how to overcome the obstacles that keep us from God's all-surpassing peace, investigate what it means to rejoice in all circumstances, what prayer is, what prayer is not, and how to develop an attitude of gratitude even in our trials. We will study the heroes of our faith, and learn how they persevered under hardship and found God's peace.

We will be meeting at three different homes on three different nights. Choose the night and place that works best for you.

Men, women, and youth are welcome. There is no childcare provided for these groups. Contact is Dan Papararo 530-277-0215

Night of Worship: On Feb. 22nd 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.

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, kindergarten through 5th grade. 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.

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

Women's Ministries

Women's Mini-Retreat

Ladies please join us for a mini-retreat on March 16th from 9:30am to 3:30pm at WPC. We will learn how to bring truth, in love, to a dark world. WISE continues to endeavor to:

- educate God's women
- communicate God's message
- demonstrate **The All-**

Consuming Love of God

Contact Lisa (530) 272-1665



Whispering Pines Church Praise Report



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NOTES FROM OUR FRIENDS

Living Well Medical Clinic sends thanks and appreciation for the contributions and hand made items

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

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

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

Children's Ministry

Brenda Lloyd 530-955-5732

Men's Ministry

Dan Papararo 530-277-0215

Mike Wayne 530-265-2060

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

Women's Ministry

Lisa Papararo 530-272-1665

Linda Girton 530-272-4610

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

Tony Stanley 530-272-5715

Jeff Biscotti 916-579-7950

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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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, Classes

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