

Folsom, El Dorado Hills, and Sacramento Area

Bringing The Church to the needs of the community



newsletter

JULY/AUGUST 2010

What's Inside This Issue:

- Support 4 Soldiers Joins Assist Local on Page 1
- Powerhouse Ministries ... How Did It Start? On Page 1
- Your Story ... God's Story on Page 1
- Freed Inside Jail Ministry Joins Assist Local on Page 2
- Summer Palooza on Page 2
- Good News This Issue on Page 2
- Today's Slavery ... Human Trafficking on Page 2
- The Prayer Room on Page 3
- Upcoming Events on Page 4
- Community Needs List on Page 5
- Global Leadership Summit Review on Page 6
- More Like Falling in Love – The Lyrics on Page 6
- About The Assist Local Network on Page 7



Powerhouse Ministries... How did it start?

I moved to Folsom with my husband and two children, because my husband had been laid off from his job in Southern California. The only job he could find was managing construction of the new Prison in Folsom. We had three days to find a house and move. We knew nothing about Folsom, except that a prison was there. The day after we move to Folsom we drove to the prison to look at the construction site, and saw many women and children waiting in line to see their husbands and fathers. God touched my heart, it was like no other experience.

I was doing all the normal things like decorating my house and getting my kids in school. Three years later, I was laying in bed, nine months pregnant, and complaining to the Lord about a church I was attending that was going through a split. God spoke to my heart, "Why haven't you done what I showed you when you first moved up here?" I fell a sleep and had a dream that I began a place that is much like Powerhouse is today. It was drawing families from the prison, and then as a result of what was happening in this place [Powerhouse] they were going back into the prison, and was effecting what was happening there (the prison). Then it was spreading to the community of Folsom.

Continued on page 3



www.Support4Soldiers.org

Support 4 Soldiers Joins Assist Local

Support 4 Soldiers has joined the Assist Local Network, and as a ministry of Assist Local now has it's non-profit status.

Support 4 Soldiers fills a particular and very important role, and that is helping on a day to day basis our Servicemen and women serving overseas. We don't question the reasons for them being there, we simply do our very best for them and their families.

It should never be under estimated what difference a care package or thank you note can make to a soldier thousands of miles away from home.

Through Support 4 Soldiers you can let our brave men and women know just how proud you are of them and thank them for the dedication, commitment and sacrifices which they make for us.

For more information on Support 4 Soldiers please contact info@Support4Soldiers.org

Your story ... God's story

As she was driving to work one day, like any other day, she saw the brake lights ahead that signaled the typical morning stop-and-go traffic that is routine for all commuters. Although you always hope there is some go after the stop. This day, they stopped, but they did not go... in fact some people were abandoning their cars in favor of giving help to an accident victim. As it turns out, the victim was her 18 year old son. And it was the last time she would see him before they laid him in a coffin... and changed *her* story forever. The tragedy of a life cut short was only magnified by how sudden, how unprovoked and how inexplicably the accident had happened.

Continued on page 3



"I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me."

-MATTHEW 25:36

Freed Inside Jail Ministry Joins Assist Local

Freed Inside Jail Ministry formerly Free on the Inside has joined the Assist Local Network, and as a ministry of Assist Local now has it's non-profit status.

Assist Local has been working with the Free on the Inside jail ministry of Placerville over the past year to help bring attention to the fantastic work that they have been doing in El Dorado County Jail located in Placerville, CA.

Free on the Inside has been doing ministry for some 18 years in El Dorado County, and has become a stable presence in the Placerville jail over the years, with the participation of multiple churches.

The ministry is in a season of growing to have greater influence in the jail, and is always looking for new volunteers and supporters who are interested in jail and prison ministry. If you want more information on Freed Inside Jail Ministry please contact Rich Whelan at chaplainrich@ymail.com.

Summer Palooza 2010 A huge success!



- Orangevale, thanks a TON for your generosity

What a great way to kick off the summer – joining together as a community to serve a much needed cause! Over a thousand people came out to the first annual benefit concert to raise money and food donations for Twin Lakes Food Bank. Summer Palooza 2010 was hosted by Lakeside Church

of Orangevale at the Orangevale Park on Saturday, June 5th to bring the community together for one common purpose – to support the Twin Lakes Food Bank. With the economy's decline in recent years, more people have relied on the food bank to makes ends meet. Over 30% of the people who benefit from the services Twin Lakes provides are from Orangevale. The Folsom-based food bank offers food, clothing and support to people in our community who need a little extra help. It's a very worthwhile cause that we all stepped up to help by donating over 3,000 pounds of food which will now be distributed to hundreds of families in the area.

The event provided fun for all ages. From bounce houses and pony rides to live music and dancing, there was something for everyone at Summer Palooza. Frankie Soul kicked off the night with some great blues music, and local band 9.5 finished off the night with hits from the 70s, 80s and 90s.

"It was amazing to see the community respond to a real need and show great support for the food bank," said Lakeside Church of Orangevale campus pastor, Chris Baltzley. "We are truly blessed to be part of such a generous community."

For more information about Twin Lakes Food Bank, visit www.twinlakesfoodbank.org. If you'd like to participate in future events that serve our local community, check out Lakeside Church of Orangevale. They meet every Sunday at 10:45 am at Twin Lakes Elementary off of Madison and Main. For more information about Lakeside Church of Orangevale, visit www.lakesidechurchov.blogspot.com.

Thanks Orangevale, for helping to fill the truck and stock the shelves at the food bank. Hundreds of families will benefit from your generosity. We will all look forward to a second annual Summer Palooza event in the summer of 2011!

-Brad Squires
member of Lakeside Church, Orangevale

Today's Slavery... Human Trafficking

Slavery can be traced back to the fall of mankind in the Garden of Eden, when man first sinned against God. Mankind by his act of disobedience became a slave to sin, and it was not long before he began enslaving his brothers.



In Genesis chapters 37-50, the scriptures tell us about how was Joseph sold into slavery by his brothers, during the period of the Semitic Hyksos pharaohs reign of Egypt about 1710-1570 BC.

Continued on page 4

Good News This Issue:

- Assist Local Network launches NEW website with a Prayer Center, a place you can submit prayers, join a prayer chain for the community, or submit a testimony or praise report.
- Good Samaritan Team launches NEW website hosted by Assist Local Network. www.GoodSamaritanTeam.org
- Support 4 Soldiers becomes a ministry of the Assist Local Foundation and receives non-profit status.
- Freed Inside Jail Ministry becomes a ministry of the Assist Local Foundation and receives non-profit status.

Powerhouse Ministries... How did it start? continued

So when you're nine months pregnant, and you have a dream like that, "What do you do?" A couple days later I went into labor, and my roommate (in the hospital) was an inmate's wife. God just began to break my heart, as I heard her story and the struggles she was going through. As soon as my son was about a year old, I began to try to figure out what to do with this. I found out about a woman in Folsom that was a leading bible studies with inmates' wives. I called and asked if can I come and hang out at her bible study. She said, "Honey I have been praying for you for years. I am getting to old to do this. Come and take over what I am doing". It was like no other time in my life. I walked in to the room, aware that I had grown up in a Christian family, and had never known anyone that had gone to prison. I had led a sheltered lifestyle. I walked into that room and I knew that I was home. I was where God wanted me to be. A month later the woman walked out and left me with the bible study.

The bible study was meeting in the same church that is now our building. But I moved it out on to the street, because I realized that meeting in the church was really a barrier. So we started meeting out on the front lawn of the Duchow Apartments. I started gathering women, and we would meet right around the mailbox, which I learned was a very important part of their lives. As I did that some of the teens, and especially the gang youth (there used to be large gang problem in Folsom) would come and stand around the edges of the women's bible study. Afterwords they would come and talk to me. That began the ministry. I began to see the incredible poverty, not just financial poverty, but in every form. So I began to do what I could. Gathering my friends to come with us, we passed out ice cream cones in the neighborhood, and gathered children. Soon we had about a hundred that would gather on a Sunday night just out in front of the apartment complex.

Winter came, and we asked, "What are we going to do"? So we rented an apartment, brought them in there and had a small prayer group. We began to pray that God would give us a place to gather these families, and begin to share with them mainly the hope of Jesus Christ.

What I learned early, is their problems are so big, and run so deep, that really with out a radical heart transformation, real lasting hope and change wasn't possible. We began to pray and the church where we meet now, came up for sale. I tried to figure out how we could get that building, and began to design all my ideas. We could sell our house and buy it, but then where would we live? Then someone came to me who heard what we were doing, just meeting out on the streets and working with these families. They offered us the cash to buy the building outright. We didn't have a non-profit status or anything. A few days latter someone came to me who had a non-profit status that they were going to give up, and asked if we wanted to take it over. So we had an attorney look at it, and he said it was all good. So we were able to receive the donation and purchase the building.

That's kind of how Powerhouse began. All of the sudden we had the building, and I was now asking, "God, what do we do?". The neighborhoods were so awesome at that time. People on the streets said, "We got the church, we got the church". There was so much ownership on their part. They came down to help, some of them were under the influence, some were gang members, and we all stripped out the carpeting and painted. God just began to work in the community. There are a lot of services that Powerhouse offers, but I think at the core, Powerhouse is a family.

Nancy Atchley is the pastor and director of Powerhouse ministries for almost 20 years. For more information on Powerhouse Ministries visit www.powerhouse-ministries.org.

-Nancy Atchley,
Pastor of Powerhouse Ministries, Folsom
*Transcribed from a video interview
on August 16, 2010.*



The Prayer Room:

- NEW PrayerCenter at www.AssistLocal.org added to website, dedicated to community prayer needs. Please join the prayer chain.
- Pray for God's blessing on the influence he has given the church at Theodore Judah Elementary School and for those who are serving at the school.
- Pray for the food banks, and the people they serve.
- Pray for the unchurched, unengaged, unreached, unlovely and uninterested people of our world.
- Pray for the youth in our community, and that God would protect them from drugs and violence.
- Pray for God's continued blessing on Alternatives Pregnancy Center's new Folsom center.

Your story ... God's story continued

And like all tragedies, there were many questions that followed. Some had no answers. Some are too tough to wrestle with right now. But some are opportunities. And she was faced with an opportunity a few days after the funeral; although in her pain the opportunity seemed more like a final exam, for which she had not studied. You see, her son's friends had gathered (funny how ice cream will gather a bunch of teenagers!). And as they talked, laughed, cried and questioned. There was little organization to the conversation. Until... until someone has asked her "Why do you believe that he is in heaven?"

Time out! You see – it is at this moment that her testimony would have almost nuclear power. The power of God's touch on my life is amazing! The power of my story and his story touching someone else's story... that is a power only that person and the Holy Spirit can truly understand!

Continued on page 4

Your story ... God's story continued

And, now that you have had a second to think about it, and not all the eyes are on you, and you are not grieving the unimaginable loss of your son... could *you* answer? I mean in a powerful way that would hold their attention and draw them closer to Jesus? The apostle Paul tells Timothy: (2 Tim 4:2) "Preach the Word; be prepared **in season and out of season...**" This seemed like an "out of season" moment, but all eyes were on her. Paul knew what she *now* knows... we have to be prepared with our testimony so that in the powerful moments, after we swallow hard, we can share it in a way that sounds like we have good reason to follow Jesus.

Paul even implored the church at Rome, with rhetorical questions that challenged them to testimonial action (Rom 10: 13, 14): "for, 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And **how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?**" He was not talking about preachers as hired guns for the gospel; he was talking about you, me... us! He was encouraging us to be active in sharing our faith as we know it.

And so, what shall we share?

Let me make a couple of points about testimonies:

1. **Your testimony is different from your theology!** You may not understand the virgin birth (who does?) or the hermeneutical significance of the Levitical Laws (who does?). However, you probably *do* understand why you follow Jesus. Although understanding the faith and the reasons it makes empirical, logical sense is *huge*... it is the power of *your* story and how God has touched you that will draw people closer to him.
2. **Your testimony is irrefutably personal.** I can tell you a dozen reasons why I love Jesus, and you can argue all you want, but they are still *my* reasons. There is no talking me out of how he has changed my heart, touched my life or given me peace and hope.
3. **Testimonies usually involve some pain.** As much as we don't *like* pain... it has a purpose. It reminds us to take our hand quickly away from that hot thing we just touched. It reminds us not to hide and act as if you do not know *how* that window got broken (oh, sorry... just a confession from my childhood!). Pain's purpose is to draw us closer to God. The Bible is full of painful stories that were used for good: iron gets scraped together to sharpen iron; followers are told we are being refined... by fire, just like gold! The story of Jesus on the cross is a painful tragedy that ends in a salvation-giving resurrection (the happiest ending of any story!). And listen to what Paul says about how we can use the pain we have gone through:

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, SO THAT we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God." - 2Cor 3-5

It seems that pain has a purpose, even as we use it as a testimony. And what greater comfort will my friend get than from someone who has also lost a son and has seen the face of Jesus in her pain?! What greater use of our pain than to use it a God-honoring way to build bridges in the spiritual lives of our friends and family members?!

4. **Testimonies should be shorter than someone's attention span.** People will ask more, if they want to hear more. We should have a short explanation ready "in season" or out. Bill Hybels (in his book *Just Walk Across the Room*) suggests 100 words or less. And in that we should simply include: what we were like before we met Jesus, what he has touched in our life and what our life is like now.

Too simple? Don't underestimate the power of how *your* story and *God's* story can touch *someone else's* story!

-Steve McNitt,
member of Bayside Church, Granite Bay

Upcoming Events:

- August 25th - Theodore Judah Elementary School meeting about opportunities to serve in our school community.
- September 11th - IMPACT FOLSOM at Theodore Judah School.
- September 11th - Powerhouse Annual Health Fair

Today's Slavery... Human Trafficking continued

Famine was in the Land of Canaan and forced inhabitants of the land to find food. Josef, the son of Jacob, had been sold by his brothers into slavery and ended up in Egypt, where, through a series of spectacular events, he becoming second in command to Pharaoh. When his brothers came from Canaan for food, Joseph instructed them to bring their father and settle in Egypt. Jacob and his family moved to Egypt and their help was soon requested in building two cities for Pharaoh, Pitom and Ramses.

Initially, they were paid for their services, but with the death of all of the 12 sons of Jacob the employment relationship slowly shifted into one of servitude.

While the actual implementation of the slavery may have been gradual, the scriptures indicate that a new Pharaoh came to the throne who 'knew not Joseph' (or didn't want to know) and so enslaved the Israelites. Exodus 1:8-14

3,330 years later slavery had finally spread to the North American continent with the first slaves arriving to the colony of Virginia in 1619.

In 1863 President Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring, "that all persons held as slaves" within the Confederate state "are, and henceforward shall be free."

Continued on page 5

Community Needs List:

- August 26th - Powerhouse Ministries needs a volunteer with a van or truck to pick up various items within Folsom.
- September 11th - IMPACT Folsom volunteers needed to serve at Theodore Judah Elementary School.
- September 11th - Powerhouse Annual Health Fair volunteers needed for setup.

Today's Slavery... Human Trafficking continued

In 1865 the Civil War ends. Lincoln is assassinated. The Thirteenth Amendment abolishes slavery throughout the United States. On June 19 slavery in the United States effectively ended when 250,000 slaves in Texas finally received the news that the Civil War had ended two months earlier.

So how can slavery still be alive in the US?

According to the US government 2004 Trafficking In Persons Report:

- As many as 27 million people are victims of human trafficking.
- No country is immune from human trafficking. Each year, an estimated 600,000-800,000 men, women, and children are trafficked across international borders (some international and non-governmental organizations place the number far higher), and the trade is growing. This figure is in addition to a far larger yet indeterminate number of people trafficked within countries. Victims are forced into prostitution, or to work in quarries and sweatshops, on farms, as domestics, as child soldiers, and in many forms of involuntary servitude.
- 80 percent of the victims trafficked across international borders are female and 70 percent of those females are trafficked for sexual exploitation.
- The International Organization for Migration estimates that each year 500,000 women are sold (trafficked) to local prostitution markets in Europe.
- Sex trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act is under the age of 18 years.
- Traffickers use psychological as well as physical coercion and bondage, and it defines coercion to include: threats of serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause a person to believe that failure to perform an act would result in serious harm to or physical restraint against any person; or the abuse or threatened abuse of the legal process.

- Victims of sex trafficking can be women or men, girls or boys, but the majority are women and girls. There are a number of common patterns for luring victims into situations of sex trafficking, including:
 - A promise of a good job in another country
 - A false marriage proposal turned into a bondage situation
 - Being sold into the sex trade by parents, husbands, boyfriends
 - Being kidnapped by traffickers
- Sex traffickers frequently subject their victims to debt-bondage, an illegal practice in which the traffickers tell their victims that they owe money (often relating to the victims' living expenses and transport into the country) and that they must pledge their personal services to repay the debt.
- Sex traffickers use a variety of methods to "condition" their victims including starvation, confinement, beatings, physical abuse, rape, gang rape, threats of violence to the victims and the victims' families, forced drug use and the threat of shaming their victims by revealing their activities to their family and their families' friends.

So what can we do about Human Trafficking?

In 2005 Christian singer/songwriter Natalie Grant was awakened to the real-life, ongoing tragedy of Human Trafficking. She dedicated time to research the issue, and as a result founded the HOME Foundation.

After learning that over 10 million children world-wide have been sold into sexual slavery, and inspired by her trip to the red-light district of Mumbai, India, Natalie Grant founded the HOME Foundation with one goal in mind: to help those who may not otherwise be helped. Information on the HOME Foundation can be found at www.thehomefoundation.net.

In 2007 Christine Caine founded the A21 Campaign with the idea of abolishing injustice in the 21st century. They opened their first shelter for victims of human trafficking in late 2008.

Christine is a pastor and teacher at Hillsong Church in Sydney, Australia, and a guest speaker at the 2010 Global Leadership Summit. Information of the A21 Campaign can be found at www.thea21campaign.org

-Steve McGee,
member of Lakeside Church, Folsom





others. Young people today are hungry for those who will be a mentor in their life. Who will speak truth to them with passion and conviction. Mentor a child and change a legacy.

Dr. Peter Zhao Xiao, a prominent economist in China, was commissioned by the Chinese government to study the success of the American economy. He concluded that the moral foundation allowed the economy to flourish, and argued that China's economy would benefit from the spread of Christianity. During his study of our culture, Dr. Zhao embraced Christianity, and became a Christian. Dr. Zhao believes that Christian virtues will spread throughout China, and that China some day may be the largest Christian nation.

Continued on page 7

Global Leadership Summit 2010

Friday, August 6 concluded the Global Leadership Summit 2010 that is produced each year by the Willow Creek Association and hosted by over 190 sites across North America.

The speakers this year included:

- Bill Hybels, Willow Creek Church
- Jim Collins, Author and Lecturer
- Christine Caine, Hillsong Church
- Tony Dungy, Super Bowl Coach
- Adam Hamilton, Church of the Resurrection
- Dr. Peter Zhao Xiao, Chinese Economist, Beijing
- Andy Stanley, North Point Church
- Jeff Manion, Ada Bible Church
- Terri Kelly, C.E.O of W. L. Gore & Associates
- Daniel H. Pink, Former White House Speechwriter
- Blake Mycoskie, TOMS Shoes, Inc.
- Jack Welch, Former CEO of General Electric, Author
- T.D. Jakes, The Potter's House, Author

Bill Hybels opened up the summit by introducing ideas on how move people from "here to there".

Donald T. Phillips the author of *Martin Luther King, Jr. On Leadership* illustrates that the great social change the Dr. King initiated was through the concept of leading through consensus. Leading people through consensus, is all about catalyzing teams of fantastic people that are convinced that "there" is better than "here".

Christine Caine talked about how you keep passionate hope alive, and focusing on individual people and not numbers. The number of girls rescued out of human trafficking is small in comparison to the overwhelming number of girls enslaved, but if you focus on the one ... and see how God values each one ... and the miracle story of each one ... you will be energized to keep focused on the hope that God has.

Tony Dungy asserted that stubbornness is a virtue. Hold on tight to what you believe, and do not be afraid to share it with

More Like Falling in Love, Lyrics by Jason Gray

Give me rules
I will break them
Give me lines
I will cross them
I need more than a truth to believe
I need a truth that lives, moves, and breathes
To sweep me off my feet
It ought to be

More like falling in love
Than something to believe in
More like losing my heart
Than giving my allegiance
Caught up, called out
Come take a look at me now
It's like I'm falling, oh
It's like I'm falling in love

Give me words
I'll misuse them
Obligations
I'll misplace them
'Cause all religion ever made of me
Was just a sinner with a stone tied to my feet
It never set me free
It's gotta be

CHORUS

...It's like I'm falling in love, love, love
Deeper and deeper
It was love that made
Me a believer
In more than a name, a faith, a creed
Falling in love with Jesus brought the change in me

For more information about Jason Gray Music visit their website at www.jasongraymusic.com.

Global Leadership Summit 2010 continued

Jeff Manion spoke about his book, *The Land Between*. Jeff said, "You may think that nothing grows in the desert. But that is not true. The Land Between is fertile ground". In Numbers 11:4-6 the Land Between was fertile ground for complaints. The Land Between was fertile ground for God's provision. The Land Between was fertile ground for God's discipline. The Land Between was fertile ground for transitional growth. The Land Between is prime real estate for faith transformation. The wilderness where faith can thrive is the very desert where it can dry up and die. Hold on to the faithfulness of God.

Terri Kelly taught how the leadership structure at W.L. Gore & Associates, is different than many companies. They believe in an environment of collaboration. A corporate lattice not a corporate ladder. Leaders lead by their influence, rather than their authority. This is done through a common foundation of values and beliefs. They believe in the power of the individual, the power of small teams, and a long term view of success.

Blake Mycoskie of TOMS Shoes does not think of himself as the CEO, rather as the Chief Shoe Giver. Blake founded TOMS Shoes on the concept of leveraging capitalism to engage in philanthropy. TOMS Shoes gives away one pair of shoes to child in a third world country for every pair of shoes purchased. Blake is convinced that you can change the world one pair of shoes at a time.

Jack Welch stated that you should energize others not just your self. Energize people to be enthusiastic about the vision. Get them to "feel" the vision. Effective meetings are when people engage. Minimize structure in meetings, and allow the meeting to follow the course needed to communicate the vision. People are looking for authentic leaders that they can walk with.

T.T. Jakes taught that you can not impassion people if you are not passionate yourself. The gospel is all about transition. Assess gifts and strengths to that people can become passionate about what they are doing. Passion is contagious.

In conclusion, the general theme of the summit is that when we are impassioned with hope and vision, and work within the consensus of teams, there is no task that can not handle. Christians, through the power of God, the power of prayer, and the power of our testimony, can change the world one shoe at a time. Change the life of a child and change a legacy.

-Steve McGee,
member of Lakeside Church, Folsom

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