

# CURRENT

AT TAFT AVENUE COMMUNITY CHURCH



DECEMBER 2010 VOLUME 12 ISSUE 12

## CHALLENGE TO MINISTER

In Vermont, a farmer was sitting on the porch with his wife. He was beginning to realize how much she meant to him. It was about time – for they had lived together forty-two years, and she had been such a help, a very willing worker. One day, as they sat together, he said, “Wife, you’ve been such a wonderful woman, that there are times I can hardly keep from telling you.”

Funny story? Depends on how real to life it is. We have a great day planned for remembering and thanking God; let’s make sure we

actually do that. As Christians, we know that all the good things we enjoy have been provided by the cross. When we only deserve judgment, God showers us with goodness, because the penalty has been paid. Even the seemingly frustrating things – illnesses, breakdowns and calamities – their outcomes have been changed for us (Romans 8:28), so that it is only good. God accomplishes this in many ways. His hidden hand works through His people, through “happenstances,” events beyond our control, and people – especially His own

people. So we should thank God for those around us. Husbands, friends, co-workers, all of us – make the effort, express your thanks, but not only to God, but to those whom He has used – verbally. God has been working and blessing and bringing us to where we are today, and He has been using His people to do that. “I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.” Philippians 1:3-5 (NASB)



## CONTRIBUTORS:

- *Challenge to Minister*  
Pastor Bob
- *Call to Worship*  
Andrew Koetsier
- *Changing and Growing*  
Terry Lichte
- *Co-Laborer on the Field*  
Bill Petersen
- *Charting our Mission to Orange, India and the World*  
Steve Hicks
- *Charge to Action*  
Ministry Leaders

## CALL TO WORSHIP

“Ascribe to the LORD, O families of nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength, ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name. Bring an offering and come before him; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.” 1 Chronicles 16:28-29 (NIV)

We, as the people of God, are called to daily worship our glorious Creator. As we worship God, we are recognizing Him for who He is

and “ascribing to Him the glory due His name.” King David here describes worshipping the Lord “in the splendor of his holiness.” God’s holiness is beautiful and a clear manifestation of His glory. As David reflected on the holiness of the Lord, he proclaimed its splendor as clear evidence of His glory.

How often do you simply reflect on the Lord, who He is, and what He has done in your life? One way that is

personally helpful is taking an attribute of God and reflecting on the evidence of that attribute in creation, Scripture, my church community, my family, and my life. For example, I might take twenty minutes to reflect on the faithfulness of God. As I reflect on this truth about God in Scripture and the evidence of that truth in my life, I am moved to worship, to “ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name.”

## CHANGING AND GROWING

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the AWANA program. AWANA is derived from "Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed," which comes from 2 Timothy 2:15. The program reaches out with the gospel of Christ to over 400,000 children OUTSIDE of the United States, in addition to tens of thousands of children that hear the gospel in the United States.

This year at Taft Avenue Community Church, our program is the largest it has been in years, and with children joining up every week, it continues to grow. As it has been in the past several years, at least half of the children are from outside of TACC or from unchurched homes. One of our continued goals is to not only reach the children with the gospel, but to also reach inside the homes, especially the unchurched homes. This year was our first "Back to AWANA" night, where we invited all parents to come so we can explain more to them what AWANA is all

about and what we do in the program. The event had a very good turnout and we hope to build on this for next year.

All programs (Cubbies - pre-kindergarten; Sparks - kindergarten thru 2nd grade; Truth & Training - 3rd thru 6th grade) have had a tremendous turnout so far. We have also had a good response from the congregation to help with leadership, but we can always use more help. In addition, we also have many more youth helping this year, participating in game time and listening to verses. The youth are also in training to become future leaders for the AWANA program.

For the first time in years, we have signed up for the "AWANA Games" and Bible quizzing. The AWANA Games is a competition and fellowship among several churches involving the games the children play each week. This year, teams for both Sparks and Truth & Training will be competing in the Games on May 12, 2011 in Mission

Viejo. Bible quizzing is also a competition and fellowship among churches for Truth & Training. Our team this year will compete on April 15, 2011 in Irvine.

We are also currently doing a canned food drive for Casa de Pan in Mexico; in a few weeks, we'll also be collecting and making shoe boxes with gifts for the children down in Mexico.

If you know of any other families who have children up to 6th grade, who have not been to AWANA and would like to see what we do, let us know. We meet every Wednesday, 6:30-8:00pm (excluding the 2 weeks during Christmas).

Sincerely,  
Terry Lichte  
Commander  
TACC AWANA Program

"THIS YEAR AT TAFT AVENUE COMMUNITY CHURCH, OUR PROGRAM IS THE LARGEST IT HAS BEEN IN YEARS..."



Terry Lichte  
AWANA Commander

## CO-LABORER ON THE FIELD

Mark Williams is the TACC missionary associated with Dynamic Church Planting International (DCPI). Mark went to Bogota, Colombia in November to offer DCPI ministry training to 1,000+ church leaders gathered for a conference. He led a workshop and a training in church planting with individual leaders. Since 1985 in Colombia, 210,000 people have been killed and more than 4.5 million have been displaced

by paramilitary violence. It is the Western Hemisphere's worst humanitarian crisis. But there is hope in the good news of Jesus Christ.

Much of Mark's time the last few months has been spent developing a new course on the topic of growing new churches. This course will be taught for the first time in early December and will soon be spread around the world to over

3,000 trainers on every inhabited continent in the world. Please pray for the final writing done by Mark and Pastor Hal Seed. Mark's other training materials will be presented to about 8,000 church planters this year!

In 2010, DCPI has almost doubled their home office staff! However, many more staff members are needed: full-time, part-time and volunteer.

**CO-LABORER** ON THE FIELD CONTINUED

Please pray that they will find the needed staff members.

Also, remember that this is the time of the year people usually give most generously. Pray for abundant provision for their ministry. Some items for praise include the new DCPI website, which has been improved in many ways. Please visit it at [www.dcp.org](http://www.dcp.org). Check out the

exciting "Weekly Courage" devotions located on the homepage. This feature will eventually be part of the book they are writing.

Also, praise God for five hundred Africans, who were trained over the past summer months at numerous DCPI training events. All were nationally funded. Based on past

averages, this means that 2,300 churches will be planted by these leaders. Best of all, they will lead 108,000 people to Christ in the coming five years or so!

Continue to pray for Mark and Carolyn and their ministry with Dynamic Church Planting International.



Mark & Carolyn Williams

**CHARTING** OUR MISSION TO ORANGE, INDIA AND THE WORLD

Recently, the missions team of TACC has sent a response to the "Ten Year Plan" submitted to us by our friends in India. Our desire is to take the gospel to the Adivasi villages near Siliguri, India, for a very long time. The goal of TACC and the Leadership Training Center in Siliguri is to evangelize, provide discipleship training, and plant churches that, in turn, plant churches. We believe that this plan will facilitate our ability to do so. Please continue to pray for this ministry, and for the lost in India.

As the year comes to a close,

please remember our supported missionaries throughout the world. Pray that God would give them comfort and strength as they continue to be obedient to God's word.

Also, pray for the neighborhood ministry of Bill Petersen and Mark Menashe as they contact people living near TACC. Pray this ministry brings people hope and comfort, and a sense that there is a God who cares and a local church wanting to meet their needs. Also, pray for the expansion of this ministry as outlined in our last church meeting. Our desire is

to reach 1,000 homes near TACC in the next year, utilizing our various existing ministries at TACC.

The missions team is thankful for your prayers and continuing support.

"FIVE HUNDRED AFRICANS WERE TRAINED OVER THE PAST SUMMER MONTHS AT NUMEROUS DCPI TRAINING EVENTS. ALL WERE NATIONALLY FUNDED."

**CHARGE** TO ACTION

**About His Business**

Join us for the first half of our annual ministry meeting on Sunday, December 12th, at 6pm.

**Bring a Friend**

Invite others to share the joy of God's gift of His Son Jesus on Christmas Eve. We'll be holding Christmas Eve services at 5pm and 9pm in the Worship Center.

TAFT AVENUE  
COMMUNITY CHURCH  
1350 East Taft Avenue  
Orange, CA 92865

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **TACC's Administrative Assistant**, Nanette Overby, has decided to stay home with her baby, Mateo, for good. Ingrid Chung is now taking over for her. She can be reached at [office@TaftAvenue.org](mailto:office@TaftAvenue.org). She looks forward to serving you!
- **TACC Office Hours** for December only are a bit modified:  
*Open M-Th, 12-5pm.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

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- *AWANA is bigger than it has been in years*
- *Mark Williams and DCPI are training church planters all over the world*
- *Bring a friend to Christmas Eve services this year*
- *We want to reach 1,000 homes near TACC next year*

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
[WWW.TAFTAVENUE.ORG](http://WWW.TAFTAVENUE.ORG)

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