

TEMPLETONES

TPC monthly newsletter—APRIL 2025

Hello TPC Family!

From the looks of things around our wonderful community, it seems that Spring is in full bloom! This time of year is a perfect time to reflect on the new life God brings to us in nature and otherwise. We understand true life comes from Jesus Christ our Lord. Last month we began the season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday service. Lent is a season of reflection and preparation for the resurrection of Jesus Christ we experience and celebrate on Easter. We begin Lent with a liturgy of Ash Wednesday that reminds us “we are dust, and to dust we shall return.” This reminder speaks to our frailty and brokenness as sinners. It speaks of our coming physical death and the mourning and grief we all experience. This symbol of ash also serves as an important marker of things to come. Through the death of Jesus, we receive atonement for our sins. Through our death in Him we find the assurance of forgiveness and the HOPE of resurrection. It seems this year our Lenten and Easter celebrations take on a new meaning with our upcoming sanctuary remodel. Over the next weeks and months as we see demolition and construction around our church campus, we will pause and remember God is raising up new blessings and promises for our community of faith. I pray blessings upon you during this season of Spring and Lent, and I look forward to being the church with you!



Blessings and Peace!

Pastor Roger
Soli Deo gloria

APRIL 17
Maundy Thursday
SOUP & BREAD POTLUCK 6PM
COMMUNION SERVICE 7PM

APRIL 18
GOOD FRIDAY
“JOURNEY TO THE CROSS”
Preparing our hearts for Easter
Self-guided reflection series
TPC SANCTUARY
12-7PM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
See Debby Price
to sign up.

JOIN US
EASTER SUNDAY
9 & 11AM
KIDS CHURCH
@11AM ONLY
Coffee Fellowship 10:15-10:45

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
APRIL 1 (No foolin')
6:15PM
 NEIL'S OFFICE (CLAVO CELLARS)
 315 S. Main St Templeton
 Join us for a study of the book of JAMES
 +DC

Cal Poly Baseball
APRIL 6
TICKETS \$10
 Kids 12 & under **FREE**
 See Greg Honegger for tickets

Contact Greg H: greg@greghonegger.com or 661/301-1995

Dear Church Family,

Our total income for the Deacons Fund for February was \$2,235. In addition, income for the Southern California Fire Relief Fund was \$4,267.84 which included the Bake Raffle & Auction hosted by Men's Ministry. THANK YOU, Congregation! We can't do anything to help our congregation, community and the world without your generosity. Just so you know, our vouchers for Templeton Market for gas and food totaled nearly \$300 in February which is an ongoing ministry that our Deacon Fund provides.



On that note, I want to share with you some of the other work our deacons do for the church besides giving to worthy causes. Each of us has a parish of people living in a particular geographical area to whom we minister and stay in touch with. Each deacon makes phone calls, visits, or otherwise tries to meet the needs of each person in our parishes. We are following Christ's example of being "the hands and feet of Jesus." We pray for members of our parishes, not only for special needs but also regularly to keep them close to our hearts. We organize and provide food for memorial luncheons and provide dinners when necessary. If you have been coming to our church and don't have a deacon and would like one, please call our church secretary (805-434-1921) who will contact our membership deacon, Susan Hayward. You don't have to be a member to have a deacon. We are here to care for all of you.

If you would still like to give to the Deacon Fund for fire relief, you may use the QR code on the back of the Sunday bulletin, go online to the church website, or put a check into the box on the wall at the back of the church. We will be sending a check to World Renew soon to support their relief efforts in southern CA.

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." -Luke 6:38

Blessings on you all!

Linda Hansen
 Deacon Moderator

WHOLE LOTTA PRAYIN' GOIN' ON

You may have noticed a short, older, brown-haired woman and another person strolling around the perimeter of the church and the park before Sunday worship. What are we doing? Well, about a month ago, we began our church's "Prayer Walks". These "walks" are a lovely, prayerful time. We are talking to God, asking for protection for our church, the town of Templeton, our nation, and any issue on our hearts. As we share this experience, we feel not only closer to God but to the church and one another. When we complete the walk, we pray over the Children's Ministry, the worship team, the fellowship team, the AV team and Pastor Roger.

This time has become so special to all involved. Honestly, you can feel the Holy Spirit at work. All are invited to participate in this remarkable experience. If you'd like to join us, please contact me: (925) 586-1151.

In closing, I want to share this inspiring article (below) about praying together

For Christ,
Yvonne Hoffman

"The Power of Praying Together" by Connie Lee

Uniting in prayer is a creative way to increase your spiritual growth. "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20

We've all heard stories of groups of people who come together in prayer and receive amazing results. One church grew by leaps and bounds after some of its members began gathering before the morning service to pray for growth. In another case, a man was healed of late-stage lung cancer following intensive prayer support from his son's congregation.

Is there power in numbers? Does God hear us better when we join our voices together? If, by "power" we mean the ability to produce whatever outcome we choose, then, no, clearly not. For every cancer patient cured by prayer, there are many others who receive no cure even when hundreds of people are praying for them. But the act of praying together brings us into God's presence in a fuller dimension than when we pray alone. There's a reason why Jesus compared the kingdom of heaven to a banquet, rather than a table for two! Life's important experiences are meant to be shared.

When I was 5 years old, my family spent a vacation at the sea shore. One evening we saw a spectacular sunset. The shimmering colors enthralled me, but the greatest joy was that everyone else was just as excited as I was. My sister and I kept jumping up from our beach chairs to point out new colors to our mother, who oohed and aahed appreciatively. Our grandparents, drawing on their vast store of memories, pronounced it one of the finest sunsets they had ever seen. Even our busy dad had a peaceful look on his face. The sharing of the experience meant more to me than the experience itself. In the same way, when we share the light of prayer, we not only feel closer to God but to one another.

Recently, my husband and I enjoyed a delightful evening at the home of some friends. As the serving dishes were passed from hand to hand, we discussed recipes, told jokes and caught up on the latest news. Afterward, savoring the memory of that dinner, I realized how praying together is very much like sharing a meal. It's true that the food would not be any less nourishing if each person ate separately, but breaking bread together feeds our spirit.

Some benefits from praying together :

1. Praying together, collectively more prayers are prayed. Each of us has a unique way of praying and praying together brings a new voice to the need.
2. Praying together gives me a deep feeling of belonging. When I am part of a group, I feel that I am a necessary part of a greater purpose.
3. Praying together improves my mood. Looking out among others and feeling their love and care regardless of how I felt when I began, I leave feeling comforted.
4. Praying together opens my heart to the needs of the people around me and reminds me that sometimes I can be the answer to someone's prayer.

Although I know God is always with me, and I often pray alone and enjoy the benefits of my solitary prayer time, I feel his presence most strongly when I'm praying with others. I believe lifting one another in prayer is one of the richest experiences we can share. Together, we are strengthened and blessed.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

STARTS APR 27

AFTER WORSHIP

SEE PASTOR ROGER FOR INFO

ECHO
El Camino Homeless Organization



MEAL TEAM NEEDED: MAY 19

Did you know TPC provides dinner for the Atascadero ECHO homeless shelter on the third Monday of every month? Our various groups prepare and serve meals for 50-80 people. If you would like to put together a team or be part of a team for the May meal, please contact Russ or Kathy Westphal: westphalslo@charter.net. (You can also probably find them in the kitchen



What a wonderful celebration we had on March 9 to celebrate three families welcoming babies this season. Congratulations to the Sanchez, Dishen, and Stegall families. A big thank you to everyone who brought gifts and diapers—SO MANY DIAPERS!!! And another round of applause to all the helping hands that made it happen. WELCOME LITTLE ONES!



KIDS CHURCH welcomes Ms. Debbie!
 Give a warm WELCOME to Debbie Heller, our new Children's Ministries Coordinator. Ms. Debbie is full of sweet, fun energy and loves our kiddos SO much! We are excited to have her join the team! (And be sure to say HOWDY to her husband, Mark.)



A Letter from Stephen Ministry

As time goes by and we are not receiving requests for Stephen Ministers; we (the Stephen Ministry team) wonder why? I laid awake praying and wondering, "How can I write an article to remedy this situation?" And what came to me was: "Keep it simple."

Who we are: We are all sorts of people; just like you. We were called to help others. And through Christ we can and do! We are social workers, teachers, RNs, behavioral specialists, carpenters, physical therapists, life coaches, hairdressers, and Pastors' wives.

What we do: We spend time with people praying, sharing, hand holding (if okay), reading Bible verses, offering resources, and at times crying. But, mostly, we are listening nonjudgmentally. And all the while maintaining confidentiality.

When: A person who desires a Stephen Minister calls Lois Ecklund at (408) 718-8613. This is done in confidence. She prayerfully considers the appropriate match. God gives her the wisdom, and the caring relationship begins when the Stephen Minister and care receiver choose time, day, etc.

Where: Wherever the care receiver and Stephen Minister would like. It can be church, a coffee shop, a playground, a walk, home, hospital or care facility. Privacy and quiet are usually preferred. But, many times in-person doesn't work, so phone calls are also an acceptable way to visit.

How: The Holy Spirit! We are people called by the Holy Spirit to help. God wants us to use the gifts we were given to do so. And, this is the center of our caring ministry.

Please know we are here for you and anyone you may know!

For Christ
 Yvonne Hoffman, Stephen Leader

