



## April at Lake Tapps

### Community Groups

Sundays: *The Hradil Group*

Sundays: *The Hopkins Group*

Mondays: *The Mock Group*

Wednesdays: *The Tift Group*

Wednesdays: *Student Community Groups (6-12<sup>th</sup> grade)*

Fridays: *The Wilhite Group*

If you are interested in joining an existing group, or forming a new group, please contact the church office at [office@ltcc.org](mailto:office@ltcc.org) or (253) 863-8787.

### Adult Sunday School

Sundays

9:00 am | upstairs at LAKE TAPPS

Join other adults as they study the Bible together. Childcare is available during this hour.

### Sunday Nights (for 6-12 Grade) Sundays

7:30-9:00 PM | LAKE TAPPS

Each Sunday students will encounter God through acoustic worship, imaginative listening, reflective journaling, individualized response and prayer.

### J-Force Drama and Music

Saturday, April 2

3:00 PM | LAKE TAPPS

Calvary Community Church's J-Force music and drama team will perform. An ice cream social will follow the performance.

### Journey to the Cross

Monday through Friday, April 18-22

6-9 pm | LAKE TAPPS

A unique and worshipful experience. See the event highlight below for more information. There will be a special time for families to bring their children on Friday, April 22 from 3-6 pm.

### Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 23

10:00 am | LAKE TAPPS

Lots of eggs, prizes and candy for children 10 years old and under. Be sure to invite your friends!

### Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 24

8:30 and 10:30 am | LAKE TAPPS

This year we are offering two services on Easter Sunday. Both services are the same, so choose the one that work in best with you family's schedule.

## STAY IN TOUCH @ LAKE TAPPS

Sunday service: 10:30 am

Pastor: Steve Wilhite  
[pastorsteve@ltcc.org](mailto:pastorsteve@ltcc.org)  
(253) 230-5717

Office Administrator: Laurie Tormamen  
[office@ltcc.org](mailto:office@ltcc.org)  
(253) 863-8787

Director of Student Ministries: Stephanie French  
[stephanie@ltcc.org](mailto:stephanie@ltcc.org)  
(253) 376-4900

Faith TREK Directors: Lynne Tift  
(360) 893-0275  
[letift@gmail.com](mailto:letift@gmail.com)

Janie Ingroum  
(253) 863-0082  
[janiero@live.com](mailto:janiero@live.com)

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday  
9:30 - 3:00 PM

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8252  
Bonney Lake, WA 98391

Location: 7605 Myers Road E.  
Bonney Lake, WA 98391

Website: [www.ltcc.org](http://www.ltcc.org)



## NEW TO LTCC

Welcome to LAKE TAPPS. It is good to have you with us. Our mission is to HONOR GOD, FOLLOW CHRIST AND SERVE PEOPLE. We sing to God and read from His book because He's good. We show commitment to Jesus through communion because He saved us from sin. And we do it all in a relaxed and inviting atmosphere.

Children: Our preschool class is located directly across from the nursery. Kindergarten through 5th grade children attend Faith TREK classes upstairs. Drop your children off in their classroom before entering the service. They'll play, sing, and learn in a Christ-centered environment. Because family is important to us, children in K-5th grade will join you for worship at the end of service.

Communion: All Christians are invited to remember the death and to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please come forward, take the bread and dip it into the goblet of juice. You have freedom to come alone, with your spouse, friend, even invite your kids to get a closer look. It is a time to repent, confess and pray to Jesus.

Giving: Members of LAKE TAPPS have committed to financial giving. As our guest, we do not expect you to give your money, instead we have a response card you may fill-out and place in the offering tray; jot down a prayer request, sign up for an event, it helps us serve you better.

## WELCOME TO LAKE TAPPS a message from Pastor Steve

Welcome to *Lake Tapps*, a place where we live out our faith by Honoring God, Following Christ and Serving People. As Easter approaches I'd like to focus on Following Christ. In describing Jesus, Peter writes, "He never sinned, nor ever deceived anyone. He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly." (1 Peter 2:23-24, NLT) Here are three reasons why I love to Follow Christ:

The first and most meaningful reason to me, though hard to admit, is the fact that Jesus suffered-sometimes brutally and always unfairly. It's gut wrenching and I don't like it. It's meaningful because in my life I've experienced suffering. I've seen brutal suffering, and it's often not fair. I follow Christ because he's experienced and overcome this agony.

My second reason for following Christ is in the midst of shocking undeserved pain he did not retaliate--no curses, no insults, no angry glances and no revenge. I follow Christ because he amazes me and compels me to become the kind of person that does the same.

My third reason for following Christ is that he left his case in the hands of God who always judges fairly. Even when evil advances, when we're losing and things look hopeless, God is still in control. Jesus trusts God every step of the way and God works it out. I don't like the beatings and the crucifixion. But the fact that Jesus rose from the tomb after those dark, dark hours, is all I need. God wins!

My three reasons don't cover everything about following Christ, but they're a start. As you think through what it means to Follow Christ I want to invite you to attend Journey to the Cross. It's a self-guided tour through the events of Jesus' last week on earth--no talking--just you reflecting on Jesus. It's the week before Easter, April 18-22, doors are open from 6-9pm. Check it out!

## My Story By Joe DeLoach



As of late, I have been blessed with many great things. But it hasn't always seemed to come fairly. In April of 2009, I was laid off from work after the company I'd been with for 10+ years downsized drastically. I was out of work for nearly six months. During that time, we found out that Megan was pregnant with our first child. The next month God provided me with a new job that seemed at first to have great potential for learning a new skill (roofing) and plenty of overtime--when the weather allowed.

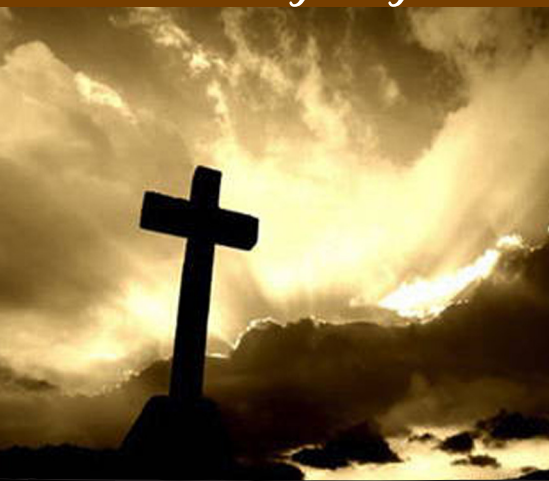
Things seemed to be looking up in a great way--I had a new job and a baby on the way. Then in December of 2009, we lost our baby

daughter before she was born. I was still working for the roofing company a few months later when we learned that Megan was pregnant again. I started to look for new work because I wasn't getting the hours I needed to provide for my family in the way I wanted to.

In July of 2010, I was hired by a window company where I would be delivering newly manufactured windows to dealerships throughout Western Washington and Oregon. Then, in October I was let go for causing excessive damage to a company truck by driving it under a bridge that was 12' high. My truck was 13' 6" high. Once again I found myself out of work. Like the last time, I found myself struggling with many things. Megan was 7 plus months pregnant, bills were adding up and it seemed that my hope was fading fast.

On January 25, 2011, our daughter was born. And there were more challenges facing us. Her heart

## Event Highlight



## Journey to the Cross April 18-22, 6-9 pm

It is a challenge for most of us to shut out the noise and distractions of everyday life long enough to quiet our souls and listen to the Spirit of God. Journey to the Cross will take you on a journey through the events of Jesus' final days and resurrection. It is not about agendas or meeting anyone's expectations. It's simply a time and space, created just for you to draw close to Jesus.

Journey to the Cross will be open daily April 18th thru 22nd from 6:00 to 9:00 pm and is appropriate for everyone age 13 and up. There will be a Family Evening on Friday, April 22nd from 3pm to 6 pm for families who want to bring their younger children through the journey.





# HONOR GOD

**def:** As we Honor God we align our lives with God's ways. We Merge our lives with what God is doing.

Part of aligning our lives with God's ways involves committing to the church. If you're not a member of *Lake Tapps*, then attending our Merge 1 class should be your next step. Merge 1: Committing to Jesus and to the Church is a great opportunity to learn more about our God and *Lake Tapps*. In Merge class, we go over what God has done for us, why we exists as a church, and when and where we fulfill our purpose. Our next Merge 1 class will be held on May 15th right after church. We'll provide lunch and childcare, so mark your calendar!

A great way to stay connected here at *Lake Tapps*, is by subscribing to our weekly eNews. You can email the church office (office@ltcc.org) and let us know you'd like to join the list. We'll get you added right away. You can also sign up on our website at [www.ltcc.org](http://www.ltcc.org)



# FOLLOW CHRIST

**def:** When we Follow Christ it's like joining a Carpool: we live our faith with others, being continually loved, encouraged, and challenged by our church family.



Each Community Group discusses ways that they can reach out to the community and serve together. The Wilhite Group has decided to partner with Helping Hand House in Tacoma. Helping Hand House has several temporary homes for families who are transitioning from homelessness to finding a permanent home. The Wilhite Group felt like this would be a great organization to partner with, since there are multiple ways to serve.

The group has adopted a transitional home, and once a month, the entire group gets together to clean house.

Serving is not limited to this, however. Each week, one of the guys volunteers to mow the grass.

There are other opportunities such as: bringing a birthday cake to a child in the program celebrating a birthday, or collecting donations of bedding, dishes, personal hygiene supplies, books, and many other items.

Serving together doesn't mean that they all have to be doing the same thing at the same time. With people's busy schedules, families, and different abilities, it's great to serve an organization where everyone can use their own specific gift to help others.

The Wilhite Group is looking forward to a long partnership with Helping Hand House, and as time goes on, we look forward to sharing updates with you.

So, what if you're not in a Community Group? Can you still serve? Of course you can. There are endless possibilities. Whether you choose to go to Helping Hand House, the Bonney Lake food bank, Lions 4 Kids, or any other amazing organization, we hope you'll bring a friend and serve together. That's what Jesus did, and we think living out our faith with others makes us grow stronger and closer to Christ.



# SERVE PEOPLE

**def:** We plan for Detours at Lake Tapps, allowing space in our lives to sacrifice and Serve People.



The Wilhite Community Group is Serving People through Helping Hand House in Tacoma. Helping Hand House was founded in 1984 by Margie Addington, a Puyallup, Washington woman who responded to a challenge from her pastor to do something to help homeless families. Her passion led her to gather members of her church and share her vision to provide temporary homes. Initially, church members pooled their resources to rent a couple of houses for temporary emergency shelters. Since then, Helping Hand House has steadily grown.

Through generous support from the local community, individual donors, civic groups and churches, and foundations, they have been able to make a number of positive steps toward solving family homelessness in Pierce County. Currently, they have five programs and sixty five housing units.

Helping Hand House plans to expand their ability to prevent and end family homelessness in our community.

[www.helpinghandhouse.org](http://www.helpinghandhouse.org) has much more information. Check it out!



## Mission Update | Art Sphar- Tacoma Pierce County Chaplaincy

Art Sphar is Pastor Emeritus of Lake Tapps Christian Church, and serves as a volunteer chaplain for the Pierce County police and fire departments. His mother, Grace Sphar, passed away last month.

In nearly 40 years of serving as a pastor and as a police and fire chaplain, I have attended many, many deaths, and I have tried my best to comfort the surviving family and friends, and to help guide them through the process of grieving, beginning the funeral preparations, notifying other family and friends, and building a strong support network. I have often suggested the most appropriate grief support group and urged them to take advantage of this help when they were ready.



This time it was different. It was my mother who died. It was me, and my family that was impacted. It was our grief that was affecting our ability to accomplish even simple tasks. This time others were helping us.

This experience has certainly given me a renewed appreciation for our work as chaplains! I now appreciate in a much deeper and more personal way how important it is to have others stand by your side as you go through a time of loss. I have a renewed sense of how much it means to receive such little things such as a call, a card, or an e-mail, and I have a much greater appreciation of the importance of simply being there for someone in their time of grief.

This experience has given me a clearer sense of the importance of what we do as chaplains and a greater appreciation for the calling we have from the Lord to minister to others in His name. The Apostle Paul wrote, "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." (2 Cor 1:3-5)

Thank you for helping me be there.  
Chaplain Art

*"As I told a friend, "God has His own schedule. He is never late nor early.""*

*My Story cont.*  
had a defect in it and it was something that we were not surprised by, but it was a challenge to our faith again. Things seemed to look dark and I questioned God as to why didn't I have work to help out my family. I knew that He had to understand that I have mouths to feed! One thing that I can say for sure is that there is a plan and that I couldn't start to understand it, even if I tried. I was home with Megan the whole time that she was off from work helping as we learned about life with a newborn.

Then, in the first part of March, I started the process of getting hired on to Amazon Fresh. After weeks of waiting to hear back as they processed my application, interviewed me and submitted a background check, they called me to offer me a position. I am very thankful for getting this job. It was more than a blessing at the last moment. His perfect timing always comes through and my faith has grown in depth as I have continued to trust Him to provide for all our needs.

As I told a friend, "God has His own schedule. He is never late nor early."