

Prayer Updates

HOSPITALIZED & SURGERIES this past week...

Irvin Smith – Stanford, extensive injuries requiring numerous surgeries (he was hit by a car)

Jay Fred – UCSF, complications following gall bladder surgery

Judy – hysterectomy and biopsy for pre-cancerous concern

Ken Beatty – health failing fast

Trudi Jackson – asthma

Recent hospitalizations / surgeries: Bob Walters, Kevin Muir

Hospice care: Dorothy Thrash

HOME WITH THE LORD

We were deeply saddened by the sudden loss of Maudie Williams, a long-time TLC family member and actively involved in the Life Application Sunday School Class. Her memorial will be Saturday, January 6, 11am in the Auditorium with a lunch following in Monschke Hall.

Word was received that Judy Powell is now present with the Lord. She was such a lovely lady who suffered with much grace through a lengthy illness with cancer.

THE KAWAMOTO TRIPLETS ARE WALKING!

Share HIS Care has served the Kawamoto boys the first year of their life. Diana would appreciate continued help with Kai, Noa and Luka's bathtime and lunchtime. Help is needed from 10am–noon, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call 818-2515 if you're interested.

THROUGH CANCER WITH CARE

Connect with others who understand, personal interaction & resources, encouragement & prayer. New time and place: Thursday, January 11th, begins with refreshments at 6:45, in the TLC Office Building lobby (Bldg 600). For more information, please call Jan, 462-2271 or Gerry, 476-8735, or go to www.tlc.org/care

We want to provide pastoral support...

Please call 465-3395 when someone is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, becomes a shut-in, or in special need. Prayer support is available through our pastors and numerous prayer groups – call 689-9400. Please pick up a Prayer Update at the Information Desk or Welcome Center.



“Preparing for Your Best Year Ever”

Message by René Schlaepfer
December 30 & 31, 2006

This weekend you can catch “Year in Review” specials everywhere. In the culture of Jesus and the early Christians, the New Year celebration was a time for a **spiritual** “Year in Review”: Coming to terms with the **past** year, so there could be a clean slate for the **coming** year.

When I look back I usually see three kinds of memories:

- Things I feel _____ about
- Things I feel _____ about
- Things I feel _____ about

How I face **2007** is largely determined by how I process these memories of **2006!**

1. What do I do with my guilt?

_____ and _____

*“When I kept silent, my bones wasted away... my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I **acknowledged my sin to you** and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD’ — and **you forgave the guilt of my sin.**” Psalm 32:3-5*

“Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.” Psalm 51:2

*“God says ‘... I will forgive their wickedness and **will remember their sins no more.**” Jeremiah 31:34*

*“God demonstrates his own **love** for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8*

2. What do I do with my stresses?

_____ and _____

*“Be merciful to me, O LORD, for **I am in distress**; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and my body with grief. My life is consumed by anguish... my strength fails... But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, ‘You are my God.’ **My times are in your hands.**” Psalm 31:5; 9-14*

*“**Cast all your anxiety on him** because he cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:7*

3. What do I do with my joys?

_____ and _____

*“**Give thanks** to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. **Remember** the wonders he has done.” Psalm 105:1-2,5*

Do you see your past and your future accurately?

When you see your **past** through the framework of God at work, you can look **ahead** with real confidence!

“There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.” Proverbs 23:18

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’” Jeremiah 29:11

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

Daily Meditations

Brief daily devotions based on this week’s topic

Monday

Happy New Year! Read Ephesians 1:4-8. According to this passage, what are some of the things God has done for us?

Why does God do these things for us when we trust in Christ?

According to this passage, what is true of you in Christ?

Thank God today for all the blessings you have in Christ. Ask God to help you remember who you really are in His sight!

Tuesday

Read Psalm 32 & Proverbs 28:13. In Psalm 32, what did David first try to do with his sin? What was the result? How have you experienced this? Then what did David do? What the result of that?

Have you sensed help and healing from the Lord when you felt guilty about something? Describe the last time this happened.

If you’ve never experienced such release, you can today! Admit your sin, accept responsibility for it and accept God’s gracious forgiveness!

Pray for the Lord to help you come clean about your sin and set you free from your guilt feelings. Thank Him for His grace to you today!

Wednesday

Read Philippians 4:6-8. When you are anxious, what are you to do according to these verses? What do you normally do? Why?

What is the benefit of prayer listed in this passage? How does this contrast with your normal state of mind?

Thank God today that you don’t have to continue in the same patterns of worry. Ask the Lord to help you remember to pray when you encounter anxiety!

Thursday

Read Psalm 77:11 & 105:5. Let’s build some monuments of memory today! How did you come to faith in Christ? How is this a monument for you?

Is there a miracle of God in Scripture that you particularly love to think about? Why? How can this help you in your current struggles?

Thank God today for the specific monuments you have already. Pray that your eyes will be opened to see God’s hand in your life. Ask God to remind you about His past faithfulness.

Friday

Read Lamentations 3:40. What is the writer, Jeremiah, urging his readers to do? As you evaluate yourself today, examine four areas: First, how are you doing physically? In what way are you stressed out, fatigued or tired? Next, how are you doing emotionally? What hurt or hang-up are you struggling with? Third, what’s happening in your relationships? In what relationships do you have peace? In which ones are you struggling? And finally, how are you doing spiritually? Have you developed a habit of spending time alone with God?

Talk to God today about these four areas. Thank Him for the growth you’ve seen. Pray about the struggles you are having. Pray that you will grow closer to God this year.

Saturday

Please finish up any devotions you may have missed and be sure you know this week’s memory verse. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that as we begin talking about the connection between personal change and world change that our church will be mobilized one person at a time to make a difference. Thanks!



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Jeremiah 29:11*