

# Sunrise Christian Church

March 2017 Family Newsletter

Called as a church to Love, Learn, Lead

Who is this great God we serve?



By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

**Hebrews 11:3**

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"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation?

Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!

Who stretched a measuring line across it?

On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—

while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?"

**Job 38:4-7**

## HELPING HANDS



### Good deeds

*"Let your light shine before men, that they might see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven"* - Matthew 5:16.

Daniel Fuller said about this passage: "In biblical thinking, genuine love exists only when good works are done in context where God, rather than the doer, gets the credit."

### "I know your deeds"

The letters to the seven churches of Revelation shows "that there is not one blessed thing that Jesus does not know about you and the church where you attend" - Victor Knowles.

*"I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance"* - **Rev. 2:2**

*"I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first"* - **Rev. 2:19**

*"I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead"* - **Rev. 3:1**

*"I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God"* - **Rev. 3:2**

*"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!"* - **Rev. 3:15**



### Overwhelmed?

We often hear the false promise that "God will never give you more than you can handle."

But just the opposite is often true! Though He does not cause the problems that come into our lives, none the less, He does allow them to come!

So the loss of a loved one(s), serious debt, worries about our jobs and thus our income, or problems with family and friends can make us feel over-whelmed.

These problems can even drive us to our knees, where we ask ourselves where God is at in the midst of these problems.

This is nothing new, even David- the one commended for having a heart after God- surely must have had these moments. For he wrote about walking through what he called the "valley of the shadow of death" (Ps 23:4). And when you read about David's life, of King Saul pursuing him, you know that death indeed was knocking at his door.

Job, like Jesus, was man acquainted with sorrows. Having lost all his children and servants and fortune in a single day, it must have been with a touch of bitterness when he said, "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away" (1:21).

Many of us have experienced this feeling, so it is my hope that we too can affirm: "the Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not be want" (Ps 23:1).

Why? Because we know that since Jesus was willing to lay down his life for us, he, thus, has proven himself. Therefore we can "cast" our cares upon Him, knowing that "He cares for us" (I Peter 5:7).

## It Is Well With My Soul

The lyrics say:

When peace like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say  
"It is well, it is well, with my soul  
..... Though Satan should buffet, though  
trials should come.  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ has regarded my helpless  
estate,  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul  
.....

Have you heard the story behind this great hymn?

Many have heard of the 1872 fire known as the Great Chicago Fire. In it, businessman and lawyer Horatio Spafford lost everything he owned.

Two years later he sent his wife and four daughters on ahead of him to Europe while he remained behind to attend to some last minute business.

While crossing the Atlantic Ocean, the ship his family was on was struck by another ship. Within minutes their ship was floundering and very soon to sink. And though Horatio's wife tried to prepare their daughters to survive the sinking, they too perished. She alone was found floating in the water.

Taken to Wales, she cabled her husband, "Saved alone; what shall I do?"

Taking the next ship, Horatio headed to Europe to comfort his wife. As he passed near the spot, captain of the ship pointed out where the sinking had taken his daughters' lives. A family member would later claim that it was on that very ocean crossing that Horatio wrote his great hymn.

My, how things have changed!

## 1872 Rules for Teachers

- \*Teachers each day will fill lamps and clean chimneys.
- \*Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and shuttle of coal for the day's session.
- \*Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual tastes of the pupils.
- \*Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
- \*After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
- \*Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be discharged.
- \*Every teacher should lay aside from each day pay a goodly sum of their earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he is not become a burden on society.
- \*Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity, and honesty.
- \*The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.

*Oregon City, Oregon*

## Upcoming events:

*Faithful Men* men's breakfast- 7:30am, Saturday, March 4 at Rusty's.

*Crock Pot Sunday*- March 5

*Baskets of Love* food collection- Sunday, March 5  
*Resurrection Sunday*- April 16 (Be thinking who you can invite)

Cove Christian Camp's *men's retreat*- April 21-22

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## Things preachers wished they heard more often:

Hey! It's my turn to sit on the front pew!

Sorry, I was so engrossed that I never noticed that your sermon went 25 minutes over.

Personally, I find witnessing much more enjoyable than golf.

I've decided to give our church the \$500.00 a month that I used to spend on my entertainment.

Please, can I volunteer to be the teacher for the Junior High Sunday School class?

I always love it when we sing hymns I've never heard before!

Since we're all here, let's start the worship service early today!

Pastor, next winter we'd like to send you to that seminar in California.

Nothing inspires me and strengthens my Christian commitment like our annual stewardship campaign!