



EXPEDITION WINTER CAMP

**DECEMBER 27-30
YOSEMITE BIBLE CAMP**

Expedition Winter Camp is hosted by West Visalia Church of Christ and is planned for 6th grade through High School age students. College age students and other adults may attend with approval of the camp director.

Additional information is available in the office or check online at: wvcoc.org

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TITUS 3:14 MINISTRY

We have recently been given the names of more students to serve through our ministry. As a result, we need to replenish our supply of gift cards to have on hand. If you would like to help us be prepared to meet these needs, please bring **VISA** gift cards and give them to John or office staff. We could also use more people to be shoppers!

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OFFICE INFORMATION

The office will be closed:
Monday, December 26 and
Monday, January 2.



Today's Scripture Reading
Luke 2:1-20

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"Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.'"  
Luke 2:8-11 NKJV

<http://www.turlockcoc.org>  
Turlock Church of Christ  
801 North Tully Road  
Turlock, CA 95380

**PLEASE NOTE THAT EVENING  
WORSHIP AT THE BUILDING  
HAS BEEN CANCELED  
FOR TONIGHT.**

Welcome Family, Friends & Guests

# Turlock CHURCH of Christ

Take the Next Step

**December 25, 2016**

Entering to WORSHIP

Learning to SERVE

SUNDAY AM - 10:45

SUNDAY AM - 9:45

SUNDAY PM - 5:00

WEDNESDAY PM - 7:00

### Elders

Dan Borrás

Doug Isaac

Stan Gustafson

Carl Wallers

**John McCranie, Minister**

[johnsmccranie@gmail.com](mailto:johnsmccranie@gmail.com)

209-542-2520

**Office Phone: 209-632-4593**

Hours: Monday - Friday

9:00am-3:00pm

Secretary: Dana Rickard

Email: [secretary@turlockcoc.org](mailto:secretary@turlockcoc.org)

Assistant Secretary: Donna Nelson

Email: [donna@turlockcoc.org](mailto:donna@turlockcoc.org)

## Welcome!

We appreciate your presence.  
We especially welcome all of our  
guests and invite you back  
at any time.

## VISUABLES - Givers

Do you know how wonderful your church is? It has come to my mind lately that we members of the Turlock Church Family are probably not fully aware of the good done by humble servants in this congregation.

During the Christmas season there are people who have very little and really don't have anyone who cares. I can't help but feel that James, the half-brother of Jesus, had a soft spot for people who had it hard in life. If you read his short letter in the New Testament, you cannot miss that **James** wanted people of faith to be more than Scripture students (1:22; 2:14). He wanted them to be givers. **"Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world."** (1:27) Let me share some of the many wonderful and generous things this congregation has done in recent weeks to care for kids without parents.

Hank Lawson has devoted himself to helping children who need healthy homes. He is a tireless worker with Agape Village, a Christian foster care ministry in our area. Annually, Hank asks us to purchase gifts for the kids of Agape Village so they would have something to open on Christmas. Melanie Borrás took the lead and recruited members to choose a card with a kid's info and shop for items the kids indicated they needed. The cards went quickly and our people went to work. It wasn't long before the foyer was filling up with bags of clothes and toys for these "orphans." When the items were picked up, they had to rent a truck to hold this congregation's donations along with those from other area churches of Christ.

I accepted Hank and Betty Lawson's invitation to attend Agape Village's Christmas Party at Manteca Bowl on the 13<sup>th</sup>. I was immediately impressed with how well dressed and mannered the children were and how loving the staff and volunteers are. The kids were having a blast bowling. There was plenty of pizza and salad. There was even Santa Claus! I watched as the kids would sit on Santa's lap and get their picture taken. Then each foster home was given a huge bag filled with their individual gifts, many of which we donated.

Because of the givers in this congregation, kids who have had their

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## PRAYER AND ENCOURAGEMENT NEEDS

Please remember those who are grieving: Destiny Alvarado and Adam Enos both lost grandmothers this past week and the Isaac Family lost a family member to suicide. Verna DeLaney has been transferred to Turlock Nursing and Rehab Center. Rella Crawford has been ill and her granddaughter, Amanda Wortham, had surgery to remove a tumor this past week. Blaine Yagi's father, Ben, was still suffering with congestive heart failure and an infection. Betty Mathis' brother-in-law, Dan, had eye surgery on Thursday. Ignacio Alvarado's sister, Maria, has been in poor health and on dialysis eleven years. Her doctors are still trying to diagnose her problems. Doyle Dortch, Staci Isaac's grandfather and a former member here, had a heart attack and has been moved to a convalescent home.

## CONTINUE TO REMEMBER

Austin Segars, Karen Tackett's mother, Mike and Penny Carr,  
Tiffany Parks and Chris.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

**NEW YEAR'S EVE GAME NIGHT - December 31, 7:00pm-?**

## NO POTLUCK JANUARY 1st!

**SUNDAY NIGHT TOGETHER - January 1, 5:00pm.**

**AREA WIDE SINGING - 7:00pm, Tuesday, January 3, at Empire.**

**C.I.A. STUDENT ACTIVITY - Save the Date, January 7, for ice skating. Contact Adam or Ruth Enos...more information to come.**

## CAREGIVERS NEEDED

Cole Strickland is in need of caregivers. His long-time aide quit recently and he has moved back to his parents home at this time. His caregivers are hired through In Home Health Services and must go through their hiring process. Contact Cole for more information. He wanted everyone to know that he misses us very much!

Week of December 18, 2016

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Attendance -                  |     |
| Sunday Morning Bible Class    | 91  |
| Sunday Morning Worship        | 168 |
| Sunday Night Worship/L.I.F.E. | 68  |
| Wednesday Bible Class         | 57  |

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Weekly Budget                 | \$ 4,999   |
| Contribution                  | \$ 3,145   |
| YTD Below Budget              | - \$25,810 |
| New Families - 10             |            |
| Responses/Prayer Requests - 5 |            |
| Baptisms - 5                  |            |

## SCHEDULED TO SERVE

Open/Close/Organizer this week:  
Steve Mayfield, 668-1431

This Morning

|                |                                                                                                            |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Greeters       | Bob and<br>Ellen Fletcher                                                                                  |
| Song Leader    | Stan Gustafson                                                                                             |
| Opening Prayer | Ray Nelson                                                                                                 |
| Lord's Supper  | Mark Anglin<br>Matt McCranie<br>Dan Borrás<br>Hoy Brown<br>Steve Prine<br>Harold Blewitt<br>Jared Jeffries |

Attended Nursery - Michelle Tapley  
Children's Bible Hour - August and  
Carey Spradling

Open/Close/Organizer next week:  
Dan Borrás, 535-0223

Next Sunday Morning

|                |                                                                                                       |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Greeters       | Bob and<br>Ellen Fletcher                                                                             |
| Song Leader    | Stan Gustafson                                                                                        |
| Opening Prayer | Adam Enos                                                                                             |
| Lord's Supper  | Ray Nelson<br>Steve Mayfield<br>Steve Prine<br>Lee Dayton<br>Jim Madsen<br>Perry Stinson<br>Hoy Brown |

Attended Nursery - Donna Nelson  
Children's Bible Hour -

Next Sunday Evening  
All Together

Month of January

Scripture Reader - Mark Anglin  
Prepare Communion - Dolores Davis  
Women's Group Leader:  
Dana Rickard

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hearts broken time and again were able to wake up this morning and open up presents. Why? Because Hank has opened his heart to helping these precious kids. Why? Because Melanie opened her heart and her laptop and coordinated the collection of these presents. Why? Because some of you reading this article opened your wallets and purchased those beautiful gifts. This resulted in beautiful smiles and giggles as presents were unwrapped and opened.

I'm pretty sure this is what James meant by pure religion. Real religion is Sister Linda Tucker collecting coats so the very same kids in Agape Village can stay warm during this chilly season. Pure religion is those of you who have given Visa gift cards to build up our Titus 3:14 Ministry so my team of shoppers can purchase much needed items for some of the homeless students in the Turlock School District. True religion is my sweet shoppers who purchase pants, shirts, shoes, socks, gloves and blankets (some at their own expense) so these little ones can look nice, in more than one outfit, when they go to school. Real Religion is the anonymous couple who paid for a brand-new bike so a seventeen-year-old can attend Roselawn School again. Authentic religion is Linda Nelson asking members to take home cans for Agape Village and filling them with coins and Linda turning the filled cans over to Hank for the kid's sake. Pure religion is our visitation team that takes communion to our widows and widowers unable to attend the services at our building.

God is the great giver (James 1:17). Out of gratitude for His generosity we become givers as well. If you want to experience what New Testament Christianity is really all about, let me know. I can have you meet up with our givers. Do you sense God is calling you to be a giver in an area yet untouched by this church? Let's talk and pray about that. That is what makes for a very Merry Christmas!

Blessings,  
◇◇ John

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**PLEASE NOTE!**

**Evening Worship at the building and all L.I.F.E. groups have been CANCELLED for tonight.**

**Everyone is invited to join the Youth Devotional, 7:00pm at the Waller's Ranch.**



# **New Year's Eve Game Night**

**HOSTED BY  
Joe and Michelle Tapley**

**7pm to 12:30am  
(or however long we can last)  
in the Fellowship Hall.**

**Bring your favorite game and snack or dessert. Nachos and apple cider will be provided.**