



The Connection

High Street Community Church

Why Do We Do This Stuff?

If you weren't able to be there you missed the best Spring Break Serving Team report I've ever witnessed at High Street. The video was professionally done engaging us in the story. I felt like I was on the trip with the team. Students and leaders gave a thumbnail sketch of the daily service projects. Others told how they saw God work in the group and how they were touched by Him. I was moved by the depth of sharing and openness of the students. Each story unique and special. The adults – Debbie and Don said it was a powerful trip for them and urged adults to consider going on a future trip. Later Don told me how God used this trip to spur him to go deeper in his spiritual journey.

I was captivated by the struggles that gave birth to something that resembles the body of Christ. "It was hard", Todd told us. This is what the process of birthing something this glorious is like. It is what we often forget in living as the body of Christ. To become one – diversity - growing in harmony – takes a great deal of surrendering. Surrendering our wills, our preferences, our insecurities, our need to compare and compete, our need to judge, our need to be self-protected and guarded, our pride, our individualism, our need to control.... It is agonizingly hard – but O how glorious the fruit. I saw glimpses of the glorious beauty of God that Sunday morning and said, "What a God You are ! You have displayed Your glory through this wonderfully imperfect body. How amazing is that! Thank you Lord."

I was also thrilled to hear a new student, who is not in a faith-relationship with God as of yet, share so openly about his experience of being touched by God – although he doesn't recognize it at this time. The trip opened his heart to explore more. It salted his soul. Charlotte and I were privileged to sit with his parents at lunch and hear their story. Theirs is a story of disappointment and pain with church and finding it hard to believe that the gospel of Jesus is true. But the experience their son had has touched them profoundly and piqued their curiosity. What a sacred thing to witness the moving of God in their lives. Charlotte and I witnessed the glory of God among us at that table as we shared a simple meal with two strangers at a church picnic no less. Go figure!

So why do we do this stuff – like church, serving trips, picnics? Why do we invest so much money and so much time and effort? We do it so students and adults can encounter the living God in new and life-changing ways. We do it so that we might get a glimpse of the glory of God and bring Him praise. Is it worth the sacrifice? After my Sunday experience I would say "for the joy set before us, yes!" It is in the words of the MasterCard commercial -- "priceless!"

These are just some of the fruits we enjoy from

our acts of worship in giving our tithes and offerings. In our giving we participate with God in creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the Living God – and be changed. We do it for God's glory! We do it for our joy! We do it for the sake of the world! Our generous God deserves our generous worship! May God grant us the grace to magnify Him together.

You are loved,
Don

Our Adventure Together This Summer

This summer we have the wonderful opportunity to experience worship and church differently. Beginning on June 13 we will make our way through the book of Ephesians together. We will be using Eugene Petersen's book *Practice Resurrection** to assist us on this adventure. Here is an excerpt from the flyleaf of his book. "In *Practice Resurrection* Peterson brings the voice of Scripture –especially Paul's letter to the Ephesians – and the voice of contemporary Christian congregation together to unpack what it means to fully grow up 'to the stature of Christ'." Growing up in Christ together –that is the call and purpose of resurrection living. "Together" is a very important word in what it means to grow up to the stature of Christ.

We will walk through Paul's letter to the Ephesian congregation during our worship times at 9:30am. Following our worship time, in June and July, we will gather in the Adult Christian Education building to fellowship and enter into a guided discussion time on this subject. During the month of August we will have a variety of opportunities to fellowship and get to know each other better – such as picnics, hiking, serving projects, games, trips to the beach, and other fun activities which create space for us to enjoy one another, deepen our friendships, and spur one another on to "grow up in Christ".

My prayer is that each of us would: 1) pray that God will richly bless us in this attempt to honor Him; 2) pray that God will knit us together more tightly for His glory and praise; 3) purchase the book *Practice Resurrection* (We will be ordering books so we can get a discount. Please sign up to get one.); and 4) Make every effort to participate as completely as you possibly can in this effort to become more fully One in Christ.

I am looking forward with great anticipation to what God will do for us and in us this summer.

Don

*Pre-orders for the book we'll be using this summer, *Practice Resurrection*, by Eugene Peterson can be made by calling or emailing Penny at the church office.

From Todd Trowbridge, Associate Pastor



Vacation Bible Adventure is coming

to High Street Community Church
850 High Street, Santa Cruz

Join us on

The King's Royal Quest, Revealing God's Plan

We'll have singing, games fun, drama, crafts,
fun, Bible stories, snacks, fun and much more!

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June 14<sup>th</sup> through June 18<sup>th</sup>, 9am to 12:30pm

for children entering K -5<sup>th</sup> grade

The cost is \$40, and we will top the week off  
with a great Friday night family BBQ!

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**Applications are available on the HSCC web
site or in the office.**

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Children entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade next year can be  
Jr. Leaders this year.

If you have children who would like to help  
in this way, or have any questions, please  
contact:

Todd at 426-0207, x107, or  
[todd@hscchurch.org](mailto:todd@hscchurch.org).

### 2010 Spring Picnic

Mouth-watering Tri-Tip & BBQ Chicken, delicious  
salads, perfect weather, and amazing Fellowship. If  
you weren't at the picnic a few weeks ago, you  
missed a very enjoyable afternoon!

We had a great turnout, lots of food, and God gave  
us a glorious day in the park. We had some guess-  
ing games, a bounce house, some games of horse  
shoes, and even a little game of whiffle ball.

Thank you to all those who pitched in to make the  
picnic such a success. Special thanks go out to Don  
Moser, Margaret Trowbridge, Bev deBarrios, and  
Rene Takesue for getting everything ready for us on  
the day of the picnic!

### Texas Presentation Video

If you are interested in receiving the Texas Report  
on DVD, please email or call Todd at the church at  
[todd@hscchurch.org](mailto:todd@hscchurch.org), or by phone at 831-426-0207  
ext. 107.

We do ask for a \$5 donation, but that, of course is  
optional.

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### Seekers on High

Seeking spiritual growth, **E**quipping and **E**ncouraging  
one another, **K**nowing God, **E**njoying fellowship, **R**e-  
flecting Christ, **S**upporting the church body.

***This month in class:*** Ken Hertzler returns to lead  
Seekers in discovering divine wisdom and instruction  
for "keeping our paths straight" in the **Proverbs**. Join  
us to be enlightened! Seekers Class meets Sundays at  
10 AM, lower level ACE bldg. All welcome.

***Take note:*** On May 23, Seekers will start at 9:45 AM  
due to the single combined church service at 11 AM.

***BOLO (be on the lookout)...*** for a Seekers Hymn  
Sing! It's been too long since our last one, and we're  
clamoring for another rousing and uplifting evening of  
singing God's praises. Date to be announced.

## Missionary Update

Rich and Jayne Price are local missionaries with the Santa Cruz Fellowship since 1992. Rich volunteers as a chaplain for Felton Fire Department, Santa Cruz County Jail and Soledad State Prison. Rich also serves with the Saint Francis Soup Kitchen, and with small men's groups, continues as Coach/Advisor to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes group which meets weekly on the Cabrillo campus.

Jayne has 32 Fashion Design students 2 nights a week at Santa Cruz High School. Jayne calls this a body image class disguised as fashion design. Her textbook quotes Psalm 139:14-16 and invites the students to celebrate the way they were created as they learn to dress in a way that honors their unique characteristics. She is growing the group of Reflective Retreats at Mount Hermon with a fourth being added this Spring. The focus is to facilitate time for people to come apart, rest and listen to Jesus in the beauty of Mount Hermon.

Rich and Jayne, who lost their house to fire last fall, greatly appreciate the prayers of support through their transition, and ask for prayer For energy to do the things that we are called to do on a daily basis and the people we are called to care for, and for the continued blessing and gift of His Presence as they walk this path.

## Preparing the Weekly Communion

We still need at least one person to assist Jon Chin in the very important ministry of preparing the weekly communion.

Please contact Penny in the church office or write on the back of the blue bulletin insert if you are willing to serve in this way.

## Sunday Intercessory Prayer Ministry

Join us in prayer each week for our Sunday Celebration gathering and for the High Street congregation. We meet at 10:15am every Sunday in the Nursing/Cry Room adjacent to the sanctuary.

## May 16th Church Life Meeting

ACE

Pot luck dessert at 6, Very important meeting begins at 6:30pm



## Future Combined Services

**May 23**—Sunday School at 10:00am  
Graduation Sunday

Combined Service at 11am

Lunch after the service.

Bring a salad to share,  
main course and cake provided.

**June 6** — Children & Youth Departments  
Promotion Sunday  
in Sunday School classes.

**June 6** — Vote on budget for next year  
in both services.

**June 13**—VBA Kick-Off Sunday  
First Sunday on Summer Service Schedule  
Combined Service at 9:30am to 10:45am  
Sunday School at 11am.

## Vacation Bible Adventure

*The King's Royal Quest*

June 14th through June 18th

9am to 12:30pm

Cost will be \$40 for the week

Registration forms are available  
In the office or on the HSCC web site,

**[www.hscchurch.org](http://www.hscchurch.org)**

We are looking for *lots* of helpers for VBA. Cookie bakers, Registration help, Counselors, Craft leaders, Set designers and builders, and much more! If you would like to help in any of these areas, please contact Todd as soon as possible at 426-0207, ext. 107..

*We are also in need of donations for children who need scholarships!*

From Glenna Roukas

I am the furniture coordinator for ISI and I need some male volunteers from the family who are available to help move furniture I glean for UCSC scholars.

Most of the furniture is not too large because they have small apartments.

My phone number is 479-8660 to leave a message and my email address is [glenna\\_roukas@att.net](mailto:glenna_roukas@att.net).

Thank you for anything you can do to help!

### **Pregnancy Resource Center Need**

The Pregnancy Resource Center, (PRC) is in need of volunteers who could occasionally do some light housework or deliver a meal to a client who has recently delivered her baby. If you would like to help in this way, please call the PRC at 475-2200

### **Music Fundraiser for Pregnancy Resource Center**

Thursday, June 3, 2010 from 7:00pm - 10:00pm  
Vintage Faith Church, 350 Mission St., Santa Cruz

Join us for an evening of great music with Tyrone Wells at Vintage Faith Church. Tyrone's music has been featured on a number of television shows as well as several films.

Tickets are \$15 and VIP tickets are available for \$50. VIP tickets include a special Meet and Greet with Tyrone and the band before the show, as well as reserved front row seats.

All proceeds from this event will benefit the Pregnancy Resource Center of Santa Cruz.

The following people can be contacted for ticket sales:

Anastasia Stone at [familystone0507@gmail.org](mailto:familystone0507@gmail.org)

Katie Green at [dev@santacruzprc.org](mailto:dev@santacruzprc.org)

Or purchase them online at:

[www.myspace.com/tyronewells](http://www.myspace.com/tyronewells)

### **International Students, Inc.**

#### **Santa Cruz**

*Working Together to share Christ's love with  
International Students*

#### **Which University is the Best?**

On our tour of Stanford University last Saturday, I discussed with Economics Professor "Xin" from China, the status of various top universities: Stanford, UC Berkeley, Harvard, etc. He says that often people think UC Berkeley is better than UCSC, but in his specific field of Finance that UCSC is one of the top in the world, about equal with UC Berkeley.

After sharing some of my undergrad experience at UC Berkeley, I pointed out that, although its great to be at a prestigious university, its more important we do whatever God wants us to do, than which university we are at. He thoughtfully agreed.

I only felt so free to share this with this non-Christian Professor because we had already shared many ISI activities with him, his wife and daughter for the past three months, including several church visits and seeing their openness to learning about God in their spiritual journey.

How delightful to see the Holy Spirit using our friendships in ISI to impact the lives of such high-global-impact people as this Professor's family!

#### **Coming Events:**

5/21-23 Yosemite trip

(pictures [www.isisantacruz.smugmug.com](http://www.isisantacruz.smugmug.com))

"You are the God of great wonders! You demonstrate your awesome powers among the nations"

*Psalm 77:14* Peggy Pollard, staff,

International Students, Inc. Santa Cruz

(831)239-3429 [ISI.SantaCruz@gmail.com](mailto:ISI.SantaCruz@gmail.com)

[www.isiwebnet.net/sites/PeggyPollard](http://www.isiwebnet.net/sites/PeggyPollard)

**archived news** [www.isiwebnet.net/sites/](http://www.isiwebnet.net/sites/PeggyPollard/CCArchive)

[PeggyPollard/CCArchive](http://www.isiwebnet.net/sites/PeggyPollard/CCArchive)

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**Lead Pastor: Don Ferris; Associate Pastor: Todd Trowbridge; Associate Pastor: Shayne Wessel;  
Youth Pastor: Melinda Koenig; Administrative Assistant: Penny Neudeck;  
Worship Leaders: Sheryl Ayers and Brett Fowler**

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