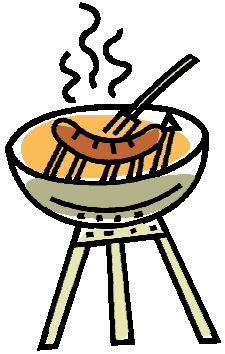




Hillside Herald
August 2017



**Hillside Church &
Hillside Christian Academy
Annual Picnic**

Saturday, September 9

WHEN: Saturday, September 9

TIME: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

WHERE: Westborough Park, Shelter Area

Plan on a great day of food, fun and fellowship! The church will provide the burgers, hot dogs, paper products and drinks. All you need to bring is a salad, dessert and snacks to share.

Come and enjoy a fun and relaxing day!

Please let the church office know if you are going and how many people you will be bringing.

Called to *Serve*

HELP NEEDED ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

NEEDED: USHERS, GREETERS, CHURCH NURSERY WORKERS, CHILDREN CHURCH WORKERS, SOUND ROOM TECHNICIANS

If you are able/willing to help out with any of these ministries please let Pastor Mike know. Most of these would be only once a month, or even less frequent. Your help is needed!



TEACHERS NEEDED!

**NEEDED: Part-time Math & Science Teacher for Middle School
Part-time Art Teacher for Middle School**

If you know of someone who might be interested in these positions, please contact Pastor Mike: 650-588-6860 or 650-271-2336.



POTLUCK-SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

Come and enjoy the food with great fellowship
All you have to do is bring a dish to share, grab a plate
of food and sit down, enjoy the food and the company.

Sunday, August 13th immediately following service

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support **Hillside Church of God** every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to **Hillside Church of God**

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select **Hillside Church of God** to receive donations from your eligible purchases before you begin shopping and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

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You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry are also the same.

Proceeds to be divided equally between Hillside Church of God and Hillside Christian Academy.



August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8:00am Prayer Meeting	2 6:30 pm Bible Study 7:45pm Prayer	3	4	5
6 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	7	8	9 6:30 pm Bible Study 7:45pm Prayer	10	11	12 10:00am Food Pantry Distribution
13 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship POTLUCK	14	15 8:00am Prayer Meeting HCA First Day of School	16 6:30 pm Bible Study 7:45pm Prayer	17	18	19
20 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship 5:30pm Women's Group	21	22 8:00am Prayer Meeting HCA Back To School Night	23 6:30 pm Bible Study 7:45pm Prayer	24	25	26
27 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	28	29 8:00am Prayer Meeting	30 6:30 pm Bible Study 7:45pm Prayer	31		

Legacy Youth News

God Bless you Hillside Church of God,

Thank you to Anita Giluso, Sean Allgood, Andrew Akard, Clark Gibsons and countless other families that continue to support Legacy Youth Ministry. I am humbled and encouraged by the support that we have from our church.

Our theme this year was Wake Up, from Ephesians 5:14.

Pastor Ryan Disjarden did an amazing job at challenging the students to Wake up and live for Jesus now. Please keep our students who attended in your prayers. Thank you to everyone that kept the camp in prayer. In looking at camp from behind the scenes, it actually seemed to run smoother than previous years. There was a lot that could have gone wrong but didn't. A few major ones was there was a fire down the road across the river, if the winds would have picked up like they did previous nights, we would have to evacuate, but praise God, prayers were answered and the fire was taken care of. Another was a counselor was feeling extremely ill in which they had to go to the emergency room, in which they would eventually have to go home, however, we prayed and God answered. They were able to stay at camp the rest of the week.

It was in the details that God moved and I didn't notice but as I sit here and type that I recall God doing things.

May we all remember that God is in the major but also in the details.

Keep pressing ahead,



John Maloa – Taulealo
Youth Pastor
Hillside Church of God



Hillside Christian Academy

As a new principal at Hillside Academy, I am looking forward to an exciting year as we start our new school year on August 15, 2017. We have enrolled 91 students for Kindergarten –Eight Grade! As we prepare for a great new school year, please join me in welcoming our new teachers:

Ana Moy, First grade

Lorna Sablad, Second Grade

Natalie Arias, Middle School (English and History)

You will soon be hearing from the new teachers and their introduction on Back to School Night, so mark your calendar to be there August 22, 2017.

As we enter this new school year, we ask you to help us by:

Praying daily for the staff as we seek God's wisdom.

Praying daily for our students as they face daily changes.

Keep the lines of communication open between parents and staff.

Thank you so much for your support and prayers!

“Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, “This is the way; walk in it.” Isaiah 30:21

Helen Yoo-Lee



**Hillside Christian Academy
K thru 8th Grade**

Starts Tuesday, August 15th

K-5th Grade @ 8:25am

6th, 7th & 8th Grade @ 8:00am



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Shop at over 1,000 of your favorite online merchants and earn up to 16% for Hillside Christian Academy.

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A Message From Pastor Mike ..

TO TITHE, OR NOT TO TITHE? THAT IS THE QUESTION

Tithing, or giving to the church, is a difficult subject to discuss. For those of you who have been at HCOG for a while you know that this is a subject which I very rarely mention from the pulpit. In my 24-plus years as pastor at HCOG I have preached about tithing and giving to the church only seven (7) times. It is not because the Bible does not discuss money and finances. According to Compass Ministries there are 2,350 verses in Scripture that deal with money. To be honest, I do not discuss tithing from the pulpit because I am a coward.

Generally speaking, people get offended when tithing is taught in church. I've heard that generations ago ministers often preached on the subject of tithing. Not so today. For some reason tithing has become an intensely personal topic and it is uncool to discuss it from the pulpit. I have seen and heard people become very upset when money is mentioned in church.

Why is that? What is it about money and church that makes us so defensive? I think one reason is that folks who are new to the faith do not have an understanding of what giving/tithing means. This is probably because we do not teach about it! Therefore, being the coward that I am, I will discuss tithing in my newsletter article.

First of all, the word *tithe* means the giving of 10% of one's income to the church. God told the Israelites that a tenth of all their crops and cattle belongs to the Lord, and it was commanded that the people gave it as a means of providing for the Levites when the Israelites entered into the Promised Land (*Leviticus 27:30-34; Numbers 18:21,26; 2 Chronicles 31:4-5; Proverbs 3:9-10; Nehemiah 10:35-37; Malachi 3:8-12*).

However, tithing was also part of their spiritual formation. Tithing was a means of demonstrating their faith and thanksgiving to God. By giving of their tithe they were recognizing that everything they owned and produced came from God and belonged to God. They were to give generously and joyfully, thanking God for providing the harvest.

Why would we assume this is no longer true today?

Here are some common questions/beliefs about tithing in the church today:

- ***Tithing is not in the New Testament, or Jesus does not mention tithing.*** These are the most common. First of all, the New Testament ***does not*** issue a mandate to tithe. However, the practice of tithing and the giving of our "first fruits" to God was common practice for the Jews, and the New Testament ***does not*** say it is no longer necessary. An example of giving in the New Testament church is found in Acts 4:32-35. From this passage, should we deduce that this is how all Christians should give? New Testament theology dictates that 100% belongs to God. There is a reason why we take an offering during our worship service – because giving is an act of worship. We give as a response to what the Lord has done for us

- **All churches/pastors care about is money.** Unfortunately this is often true. There are churches and preachers out there who seem to be in ministry for the money. Hopefully there is enough transparency at HCOG that no one can rightfully accuse us of falling into this category. Our budget, including my salary, is published in our Annual Report and then voted on by the church. I do not make more money if people give more money. I do not see the offerings, nor do I know who gives to the church or how much they give to the church.
- **I will tithe when I can afford it.** Most people will say that there is no way they can give 10% of their income to the church. I do not know anyone's income, and I do not care to know anyone's income. What people make and how much they give is between them and God. However, statistics show that the more money a person makes, the less percentage they give to the church. Giving should be done as a step of faith.

On the other hand, here are a couple of other misconceptions concerning tithing:

- **When we give to the church God will reward us with greater riches.** Giving is not gambling. When we give we should not give expecting a great payday to come our way. We give out of our love for God, obedience to His word, concern for the poor and needy, and out of our belief that our giving helps to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20).
- **Christians should give to the church because it costs money to operate the facilities.** Yes, it takes finances to operate a church. The church's yearly budget is about \$245,000. This includes funding for the various ministries, salaries, maintenance, missions, and operations. The only outside income we receive is from renting our building to another church (\$18,000), contributions from the school (\$30,000). This leaves about \$200,000 from the offerings taken during worship service.

But we do not pay dues to be part of a church/club, and giving should not be seen as an obligation or duty to the church. Our giving is out of love and obedience to God. Of course it takes finances to operate the church, but our giving must not be out of religious duty or obligation.

So then, how much should we give? What does the Bible say about giving in the church today? The following is a quote from the Billy Graham Evangelical Association's website,

A New Testament teaching on giving which may be helpful to you is found in *1 Corinthians 16:2*: "**On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.**" This passage brings out four points: we should give individually, regularly, methodically, and proportionately.

The matter of your giving is between you and God, and He always takes into account our circumstances. He knows when they are beyond our power to direct and control. The important thing is that we see giving as a privilege and not a burden. It should not be out of a sense of duty, but rather out of love for the Lord and a desire to see His kingdom advanced.

-- <https://billygraham.org/answer/does-a-christian-have-to-tithe/>

Therefore, what you give to the church is between you and God. Tithing is a general rule, but it is not mandated by Scripture or the church. Some people give more, some give less. Whatever you give, give as a response to God's goodness, and give out of faith

By the time you read this the 2017/2018 budget will already have been approved at the Annual Meeting. When the Trustees create a budget they do so as a step of faith. They see the needs and they estimate a cost, but there is no guarantee that there will be enough income to meet these proposed expenses. They work hard and pray diligently that God will provide what is needed for the ministry of HCOG to continue. All they ask is that you will continue to join them in praying for God's provisions, and to prayerfully step out in faith and give generously and joyfully to the Lord. They would not ask this if they were not willing to step out in faith themselves.

If you are reading this sentence then I will assume you have read this lengthy article, and I thank you for your patience. This is a difficult topic and I pray that you read it and receive it with the spirit from which it was written.

Your servant in Christ,

pastor mike



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All those Box Tops really add up!

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August Birthdays

2: Beth Fort
5: Bill Holley
5: Oscar Gonzalez
6: Rachel Coutts
9: Ben Phillips
11: Greg Erion
11: Bill Stevenson
12: Marilyn Mehrer
13: Gita Collins

16: Michael Coutts
17: Marge Hill
18: Janice Holley
19: Carol Manu
19: Lisa Timpano
23: MarLee Elisara
23: May Manu
24: Chris Kunis
30: Joe DeMartini



Important Dates

12: Food Pantry Distribution 10:00am
13: Potluck
15: HCA Elementary First Day of School
15: Board of Trustees Meeting
22: HCA Back To School Night

Mission Statement

The mission of Hillside Church of God is to worship Jesus Christ as Lord, to proclaim him as our Lord and Savior, and to show the love of God through Jesus Christ to all persons, making disciples and equipping them for service.

Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord almighty.

Zechariah 4:6



Hillside Church of God
1415 Hillside Blvd.
So. San Francisco, CA 94080

Michael R. Coutts, Pastor

John Maloa-Taulealo, Associate Pastor

Church office Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm

Phone: 650-588-6860 x2 (church)

Fax: 650-588-6827 (church & academy)

Church office email: office@hillsidechurchofgod.com

Website: www.hillsidechurchofgod.com

www.facebook.com/hillsidechurchofgod

Hillside Christian Academy Hours: Monday-Friday 7:00am-6:00pm

650-588-6860 x3 (academy)

School office email: hillsidechristian@att.net

Website: www.hillsidechristian.com