

Foster - Tukwila Focus

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Two significant shifts will take place in the early part of November. One shift will have world-wide coverage along with a very public and a very diverse response.

The other shift will be noticed only by a relatively small number of people with barely perceptible and very limited publicity. Yet both shifts will fall into the overarching plan of our triune God who is not only our Creator, Redeemer, and Lord, but also the sovereign director of history.

The first shift I refer to is the election of a new president of our country. This rather bizarre, unprecedented campaign season will finally finish on Tuesday, Nov. 8. There will be the obligatory responses of “Yay!” and “Oh, no!” (and in between) not only throughout the US but also around the world. Speculations about the impact of the new president in respect to economics, social issues, domestic and international challenges will abound.

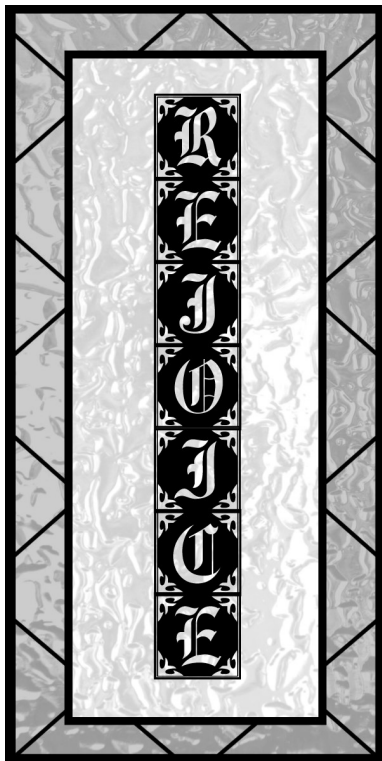
Meanwhile, the second shift I refer to is the completion of FTFC’s transfer from the PCUSA to the ECO denomination. We here at FTFC are aware of this and some of the officials in both denominations are aware of this – along with some of our friends with whom we have shared about this shift. That’s it. No news coverage. No CNN or FOX special reports. No endless public speculations about the impact of what this will mean locally and internationally now that FTFC is an ECO congregation.

Yet, in God’s economy the one shift perhaps has no more significance than the other. The affairs and the interactions of the nations are simply the backdrop for the ongoing expansion of God’s kingdom that Jesus Christ has inaugurated and will complete when He returns. We are reminded of this as we approach the season of Advent and the miracle of the Incarnation. When Augustus Caesar in Rome declared that a census be taken of the entire Roman Empire it was a major shift. It was a very public event and all were impacted. Yet, when the baby Jesus was born in Bethlehem, very few knew what had happened. No news coverage. No special reports. Yet His arrival on earth brought a shift in the heavenlies that dwarfed any other earthly event. The only lasting Kingdom had arrived. The seed of hope and salvation for humanity was present in the Word become flesh.

POINT – Let’s be ambassadors of hope in Christ. God is at work through all human events to accomplish His ultimate plan of salvation in the Church through Jesus Christ. No shift is too small to be insignificant; and no shift is so large as to derail God’s good purposes. Christ is King and Lord of all forever.

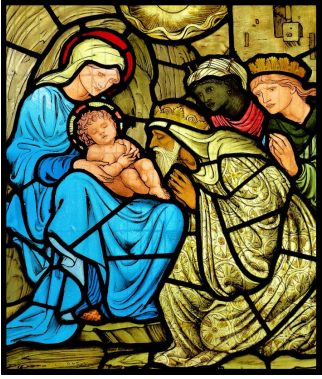
In Christ’s service,

Pastor Nick



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“On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.”

Matthew 2:11 NIV

| Income | Expenses |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <u>For Sept 2016</u> | <u>For Sept 2016</u> |
| \$15,005.80 | \$17,116.07 |
| <u>Year to Date</u> | <u>Year to Date</u> |
| \$162,947.15 | \$145,412.59 |

November Missions: Dave Hackett, visionSynergy

When Muslims stand in their holy city of Mecca and gaze out west toward the setting sun, they look toward a vast stretch of land across Africa which has often been called the Maghreb Region - a word which literally means “west” or “sunset” in Arabic. Across this territory are nearly 100 million people with very little Christian presence. Numerous places and people groups in the countries of this region have no churches at all.

This month, I’d like to give you an inside look at a wonderful breakthrough God is bringing about through a mission network which for security reasons I will call the “Sunset Network.”

The Sunset Network

Those of us in Europe and the Americas are steeped in such a Christianized culture that we may not realize what it’s like to be in an environment devoid of any Christian identity or presence. No churches anywhere. No Bibles available. No fellowship. No hymns or praise songs.

Yet there are faith-filled mission networks taking the Gospel into these very environments. Walking alongside these networks as coaches and consultants, we at visionSynergy are blessed to hear many stories from the front lines - in some cases stories about the earliest believers and first churches in entire countries.

The “Sunset Network” is one of those networks organizing creatively and courageously to reach the people of a Muslim country in this region with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The specific country that is the focus of the Sunset Network is almost completely Muslim (97%) with strict Islamic laws. Yet Gospel work is underway in these tight conditions and members of the network serving among the people are reporting genuine openness to the Gospel.

One of the most exciting developments the network has seen in the past year is the emergence of the first online gathering for believers in this country - an innovative and indigenous “e-church.”

New believers gather through an innovative e-church

Intentional disciplinarians in this country are experiencing openness and opportunities for many spiritual conversations. Seekers have shared about their spiritual dreams, or talked

about Christian books they are reading, or even asked for help getting a Bible app loaded onto their phones. All of this in the midst of active persecution, where nationals are at great risk for becoming followers of Jesus.

This country has so few national believers that one network member joyfully reported that they now have TWO believers in their city whom they met and discipled through a school. Other network members shared just last month: “Near where we live, a man traveled to the capitol to meet a friend of ours, where he said, ‘Please, I need a Bible.’” Three young men approached another worker and said, “We want to learn more about Jesus!” They had been reading the Bible online and one had downloaded a Bible to his mobile phone.

To respond to the needs of these scattered new believers across the country, about a year ago the “Sunset Network” formed a team to launch the very first online church for the country. Today, this e-church is thriving under the leadership of a husband and wife couple who are national believers and this group of scattered Christians are building up a worshiping community and encouraging each other in their faith.

This remarkable e-church has already met more than 160 times over the past year. The e-church meets weekly as well as throughout the week - always online. They share needs and prayer concerns. Some ask for intensive prayer for challenging situations. The newest believers are especially encouraged by meeting online with their new Christian family.

Here is a recent report from the e-church leaders:

Praise the Lord, believers can now come together [online] to pray, worship, talk, and pray about becoming missionaries – They are already missionaries! Most are already sharing with their families. We rejoice when family members come to faith. It’s good for us to hear that, and it encourages us to share with our families. Because of your prayer and the work of this network, we [as national believers] are coming together! I can say with joy that the Church in [this country] is the fruit of this network!

Next steps for the network

visionSynergy was involved in the initial formation of the “Sunset Network” in 2009 and we have continued to serve as advisors since then. Over the years, the network has grown to

November 2016 - Foster Tukwila Presbyterian

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <p>Daylight Saving Time Ends 6:00 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship COMMUNION 3:30 pm: MAcc Worship</p> | | <p>1 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth THE LORD'S WATCH</p> | <p>2 7:00 am: Prayer 7:00 pm: Impact Teams</p> | <p>3 6:30 pm: Grief Group</p> | <p>4 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women 5:00 pm: BNCCC Youth</p> | <p>5 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship</p> |
| <p>IDOP 13 9:00 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MAcc Worship</p> | <p>7 10 am-12 pm: CEF 7:00 pm: AA 206.419.4822</p> | <p>8 11:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth</p> | <p>9 7:00 am: Prayer 6:30 pm: Session</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women 5:00 pm: BNCCC Youth VETERAN'S DAY</p> | <p>12 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship</p> |
| <p>Christ the King Sunday 20 9:00 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship POTLUCK 3:30 pm: MAcc Worship</p> | <p>14 7:00 pm: AA</p> | <p>15 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth</p> | <p>16 7:00 am: Prayer 11:00 am: KOBA</p> | <p>17 6:30 pm: Grief Group</p> | <p>18 12:00 pm: Retirees & Seniors 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women 5:00 pm: BNCCC Youth</p> | <p>19 8:00 am: Men's Fellowship 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship</p> |
| <p>1st Sunday of Advent 27 9:00 am: Generations 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MAcc Worship</p> | <p>21 7:00 pm: AA</p> | <p>22 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth</p> | <p>23 7:00 am: Prayer 7:30 pm: Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service</p> | <p>24 Thanksgiving Day</p> | <p>25 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women 5:00 pm: BNCCC Youth</p> | <p>26 10:00 am: BNCCC Worship</p> |
| | <p>28 7:00 pm: AA</p> | <p>29 1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth</p> | <p>30 12:00 pm: Pray Tukwila</p> | | | |

December 2016 - Foster Ukula Presbyterian

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p>2nd Sunday of Advent 4 9:00 am: CE/IT 10:30 am: Worship COMMUNION 3:30 pm: MACC Worship</p> | <p>10 am-12 pm: CEF 7:00 pm: AA 206.419.4822</p> | <p>1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth THE LORD'S WATCH</p> | <p>7:00 am: Prayer 7:00 pm: Impact Teams</p> | <p>6:30 pm: Grief Group</p> | <p>4:00 pm: BNCCC Women 5:00 pm: BNCCC Youth</p> | <p>10:00 am: BNCCC Worship</p> |
| <p>3rd Sunday of Advent 11 9:00 am: CE 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC Worship 6:30 pm: The River</p> | <p>7:00 pm: AA</p> | <p>1:00-3:00 pm: Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm: Youth</p> | <p>7:00 am: Prayer 1 1:00 am: KOBA 6:30 pm: Session</p> | <p>6:30 pm: Grief Group</p> | <p>12:00 pm: Retirees & Seniors 4:00 pm: BNCCC Women 5:00 pm: BNCCC Youth</p> | <p>10:00 am: BNCCC Worship</p> |
| <p>4th Sunday of Advent 18 9:00 am: CE 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC Worship 6:00 pm: Christmas Program Dessert Potluck</p> | <p>7:00 pm: AA</p> | <p>6:00 pm: Youth</p> | <p>7:00 am: Prayer</p> | | <p>4:00 pm: BNCCC Women 5:00 pm: BNCCC Youth</p> | <p>10:00 am: BNCCC Worship Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:30 pm</p> |
| <p>Christmas Day No Generations 10:30 am: Worship 3:30 pm: MACC Worship</p> | <p>7:00 pm: AA</p> | | | <p>6:30 pm: Grief Group</p> | <p>4:00 pm: BNCCC Women 5:00 pm: BNCCC Youth</p> | <p>10:00 am: BNCCC Worship 8:00 pm: GAME NIGHT New Year's Eve</p> |



Daylight Saving Time Ends

Don't forget to "Fall Back" 2:00 am, Sunday, November 6, 2016

GAME NIGHT

WHERE: FTPC Fellowship Hall
WHEN: 8:00 pm - 12:00 am, Sat, Dec 31, 2016
WHAT: Bring board games and snacks to share

RETIREES LUNCHEON

Noon, Fridays
 November 18 & December 16, 2016
November: What is always and/or never in your fridge?
December: What is an unusual holiday tradition?

In case of Snow
 Call FTPC
 206-243-4455
 or visit
 ftpc.org

For information on changes in schedule.

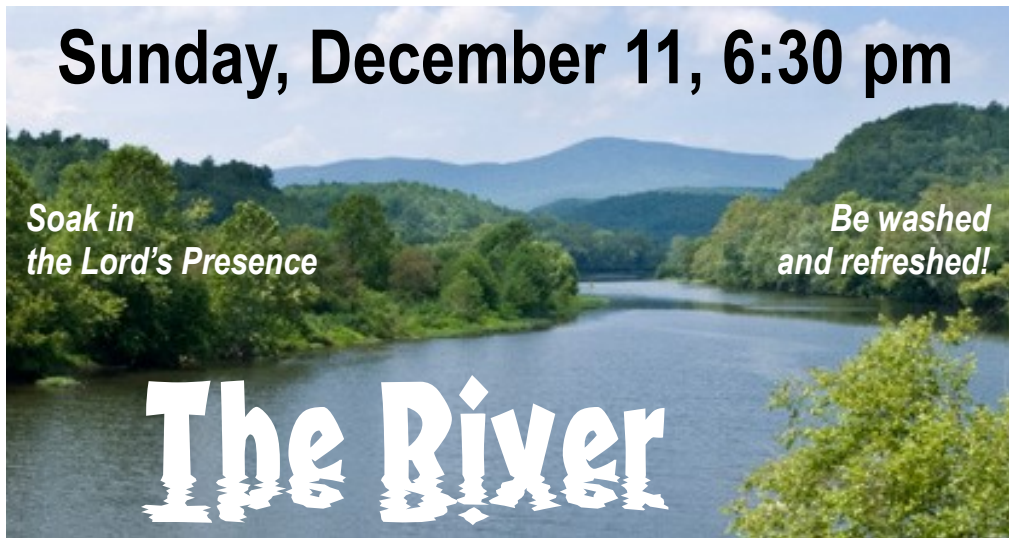
Global Gift Guide

Give gifts that change lives

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Complete Goat Package \$85 | Clean Water \$100 | Educate a Child \$50 |
| Emergency Food \$60 | The 44-Cent Cure \$44 | Disaster Lifeline \$75 |

www.worldconcern.org

KOBA Circle
 11:00 am
 November 16 &
 December 14, 2016
 (meets at OSC)



(Continued from page 2)

include dozens of Christian mission groups from numerous countries all working together to impact this unreached country with the Gospel of Christ.

In our advisory role with the network, we do many different things including:

- Meeting in monthly online sessions with network leadership for planning and strategy sessions.
- Providing network coaching to the lead facilitator.
- Attending annual network meetings where we provide training for working group leaders and guidance for setting objectives and working together collaboratively.
- Working alongside network leaders in the facilitation of the team's planning retreats.
- Helping the network evaluate its overall health and effectiveness.

Right now, the network is celebrating progress in several areas:

- Many more mission workers are able to enter the country.
- The network is connecting mission workers who are witnesses for Christ in major and minor cities of the country.
- Other network members are doing outreach among those of this country who are now living in other parts of the world.
- The e-church work is being expanded.
- The network has developed an active prayer ministry sharing prayer requests focused on this country's people.

Planning is underway for the network's next global gathering to be held in the region in early 2017.

Please join us in sincere prayer for the "Sunset Network." Many people in this region of the world have experienced massive changes in the past few years - political coups, economic collapse, civil wars, terror attacks, and targeted persecution of Christians.

May the boundless grace of God be poured out on the "Sunset Network" and the people they seek to reach.

Praise:

- For several remarkable advances in Muslim church planting efforts that have been celebrated by the Vision 5:9 Steering Team; and praise to God for the successful steering team retreat in late September held near Stuttgart, Germany.
- For word that 155 digital ministry practitioners attended a digital-outreach-among-Muslims network conference held in late September in northern Europe - more attendees than ever!
- For how God is blessing the growth and significance of an online worshiping community for a highly sensitive North African country's believers.

Prayer:

- That plans will come together for my work with a group in an Arabian Peninsula country to develop its country partnership.
- For research now underway by myself and a research group to identify all the inter-ministry prayer movements and networks focused on the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) - that God would direct us in the research, open doors for us to make contact with these movements, and discernment to learn how to increase prayer mobilization efforts directed toward the MENA region.
- For a special re-activation convocation of an Arabian Peninsula sensitive country partnership that I will be facilitating next month.
- For the last leg of preparation by the Arabian Peninsula Network for its every-other-year Arabian Peninsula Consultation to be held in early November in Dubai; I advise this network.
- For the search team of the Global Church Planting Network in its search for a new lead facilitator for the GCPN; I'm on the search team.

Together for the Gospel,

Dave Hackett

visionSynergy.net



visionSynergy

Pray
with
them



Open Doors

THE INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE
PERSECUTED CHURCH

November 13, 2016



December Missions: Tom & Debbie Wood - iTEE Global

Faith is?

God is faithful and always on a mission! We love it when He includes us and you together as a team for His exploits! This will be a relatively brief letter, as the last one was longer. I am still looking forward to hearing from more of you about your experience of faith, the question posed near the end of the last letter sent Sept 1.

Chicago

The past couple of months have been an intense time which has included more ministry guests in our home than we have had at any point yet, and preparations for the annual conference and training for our ministry iTEE Global in Chicago, which started last night. I can't believe it's only the end of the first day because already we have had 15 hours of sessions, discussions, preparations and meetings, all important for a dispersed team that normally only meets on Skype. Amazing to have such a strong bond despite infrequent physical togetherness. Starting Friday, we will conduct the training for new missionaries running through Friday night, Saturday and Saturday night (and then we all collapse into a pile of mush onto a plane seat!). Please pray for this training. Normally we have done it before the conference when I have energy. A couple of participants will be coming all the way from India for the training (NO PRESSURE).



Tom's Infrastructure-building work

Unless someone builds the roads, no one can drive on them. Tom has been in the position of building the infrastructure of iTEE Global since its inception 2 years ago now. He just completed a 60 page draft of a policy manual, which will be reviewed by the board at their upcoming meeting. He manages the translation efforts, most recently courses into Telegu and Tamil languages which our bilingual "first generation" students use in teaching their students. He oversees the development of an audio based version of the Marriage course. Tom works long hours often in the background, aided by various assistive devices that make him very fatigued. Please join me in praying that God would encourage him in his vital role is in God's work through iTEE Global. He will be leading the Foundations course at our stops in Africa, which sets the tone for the new students learning career with iTEE Global.

Kenya

We just decided with our coworker that we do need to go to Kenya at the end of November to meet with groups in Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisii. We will travel with Ken, another iTEE missionary to kick off new groups and to graduate one group with their Marriage trainer certificates. Please pray for those we plan to visit and some that we have decided we will not be able to see this time. We need the Lord to confirm both lists. We will need to buy our tickets soon, but we were on half support in September due to insufficient gifts and the travel budget is empty. Would you be able to send us packing? The total cost is typically about \$2500 each for overseas and local travel housing and food, and prices tend to rise over time. So, time is of the essence. Still, we have made it a policy not to run ahead of the Lord's guidance confirmed through His provision. He has already provided for Ken and a first gift for our travel has been promised. Please pray and help if you can at the address below.

Leading Encouragers!

The conference speakers this year have been Jody Dillow, founder of BEE World, (our former mission and parent-mission of this one), and his wife Linda, a best-selling author and my mentor and champion in writing the 750-page marriage course for Christian leaders, now used by both BEE and iTEE, and many national ministries. Being with Linda is a tonic, as the Lord has given her such a great gift of wisdom and she has so often been a personal encouragement in her comments to me. I've missed her so much since we worked on the course. Jody has also had a significant role of encouragement to Tom and me both.

Speaking of encouragers, thank you for your ministry to us! I am pretty tired so I apologize if this has some mistakes or incoherencies (is that a word?). But we covet your prayers this week especially. Will keep you posted on Africa!

Yours for His glory,

Tom and Debbie Wood
iTEE Global / iteeg.org





Foster-Tukwila Presbyterian

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Tukwila, WA 98138

Web: www.ftpc.org
206-243-4455

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



A Season of Worship

Thanksgiving Eve

Communion Service
Wednesday, November 23
7:30 pm

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service
Saturday, December 24
7:30 pm

