



Foster - Tukwila Focus



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November-December 2017

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I grew up in Southern California where seasons are a lot more subtle, the weatherman's job is a lot easier, and nobody thinks you're crazy if you go to the beach in January. So when I went to seminary in Illinois, I experienced a bit of meteorological culture shock. The most frequently asked question when people found out I was a refugee from California was, "Don't you miss the seasons?" The answer was a clear "No." What's to miss? Being twenty-five miles north of Chicago where it's impossible to confuse January with June? (After the Sylmar earthquake created havoc in the San Fernando Valley, the question changed to "Aren't you afraid of the earthquakes?" The answer was still "No." And we didn't have any tornado warnings.)

Perhaps age and maturity have brought some perspective; I've learned to appreciate the changing seasons that are a constant reminder of the faithfulness of God. Sunny autumn days make me smile. The trees shift gears as their leaves move from green to assorted colors of the rainbow. Each day the view is a little different as the changes brought by fall take place before my eyes. I've been enjoying the beauty of transition.

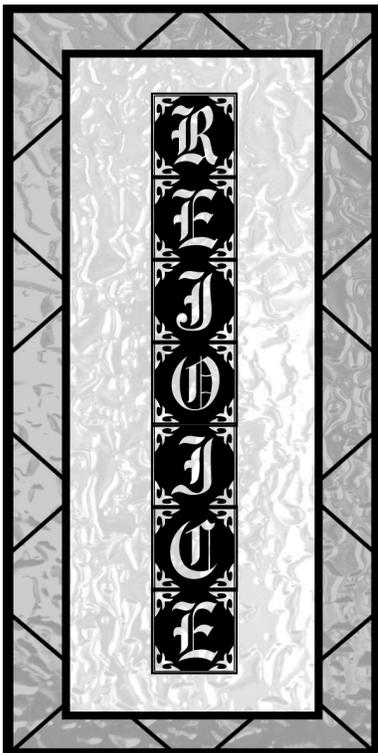
The trouble is it doesn't last. Those leaves don't just get spectacularly colorful and then stop. They continue to change. The winds pick up and those leaves lose their grip and fall to the ground, covering whatever is in their way, including the occasional drain. Some days the transition is less than beautiful, and some days the transition is inconvenient. In the midst of that, the beauty is found in being able to see the evidence of God at work. If only I could freeze-frame the beauty....

Too soon the beauty of fall fades to be replaced by a different and perhaps more stark beauty of winter, and what was true of fall is true of winter as well. There is beauty to be found, but things keep changing. That's the thing about transitions: They're transitional.

We understand that fact here at Foster because we're living in an adventurous season of transition. Some of the leaves have changed, some have dropped off the tree, and no matter how hard we try, we can't freeze those moments of beauty. But what is true of fall is true of Foster: It is the hand of God that creates the beauty. And in the midst of a season of change, it is clear that God is at work.

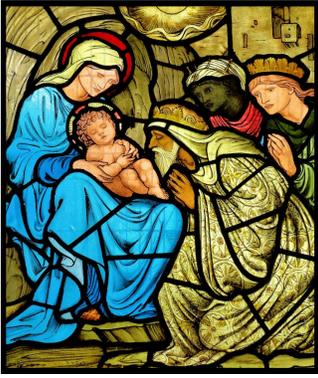
So, however else this season of change in the life of the church may affect you, I want to encourage you to keep looking for the evidence of God's fresh work. He is here, He is busy, and there is much to see. I invite you to come and enjoy the beauty of transition with me.

Pastor Malisher



Inside This Issue

Pastor's Pen	1
FTPC Financials	2
FTPC November Missions	2
November Calendar	3
December Calendar	4
Bulletin Board	5
Global Gift Guide	5
FTPC December Missions	6
IDOP 2017	7
Holiday Worship Services	8



“On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.”

Matthew 2:11 NIV

Income	Expenses
For Sept 2016	For Sept 2016
\$15,005.80	\$17,116.07
Year to Date	Year to Date
\$162,947.15	\$145,412.59

November Missions: Still Waters: Tukwila Weekend SnackPack

When we began distributing SnackPack to homeless students at Thorndyke Elementary in February 2015, little did I know the roller coaster ride that the Lord was about to take me on.

We provided weekend meals to nearly 70 students who met the criteria for homelessness that first academic year of our existence. Last year, we served 140/week, and this year we anticipate averaging 200+ SnackPacks/week, as we have now extended our program to all 5 schools in Tukwila School District.

The original vision of SnackPack, was to be a ministry of the Tukwila churches to our school district. It became obvious very soon, that it was too big a task for just the church alone.

In His wisdom, the Lord has opened the way for partnerships with the city, businesses, and Tukwila residents, so we can reach our hungry, homeless kids.

Homelessness is a gnarly issue. We read about it in our newspapers, and see stories on TV, and feel totally helpless to stem the tide of this troubling trend in our society.

SnackPack has provided a very practical way to begin addressing this issue in Tukwila. It doesn't end housing insecurity, but it provides one thing our children can depend on. They know no matter what happens over the weekend that they will have something to eat.

SnackPack incorporated in March 2016 under the name

of Still Waters: Services for Families in Transition. As you might surmise from our name, our vision is far larger than just providing weekend meals. For now, we have just one program: Tukwila Weekend SnackPack.

In 2015, our budget was under \$2,000. We had to rely entirely on volunteers and donated food. For fiscal year 2017-2018, we've passed a budget 40 times that! The Lord has always provided, and we trust He will continue to do so, as we continue to expand our services to the neediest of our children.

This year some exciting opportunities have arisen. Due to our successful first auction last spring, we've been able to improve our menu, and purchase more healthy food items. Our volunteers meet every Wednesday to assemble bowls of heart-healthy cereal, and bags of veggies. Healthy Additions is the brain child of one of our creative and hard-working

Let No Child Go Hungry in Tukwila!
 A VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT TO BENEFIT TUKWILA WEEKEND SNACKPACK
 National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week: November 11-19, 2017

Weekend SnackPack
 R.S.V.P at [facebook.com/TukwilaWeekendSnackPack/events](https://www.facebook.com/TukwilaWeekendSnackPack/events)

Featuring the Season Premiere of the SnackPack FB Live daily game show **TRUTH be TOLD**

To donate online, use your mobile device to scan the QR code, or visit tuksnackpack.com/give.html

volunteers, Annette Gomez.

Also new this year, is our SnackPack distribution site at Sullivan Community Center, adjacent to the Tukwila Library on International Boulevard. We will be giving out food to secondary students from Foster HS and Showalter MS.

To sustain all these new initiatives, we need to create a predictable funding stream. We are taking advantage of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week,

November 2017 - Foster Tuwila Presbyterian

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 12:00 pm: PrayTuwila @ Friendz Cafe 7:00 pm: Impact Teams	2 10:00 am: Prayer 6:30 pm: Grief Group	3 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women BNCCC Youth	4 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
Daylight Saving Time Ends 5 9:00 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship Aaron McGruder IDOP/COMMUNION 3:30 pm: MACC Worship	6 10 am-12 pm: CEF 7:00 pm: AA 206.419.4822	7 11:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth THE LORD'S WATCH	8 NHHAW 15 11:00 am: KOBA 6:30 pm: Session	9 10:00 am: Prayer 7:00 pm: Women's Bible Study	10 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women BNCCC Youth	NHHAW Begins 11 8:00 am: Men's Fellowship 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship VETERAN'S DAY
NHHAW 12 9:00 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship 2:00-4:00 pm: Bday Open House @ the Brewers 3:30 pm: MACC Worship	NHHAW 13 7:00 pm: AA	NHHAW 14 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth	NHHAW 15 11:00 am: KOBA 6:30 pm: Session	NHHAW 16 10:00 am: Prayer 6:30 pm: Grief Group	NHHAW 17 12:00 pm: Retirees & Seniors 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women BNCCC Youth	NHHAW 18 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week ~ November 11-19, 2017						
NHHAW Ends 19 9:00 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship POTLUCK 3:30 pm: MACC Worship	20 7:00 pm: AA	21 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth	22	23 Thanksgiving Day BNCCC Gathering	24 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women BNCCC Youth	25 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
Christ the King Sunday 26 9:00 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC Worship	27 7:00 pm: AA	28 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth 7:00 pm: Deacons	29	30 10:00 am: Prayer 6:30 pm: Grief Group 7:00 pm: Women's Christmas Tea		

December 2017 - Foster Tukwila Presbyterian

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1st Sunday of Advent 3 9:00 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship COMMUNION 2:00-4:00 pm: Bday Open House 3:30 pm: MACC</p>	<p>4 10 am-12 pm: CEF 7:00 pm: AA 206.419.4822</p>	<p>5 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth THE LORD'S WATCH</p>	<p>6 12:00 pm: PrayTukwila @ Friendz Cafe 7:00 pm: Impact Teams</p>	<p>7 10:00 am: Prayer 6:30 pm: Grief Group</p>	<p>1 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women BNCCC Youth</p>	<p>2 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship 5-9:00 pm: GP Night of Hope</p>
<p>2nd Sunday of Advent 10 9:00 am: CE 10:30 am: Worship Bridal Shower for Marci Krantz 3:30 pm: MACC</p>	<p>11 7:00 pm: AA</p>	<p>12 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth</p>	<p>13 11:00 am: KOBA 6:30 pm: Session</p>	<p>14 10:00 am: Prayer 7:00 pm: Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>15 12:00 pm: Retirees & Seniors 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women BNCCC Youth</p>	<p>16 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship</p>
<p>3rd Sunday of Advent 17 9:00 am: CE 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC 6:00 pm: Christmas Program Dessert Potluck</p>	<p>18 7:00 pm: AA</p>	<p>19 1:00-3:00 pm:</p>	<p>20 10:00 am: Prayer 6:30 pm: Grief Group</p>	<p>21 10:00 am: Prayer 6:30 pm: Grief Group</p>	<p>22 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women BNCCC Youth</p>	<p>23 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship</p>
<p>4th Sunday of Advent 24 No Generations 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC 7:30 pm: Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p>25 7:00 pm: AA Christmas Day BNCCC Gathering</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women BNCCC Youth</p>	<p>30 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship</p>
<p>No Generations 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC 8:00 pm: GAME NIGHT New Year's Eve</p>	<p>31</p>					



Daylight Saving Time Ends

Don't forget to "Fall Back" 2:00 am, Sunday, November 5, 2017

GAME NIGHT

WHERE: FTPC Fellowship Hall
WHEN: 8:00 pm - 12:00 am, Sun, Dec 31, 2017
WHAT: Bring board games and snacks to share



RETIRES LUNCHEON

Noon, Fridays
 November 17 &
 December 15, 2017

In case of Snow
 Call FTPC
 206-243-4455
 or visit
 ftpc.org

For information on changes in schedule.

Global Gift Guide

Give gifts that change lives

Complete Goat Package \$85

Clean Water \$100

Educate a Child \$50

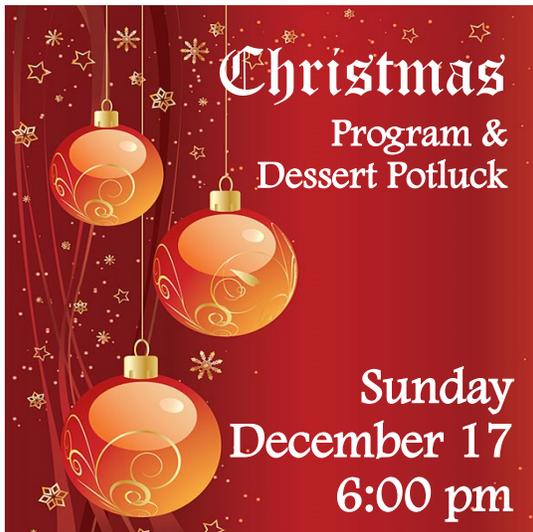
Emergency Food \$60

The 44-Cent Cure \$44

Disaster Lifeline \$75

KOBA Circle
 11:00 am
 November 15 &
 December 6 or 13,
 2017 (TBD)

www.worldconcern.org



November 11-19, to do a virtual fundraiser through social media. Even if you are not on Facebook, you will be able to view our public posts and broadcasts at www.facebook.com/TukwilaWeekendSnackPack.

We are asking 300 individuals to pledge \$25/month. That would provide weekend meals for 300 students struggling with housing insecurity. To make your recurring pledge, visit www.tuksnackpack.com/give.html

Many of you are already helping out, but we can always use some more volunteers. If you'd like to become part of this alliance of people of faith working with people of goodwill to help our hungry children, visit www.tuksnackpack.com/volunteer.html, or contact Jenny McCoy by email, tuksnackpack@gmail.com, or by phone, (206) 407-6413.

Thanks for your support.
Let No Child Go Hungry in Tukwila!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer J. McCoy".

December Missions: The Genesis Project

Patrolling the streets of South Seattle in the late night hours in 2005, I was becoming very discouraged over all the young girls walking the streets.

Life as a police officer varies a lot, depending on the time of day and the precinct. At night along Pacific Highway, I would see prostitutes along the streets every time I put on my uniform. And every time I saw them, I had to make a terrible choice. Do I arrest them, do I ignore them, or do I confine them to a non-criminal youth facility? Those were my only options

Arresting didn't help, because most victims of trafficking would rather go to jail than betray their pimps. After going through the prison system, most just returned to the streets or would get released the next day. At the time, my perception of them was like most cops—they are out on the streets of their own free will, doing something illegal.

Ignoring saved me paperwork, hassle, and having to get my hands dirty. But the problem is still there. Confining them to a youth facilities didn't help either, because they'd just run away. Often, they run away to avoid being taken home—because that's even worse.

MY HEART OPENED UP

Over the course of a couple weeks in late 2005, I had arrested the same two girls at least a dozen times. I reached the point where I got fed up with them, and asked them, "Why do I have to keep arresting you? Why are you still out here?"

The first one responded in a way that I wasn't expecting. She said, "I don't want to be here. Will you help me get out of this life?"

I was silent for a few moments. I never had a girl ask me that

before. Finally I explained, "Well, I am sure there are services out there for you." I elaborated to her and her companion that I would, in fact, search out the services. About a week or two later, I contacted another girl that I had previously arrested several times. She expressed the same concern, "Please help me out of this life."

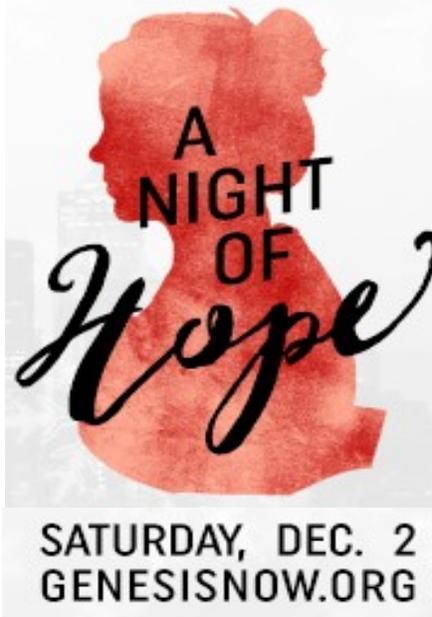
I had no answer.

That night I spent most of my shift trying to find the phone number of her mother in Idaho. I never found it, but this night was different. Instead of arresting the girl, I asked her to tell me her story and how she ended up working on the streets.

There was truly nothing I could do, and that was the night the crushing weight of it all finally hit me. As a police officer, not only am I to enforce the law, I also need to help people. Months later, I diligently searched for programs and services that would be able to offer some kind of help and assistance for the girls who wanted out of "the life". I could not find any. This began to change my view of the girls and women who walked the streets at night.

About a month later, I met a young girl, just 17 years old, who confirmed what I'd been feeling—I had to do something to help these girls. I met her on one of my night shifts. She didn't care if I took her to jail. She showed no emotion and appeared to have no life within her. I told her that I knew what she was doing, but I wasn't interested in taking her to jail. I wanted to hear her story.

It cut me to the core. This 17-year old girl told me her own drug-dealing father took her out of school in the fifth grade and pimped her out to his friends and customers when she was twelve. After a couple years, he eventually went to prison for drug charges and she was left on the streets, bouncing



Pray
with
them



OpenDoors

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

November 5, 2017



from pimp to pimp. I saw no hope in her eyes at all, and I was shocked that a father could do that to his little girl. She was in survival mode, and at that moment there was nothing I could do to help her. It was as if she was in a pit, reaching for me. There was nothing I could say or do to relieve her pain or give her hope.

A NEW DIRECTION

My entire perspective on prostitution had changed. As a man of Faith, I know I can only do so much; this is where God shows Himself strong. I believe He placed a vision within me to do something for his “lost” daughters. I began doing extensive research to find out what kinds of city services, charities, churches, or non-profit programs might be able to do to help. There needed to be a third option besides jail and youth centers.

I discovered there was not a single comprehensive recovery program in existence for young women caught up in sex trafficking or prostitution in the Seattle and Washington area.

“How can we live in the wealthiest, most advanced nation in the world,” I wondered, “and we don’t have a single organization that frees victimized girls from the shackles of sexual slavery?” We have programs for drug and alcohol addiction, mental illness, domestic violence, DUP’s, treatment centers, etc. But nothing for girls trapped in the life of prostitution and sex trafficking.

Out of options, I began talking to the girls I arrested. I tried to draw out their stories, ask about their hopes and dreams. I continued doing this for several weeks, and started to discover some common themes.

Most girls had no families, or anyone at all who cared about their welfare. Most had little education, and were denied it by their pimps.

They had no job skills or resources that would allow them to live independently.

They were trapped by their pimps through coercion, brute force, or even by twisted romantic attachment, which sometimes results from mind-control and emotional manipulation, mastered by these nefarious individuals.

In essence, I realized these girls were not criminals at all. They were powerless victims of slavery. In the years to follow, the girls taught me the structure and the underworld of prostitution and sex trafficking, the rules of “the game”, the stories of being in “the life”, how they felt so trapped, and how they could not see a way out. Society shamed them, not knowing they were held with chains that were not visible. They had no voice and no hope. This is the only crime where the suspect is also the invisible victim. This had to change.

FAITH IN ACTION

Now I had a mission. In the summer of 2009, I connected with members of a local non-profit called The Corridor. They asked me the greatest need in the area and, of course, I told them about the girls I contacted on a daily basis. I told them of my idea to start a center to help these girls get out of their lives trapped in slavery. They agreed to help and joined forces with me for the next two years. The Genesis Project is now a brick-and-mortar reality since August of 2011.

“Genesis” comes from a Greek word that means “be born or produced.” It’s associated with creation, the forming of new beginnings. I wanted a place that would originate new life for girls who had known nothing but misery and abuse.

As a drop-in center for victims of Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking, GP now provides that third option I never had before. It’s a place I can take these girls that isn’t a jail cell that just holds them without helping. And it isn’t a youth facility that simply doesn’t have the resources to address the crushing needs in their lives.

Why did I see a drop-in center as the answer? What do we do there? Learn more about what makes The Genesis Project unique and effective at genesishow.org. Then learn about our Mission, the details of the program, and our values.

Thank you.

Sandy Conner

The Genesis Project drop-in center serves as a safe-haven for women and girls who have been involved in commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking. See how you can be a part of this transforming work at genesishow.org/ways-to-give.



Foster-Tukwila Presbyterian

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Web: www.ftpc.org
206-243-4455

"To Know Jesus Christ & to Make Him Known"

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



☩ Come, Let us
Adore Him!

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service
Sunday,
December 24, 2017
7:30 pm

