



# Foster-Tukwila Focus



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need a savior.

The Bible narrative opens with incipient paradise.<sup>[1]</sup> But, so quickly, Adam and Eve sin; the pure and holy work of God turns to corruption, death is given sway over God's good creation. So, a need is created; we

Humanity's corruption proves to be worse than feared. So God chooses an old man and pledges to bless him, not only for himself, but that he might be a blessing to others. The Lord reveals that "All the families on earth will be blessed through you"<sup>[2]</sup>. This promise, that through Abram all the earth will be blessed, is revisited when God speaks to Isaac<sup>[3]</sup> and again when He speaks to Jacob<sup>[4]</sup>. We wait with eager anticipation to see how this will play out, which child of Abraham will bring blessing. However, when the book of Genesis closes, we have yet to see the nations have yet to be blessed.

So, we continue on. We are introduced to the descendants of Abraham, enslaved, broken by the might of the Egyptian state. We see the horrors of slavery and we might think "when does the blessing come?" Into this story rises Moses, a figure who seeks God, who (after some prodding) acts as God's mouthpiece. With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, God saves the Israelites from Egypt! And yet, no matter how many miraculous signs the Lord does, no matter how directly he guides the Israelites, they still grumble and complain. And so, at the end of Moses' life, he holds out hope. He says "The Lord your God will change your heart and the hearts of all your descendants, so that you will love him with all your heart and soul and so you may live!"<sup>[5]</sup>. And so, the world waits, where is the blessing? When will our hearts be changed?

We see Israel rise to be a great nation. A mighty king rises up, David, a man after God's own heart. He trusts God in the face of a giant! He refuses to raise his hand against the Lord's anointed! He delights in the Lord and the Lord delights in him. So, we, as readers look to see if it is happening, if the corruption that infected humanity is finally to be cleansed. Alas, he falls to lust and dreams of power like all before him. But, as David says that there will come a person whom God will not abandon to death, who he will not allow to "rot in the grave"<sup>[6]</sup>. One who will embody the overturning of death's rule. The Earth longs for such a day.

We continue in Israel's story. We see the kingdom that David built fall into sin and decay. After countless entreaties to return to God, God's pleas fall on deaf ears. Israel, who was supposed to bring a blessing to the nations, has rebelled against God. Israel is exiled, it seems like all hope is lost. And yet, this is when we get the clearest promise yet. A righteous servant is prophesied, one who "will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins"<sup>[7]</sup>. In the light of Israel's rebellion against God, this servant intercedes for them.

We, in 2019, only read this story, but God watched it. He looked and saw a people who persistently spat in His face. He spoke these promises of reconciliation, of a time when death would no longer hold sway. "For this purpose, then, the incorporeal and incorruptible and immaterial Word of God entered our world"<sup>[8]</sup>. The Word of God chose to take on flesh, moved by compassion and love for us who had done nothing to deserve it. The almighty, eternal Word of God chose to die for us rather than consign us to the corruption that had been introduced. In Him was death's sway broken, corruption reversed. Through Him our hearts are changed. His life, death and resurrection embody the final defeat of death. He bore our sins, that in Him, we might be counted righteous. He is the pivot point of History, and it is our great honor to praise the name of Jesus.

*Pastor Aaron*

[1] Holy Bible: New Living Translation. Wheaton, Ill: Tyndale House Publishers, 2004. Print. Genesis 1-2

[2] Genesis 12:3b NLT

[3] Genesis 26:4

[4] Genesis 28:14

[5] Deuteronomy 30:6

[6] Acts 2:25-28, Psalms 16:8-11

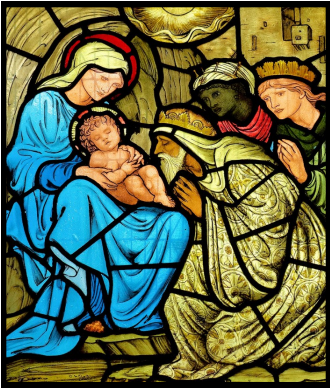
[7] Isaiah 53:11

[8] St. Athanasius On the Incarnation : the Treatise De Incarnatione. Verbi Dei. London :A. R. Mowbray & Co., 1970, pp. 15.

## REJOICE

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“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 2019	For Sept 2019
\$15,257.08	\$13,736.46
Year to Date	Year to Date
\$123,650.40	\$130,788.26

## November Missions: Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Month

### A SNEAK PEEK OF WHAT'S IN STORE!

Here's a preview of all the fun things that **Tukwila Weekend SnackPack** has planned for November to increase your awareness about hunger and homelessness. From SnackPackmobile Karaoke to a FB Live quiz show, there's something for everyone.



#### Mayor of Tukwila Issues Hunger & Homelessness Month Proclamation

Join us at 7:00 pm, Monday, November 4, 2019 at Tukwila City Hall to witness Mayor Allan Ekberg's proclamation and get an update on the Tukwila Weekend SnackPack Program.

#### Truth Be Told Quiz Show

Watch the 3rd season of "Truth Be Told", the FB Live Quiz Show that tests your IQ about hunger, homelessness, poverty and Tukwila Weekend SnackPack. Broadcasts Mondays on FB Live in November.

#### SnackPackmobile Karaoke!!

Join us Thursday mornings as sing karaoke-style in the SnackPackmobile while delivering SnackPacks to our hungry kiddos in Tukwila's elementary schools. Follow our FB broadcasts in November and post to let us know you are watching.



#### Stuff the Bus Food Drive at Saar's Super Saver Foods

Help us Stuff the Bus 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Saturday, November 16, 2019 at Saar's Super Saver Foods. Our volunteers will be on site to hand out shopping lists and receive your generous donations. **To volunteer, email us at [tuksnackpack@gmail.com](mailto:tuksnackpack@gmail.com).**

**A Virtual Poverty Simulation Workshop**

IT'S JUST STUFF.  
UNTIL YOU DON'T HAVE IT.

USE YOUR NAME FOR GOOD AT  
[NAMESFORCHANGE.ORG](http://NAMESFORCHANGE.ORG)

CONTINUE TO →  
**SPENT**

Schedule this unforgettable experience for your group today!!

**206.717.4709**

#### NEW!! Virtual Poverty Simulation Workshop

Imagine you're unemployed, your savings are gone, you've lost your house, and you're down to your last \$1,000. Can you make it through the month?

Schedule this unforgettable experience for your group today. **Call 206-717-4709 for more info.**

#### About the Tukwila Weekend SnackPack Program

In response to the rising crisis of homelessness among students in the Tukwila School District, Tukwila Weekend SnackPack was formed as a volunteer organization in 2015. We incorporated as Still Waters: Services for Families in Transition the following year.

We provide weekend meals to students who meet the federal criteria for homelessness as established in the McKinney-Vento Act. Each year over 200 volunteers help us collect, prepare, assemble, and distribute food for up to 300 students each week who struggle with housing insecurity.

We depend upon the generosity of local businesses, churches, and community members to sustain this outreach to the poorest of the poor in our community. Please consider joining us this worthy endeavor. We are looking for volunteers and donors. **For more information, visit [tuksnackpack.com](http://tuksnackpack.com).**



# November 2019 - Foster Tukwila Presbyterian

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<i>HHAM in Tukwila 1</i> 5:00 pm:BNCCC Women/Youth HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS MONTH IN TUKWILA Begins	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 2</i> 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
Daylight Saving Time Ends 3 <i>HHAM in Tukwila</i> 9:30 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship IDOP/COMMUNION 3:30 pm: MACC Worship	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 4</i> 10 am-12 pm: CEF 7:00 pm: AA 206.419.4822	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 5</i> 11:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth THE LORD'S WATCH	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 6</i> 12:00 pm: PrayTukwila @ Friendz Cafe 7:00 pm: Impact Teams	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 7</i> 10:00 am: Prayer 7:00 pm: Young Adults	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 8</i> 5:00 pm: BNCCC Women BNCCC Youth	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 9</i> 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
<i>HHAM in Tukwila 10</i> 9:30 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC Worship	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 11</i> 7:00 pm: AA VETERAN'S DAY	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 12</i> 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 13</i> 6:30 pm: Session	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 14</i> 10:00 am: Prayer 7:00 pm: Women's Bible Study	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 15</i> 5:00 pm:BNCCC Women/Youth	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 16</i> 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship 10 am—2 pm: Stuff the Bus 5-9:00 pm: GP Night of Hope
<i>HHAM in Tukwila 17</i> 9:30 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship POTLUCK 3:30 pm: MACC Worship	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 18</i> 7:00 pm: AA	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 19</i> 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 20</i> 11:00 am: KOB	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 21</i> 7:00 pm: Young Adults	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 22</i> 5:00 pm:BNCCC Women/Youth	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 23</i> 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
<i>HHAM in Tukwila 24</i> CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 9:30 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC Worship	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 25</i> 7:00 pm: AA	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 26</i> 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 27</i>	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 28</i> <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 29</i> 5:00 pm:BNCCC Women/Youth	<i>HHAM in Tukwila 30</i> 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship

# December 2019 - Foster Tukwila Presbyterian

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent 1 9:30 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship COMMUNION 3:30 pm: MACC	2 10 am- 12 pm: CEF 7:00 pm: AA 206.419.4822	3 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth THE LORD'S WATCH	4 12:00 pm: PrayTukwila @ Friendz Cafe 7:00 pm: Impact Teams	5 10:00 am: Prayer	6 5:00 pm: BNCCC Women/Youth	7 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent 8 9:30 am: CE 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC	9 7:00 pm: AA	10 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth	11 6:30 pm: Session	12 10:00 am: Prayer	13 5:00 pm: BNCCC Women/Youth	14 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent 15 9:30 am: CE 10:30 am: Worship POTLUCK 3:30 pm: MACC	16 7:00 pm: AA	17 6:00 pm: Youth	18	19 10:00 am: Prayer	20 5:00 pm: BNCCC Women/Youth	21 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent 22 No Generations 10:30 am: Worship <i>Special Missions Offering</i> 3:30 pm: MACC	23 7:00 pm: AA	24 7:30 pm: <b>Christmas Eve Service</b>	25 <b>Christmas Day</b> BNCCC Gathering	26	27 5:00 pm: BNCCC Women/Youth	28 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship
29 No Generations 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC	31 7:00 pm: AA	30 8:00 pm: GAME NIGHT <b>New Year's Eve</b>				



## Daylight Saving Time Ends



Don't forget to  
"Fall Back" 2:00 am,  
Sunday, November 3, 2019



## GAME NIGHT

**WHERE:** FTPC Fellowship Hall  
**WHEN:** 8:00 pm - 12:00 am, Tues, Dec 31, 2019  
**WHAT:** Bring board games and snacks to share

## Small Group Bible Studies

**Women's Bible Studies:**  
Tuesdays, 1-3 pm  
2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7-9 pm

**Young Adults Bible Study:**  
1st & 3rd Thursdays: 6:30 pm

**Men's Bible Study:**  
4th Thursdays: 7-9 pm

Get involved in a small  
group this month!!

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



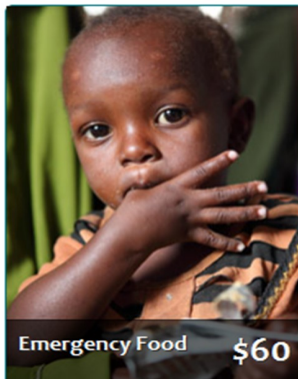
Complete Goat Package \$85



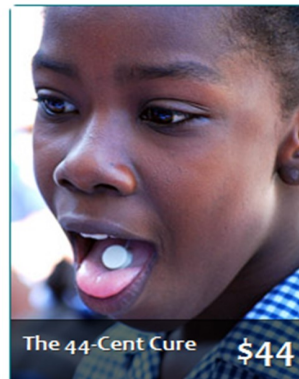
Clean Water \$100



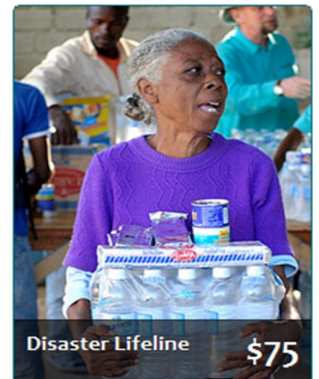
Educate a Child \$50



Emergency Food \$60



The 44-Cent Cure \$44



Disaster Lifeline \$75

KOBA Circle

11:00 am

November 20, 2019

December - TBA

[www.worldconcern.org](http://www.worldconcern.org)



# December Missions: The Genesis Project

**Offering Prostitutes An Alternative To A Jail Cell**  
*Alena Hall, Huffington Post*

Deputy Andy Conner always knew that he wanted to follow in his father's footsteps and enter law enforcement. But it wasn't until he began patrolling one of Seattle's most infamous sex trafficking zones that he discovered how deeply his work would ultimately affect the lives of others.

Conner didn't have a straight path to police work. Growing up in a close-knit community in California, Conner, now 50, was passionate about his family and about playing football, which earned him a scholarship to the University of Oregon. Soon after graduating, he signed with the Seattle Seahawks and relocated to begin his NFL career. He married his wife, Laura, in 1994, and was signed to the St. Louis Rams in 1995.

However, it was the end of his time in the NFL — thanks to a shoulder injury incurred just before his first season with the Rams began — that led him back to Seattle to pursue his original intention of becoming an officer of the law. He signed on as King County Sheriff 17 years ago and began patrolling SeaTac, an outlying suburb of Seattle.

"When I first came to SeaTac, I dealt with a lot of drug enforcement, gangs and stuff like that," Conner told The Huffington Post. "But then I started seeing all of the girls out there."

He spent his evening shifts arresting countless prostitutes walking along the Pacific Highway, the same stretch where Gary Ridgway, the "Green River Killer," picked up his victims throughout the 1980s and 1990s. King County law enforcement agencies relied heavily on Conner and his skills for acting on the area's comprehensive and challenging "loitering for the purpose of prostitution" law.

But one night in 2005, an encounter with two girls led Conner to view prostitution in an entirely new light. He picked up two young prostitutes whom he had arrested at least a dozen times each in the previous month. He had arrested hundreds of prostitutes, but these two girls — who were minors — struck a chord with him.

"I finally said, 'I'm tired of seeing you guys out here,'" said Conner. In response, the girls asked him for help.

"I told them to just quit," he said. "And unfortunately today, that's the mentality too — that they can just leave and quit and walk away from it." But the girls told Conner that no matter how much they may want to leave prostitution, they didn't have anyone or anything to make it possible.

"That changed things for me because I was a police officer," said Conner. "I was supposed to help people."

According to the Department of Justice, the most frequent age of entry for girls in the commercial sex industry is just 12 to 14 years old. Seventy to 90 percent of child prostitutes experience abuse prior to being tricked, forced or coerced into prostitution, according to New York-based Girls Educational & Mentoring Services, which provides support for girls and young women who've experienced sexual exploitation and trafficking. One of the fastest growing criminal industries in the United States, sex trafficking threatens the lives of 100,000 - 300,000 children each year, GEMS reports.

Conner conducted research to find a program for these girls and others like them, but he realized one simply didn't exist. There was support for domestic violence, drug addiction and other issues, but nothing as comprehensive as these girls would need to fully start over their lives from scratch.



"Those were the only two girls out of hundreds over the last several years that ever asked me for help," said Conner. "But they were the catalysts for everything."

Several months later, Conner encountered a 17-year-old girl who was loitering along the same streets. The girl told him that when she was 12, her father, who was dealing drugs, pulled her out of school and began selling her to his friends. After he was arrested and imprisoned for drug-related crimes, the girl was left out on the street to fend for herself, hopping from one pimp to the next to survive. She didn't even know where her mother was — she assumed she was dead. For Conner, the girl's story helped shed light on the fact that for many of these young women, prostitution wasn't the choice people perceive it to be.

"She was clearly forced into the life and didn't want to be there, but she had no way of getting out," he said. "She was devastated from the inside out, she had no structure, no nothing. So that was it for me, I was done. I decided I was going to do something about it."

Conner brought up his concerns to his supervisors and suggested the need for a shelter or home that could help protect these girls. They dismissed it as a victimless crime and told him not to worry about it, Conner said. He began researching grants and other options, but without personal or financial support, he was forced to table the idea.

For the next four years, when Conner met girls on the streets who he had probable cause to arrest, he didn't immediately place them in handcuffs. Since prostitution is considered "a crime against the state," officers are allowed to practice discre-

# Pray with them



OpenDoors

## THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

November 3, 2019



tion when they pick someone up who doesn't have a warrant out for his or her arrest — in other words, officers can make a judgment call.

Conner began asking the girls if they'd be willing to tell him about their lives instead of being arrested. He began collecting stories, learning about prostitution, the roles of all involved, and what these girls would truly need to leave that world behind.

"There's a handful of girls I've come across who got started on their own because people told them they could make money, but 99.9 percent were either coerced or forced or tricked into it at some point," said Conner. "Nobody ever started out wanting to do this."

In 2009, on a patrol of SeaTac, Conner noticed a block party of sorts that included a food bank and clothing giveaway. A woman from Conner's church who was volunteering at one of the tables told him about the Corridor, a local nonprofit that was hosting the event, and invited him to one of the board meetings. During the meeting, they asked Conner what he thought the area needed help with the most.

And unlike the police department years earlier, the group was completely on board with Conner's idea to help young girls escape prostitution.

Conner wanted to start a home that would offer counseling, vocational training and other services to young girls trying to leave the streets. He called it the Genesis Project.

Just as the Genesis Project was raising funds for the home, the Corridor lost its support. However, Conner was able to take over the Corridor's building, and transfer their nonprofit status to his new endeavor. On Aug. 31, 2011, the doors of the Genesis Project opened in South King County.

Now, when Conner's unit goes out on patrol, they're able to offer young prostitutes a place to go other than a jail cell. Some of the girls say they aren't ready, and some don't think they can trust the police. But some take the chance.

Conner remains a full-time police officer, but he's also the executive director for the Genesis Project. Performing both duties wears him out, but his faith keeps him going, he said.

"I've been given a lot of my life, and I have a lot of support and support structures, so I want to give back in the same way," he said. "I think my ideas and my vision and my graciousness toward these girls is not my own — it comes from God, and so I want to be respectful of that and be a good steward of it."

Conner's wife and three sons adopted the project right along with him as he learned how to run a nonprofit from scratch. Laura Conner is a staff member with the nonprofit, while the boys volunteer regularly. Together, they faced a six-month investigation in 2013 due to false fraud accusations. Conner's name was cleared, but the Genesis Project lost volunteers, funding and donors through that painful process. Today, the family is steadily rebuilding, and the Genesis Project continues to help girls in need.

"It puts a lot in perspective," said Conner of the investigation. "I got a taste of what the girls had gone through and continue to go through, and I have much more heart for them these days than even back then. I learn all the time from them. I have girls who are doing very well right now because we stuck with it, and I'm so glad we did."

Every year, Conner and his team host a 5K Freedom Walk and auction to help fund their nonprofit and raise more awareness about what sex trafficking truly means. They've served 121 victims to date. This month, the Genesis Project opened its first anti-trafficking coffee stand. The store will provide girls with job skills along with a paycheck.

Conner has also worked with two film producers who came to him with an interest in sharing the lives of these girls with the rest of the world. The resulting documentaries, Rape for Profit and the upcoming The Long Night, showcase the life of prostitution in South King County and how the Genesis Project serves as a resource for young women, should they choose to take it.

"It's about looking at these girls and seeing the true victim in somebody," said Conner. "This so much more deep and so much more complicated — there's so much more of a truer victim here. It is modern slavery, just a different type."



To support GP visit  
[www.genesisnow.org](http://www.genesisnow.org/take-action)  
/take-action.

THE GENESIS PROJECT







**Foster-Tukwila Presbyterian**

PO Box 88576

Tukwila, WA 98138

Web: [www.ftpc.org](http://www.ftpc.org)

206-243-4455

*"To Know Jesus Christ & to Make Him Known"*

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**Come, Let us  
Adore Him!**

# Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service  
Tuesday,  
December 24, 2019  
7:30 pm

