

WHAT
GOD
HAS
DONE
PSALM 66:5

TWIN LAKES CHURCH
2021 ANNUAL REPORT

*Come and see **what God has done,**
his wonderful acts among people.*

Psalm 66:5 (GN)

I'm struck by how often Scripture encourages us to **remember what God has done for us**. It's part of the Bible's prescription for discouragement, exhaustion, and disillusionment—issues many people are struggling with right now!

So approach this report in that spirit. In these pages you'll find a kaleidoscope of reasons to “see what God has done, his wonderful acts among the people,” in Santa Cruz and beyond.

I consider it miraculous that at TLC we have seen:

- Record online attendance

- Record giving

- Record food bank gifts

- Record benevolence gifts

- Record school enrollment

- The new college center built debt-free

- And most importantly, hundreds of commitments to Christ and baptisms.

We hear a lot of doom-and-gloom in the news. And indeed, we faced great challenges as a church in 2021, mostly due to Covid-19 and its related complications. But **God is working** even in the trials—as He always does!

We will face more challenges in 2022. But I am confident God will again work in mighty ways!

Looking forward to what's ahead,

René Schlaepfer

Senior Pastor

Twin Lakes Church

We started the year meeting outdoors in the tent with just one in-person service of about 200 people. By the end of 2021, all three weekend services were back indoors with about 1,300 in attendance. We had the joy of seeing over 100 people follow Jesus in baptism. We completed our College Ministry and Loft Coffee building with no debt. We provided over 1.2 million meals to our local food bank. God is good!

200

ATTENDANCE AT START OF 2021 IN OUTDOOR TENT

1,300+

ATTENDANCE AT END OF 2021 IN THREE INDOOR SERVICES

100

PEOPLE BAPTIZED

0

DOLLARS OF CHURCH DEBT

79

SMALL GROUP STUDIES

3300

FAITH FORWARD BOOKS DISTRIBUTED

I will proclaim **what the LORD has done.**

Psalms 118:17 (NIV)

ONLINE OUTREACH



49
STATES

110
COUNTRIES

2,982
AVG WEEKEND
LIVESTREAM VIEWS

2,433
TLC NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS

1,498
AVERAGE DAILY
DEVO VIEWS

"I came across the TLC app... saw the Faith Forward series, and started listening from the beginning. The series has been helping me get back to faith in my Heavenly Father."

"The past few weeks I have been attending your services online...I came to understand the true meaning and value of faith. It is all about JESUS and trusting in HIM."

"At 74 years old I had lost hope due to bumps in the road of life. It's coming back! I'm so excited to meet with your congregation virtually from our home in Montana."

"Our local church was closed because of Covid, so we really enjoyed the online services. That's how we ran into the Faith Forward series. And now we follow the series with the Bible club of our church. That is how God works; amazing how in these times we discover exciting and positive new things." -
GROUP IN THE NETHERLANDS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

"The focus on involvement in the community is one reason I appreciate TLC so much! Thanks for make this such a priority!"

"What God did in my life during this past year was help me quit drinking. It was a miracle. Through the pandemic I reached out and asked Jesus to calm my storm and enter my sinking craft, and you know what? He did! I started attending the Monday night recovery group AT TLC. It hasn't been an easy road but God has met me along the way. I'm really living for the first time!"

"I truly appreciate how your church cares for the Santa Cruz Police Department. It feels good to know TLC stands with us and supports us in prayer."

1.2 MILLION

MEALS PROVIDED FOR SECOND HARVEST

100+

FAMILIES FED WEEKLY THROUGH PEOPLES PANTRY

544

PEOPLE HELPED THROUGH
BENEVOLENCE OR DISASTER RELIEF

*You are the God who **works wonders**;
You display Your strength among the peoples.*

Psalms 77:14 (NIV)

CHILDREN & YOUTH



908

ATTENDANCE AT KRUZ KIDS

392

STUDENTS AT TLCS (RECORD BREAKING NUMBER)

120

CHILDREN AT CEC

152

TOTAL CHILDREN & YOUTH IN CLASSES EACH WEEKEND



ACTS OF KINDNESS

Fall 2021 saw an emphasis on Acts of Kindness, large and small, for our neighbors. One TLCer patched drywall holes in the home of someone who could not afford repairs. Another helped a neighbor with solar panel repairs. A small group surprised a widow before by cleaning her gutters and roof.

There were hundreds of other examples, plus these large projects...

1,000+

PJS COLLECTED FOR PROJECT PAJAMAS

55

GIFT BAGS FOR ALL STAFF AT MAR VISTA SCHOOL

"I am a Special Education teacher at Mar Vista Elementary School, and would like to thank the Twin Lakes community for sending all of us such incredibly thoughtful gift bags. Thank you for shining your light on this world that is feeling a little dark right now!"

"I am the director of the largest sober living environment in Santa Cruz. Many trying to get off the streets and out of their drug dependency haven't had the financial resources or family support — and they have looked to your church. Recovery is a challenging process, and living in a 'communally accountable' environment is an effective step, particularly in conjunction with developing personal faith in God. The assistance of Twin Lakes Church has allowed so many people to begin taking that path."



Easter services attracted the largest crowds since March 2020



We completed our **College Ministry and Loft Coffee building**

*I will reflect on **all You have done**
and ponder Your mighty deeds.*

Psalms 77:12 (NIV)

"I am one of those who struggles with faith, especially when so many things in the world appear to be going wrong. I am most grateful for the great work all of the staff at TLC do to build up our faith."



Twin Lakes Christian School and Children's Enrichment Center, our preschool, enjoyed our highest enrollment ever.



It was reinvigorating to go **through Faith Forward** as a church this fall and enjoy the return of the **TLC choir** with over 70 people joining!



The **Advent of the Messiah concert** was a Christmas highlight as were the beautiful **candlelight services!**

2020 VISION

STEPPING OUT IN FAITH TO REACH THE NEXT GENERATION

RETROSPECTIVE

Nine years ago we launched 2020 Vision. Our hope was to enhance our ministry to emerging generations. What has happened in that time?



Our **school and children's ministry building** was constructed

A **school and medical clinic** were built for our partners in India



We helped buy and remodel a **church building** for partners in Melito, Italy

Our **preschool expanded** to a **second building**

The gym building became the **youth center**

Our school now enjoys record enrollment, our preschool is full, our youth ministries have exciting new spaces to call their own, and a new education ministry has begun in the 2020 Vision building at Little Flock in India.



The most recent component is the **college ministry center and coffee house** which opened August 2021.

The college group has expanded in many ways since then.

- On **Thursday nights**, The Hub sees 75-95 students, sometimes edging over 100
- **Midweek Bible studies** ("Soul Groups") are also thriving
- On **Sunday mornings**, the college class studies faith essentials
- In addition to the adults at church-wide baptisms this year, the college group **baptized 11 more new followers of Jesus!**

"It's so great to walk out my office door and into a room full of college-age people. I have often invited people to The Hub and then seen them show up the next Thursday!" – Kyle Pitchford, College Pastor

"It was a thrill to see the coffee house completed and in good use. Every table was full and we trust more and more Cabrillo students and faculty will find their way there, and learn more about God's great love for them." – Carol Loewen

BUDGET REPORT

Operating Income

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Church	5,658,837	5,870,974	5,738,992
Mlssions	639,271	765,804	642,333
Camps, Loft, Schools	4,145,540	4,650,904	5,035,560
Total Income	10,443,648	11,287,682	11,416,885

Operating Expense

	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Church	5,457,574	5,389,625	5,696,787
Mlssions	669,148	577,925	717,072
Camps, Loft, Schools	4,309,471	4,911,700	5,150,633
Total Expense	10,436,193	10,879,250	11,564,492
Surplus / (Deficit)	7,455	408,432	(147,607)

CAMP HAMMER UPDATE



In August 2020, the CZU Complex Fire tore through 86,500 acres of the Santa Cruz mountains, including our property at Camp Hammer. In 2021, we focused on a thorough physical audit to determine what could be preserved or restored, and what needed to be removed. Nearly all structures had to be dismantled except one cabin, the redwood stage, and a storage building, following consultation with fire restoration experts.

There are many steps ahead of us. Only 80 of the 900 properties damaged in the fire have received permits to rebuild due to environmental, health and safety, geological hazard, water, and other permit requirements. Most properties are much smaller, more accessible, and less damaged than our camp. Determining what will be rebuilt and when it can be rebuilt will be a lengthy process demanding much patience and discernment. Please continue to pray for wisdom and God's direction.

SPANISH MINISTRY UPDATE



In November 2021, we hired our new Spanish Ministries pastor **Julian Pizarro**, who starts April 2022. Julian has years of experience in Spanish ministry at two large churches in Texas, currently pastors a church in Santiago Chile, and lived with his wife Jessica in our area in the early 2000s.

Our goal: One church, two languages!

CLOSING THOUGHTS

People ask if I'm discouraged by Covid-19 and its stresses on the church. I see recovery from this pandemic period as a time of unprecedented opportunity.

The world is hurting right now.

People are searching for hope... **this is our moment.**

We don't need a complicated strategy. If we refuse to get caught up in the anger, gloom, and distractions of the surrounding culture, and focus instead on becoming the people Jesus gave his life for us to be, the church will shine like a light in the darkness. **Lift Jesus up and he will draw people to Him.**

Are there challenges? Certainly.

Immorality. Politicization of every aspect of life.

Biblical illiteracy and general apathy. Turmoil on the world stage as tensions between nations rise.

But these are just the contemporary expressions of similar challenges faced by Christians in every culture going back to Jesus Christ.

I am excited to see how God will continue to work through all of us in 2022 as we dedicate ourselves to the Great Commission and the Great Commandment: Make disciples, love God, and love our neighbor.

This is our vision at TLC.

To radiate Christ's love and truth,
to be a beautiful alternative to the aggressive culture,
a **light** in the darkness, a **city on a hill**,
a people characterized not by **dominance**
but by **service**.

People **like Jesus**.

Keep the faith!

René



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COMING UP IN 2022

3/19,20	PIE WEEKEND
4/9,10	WELCOME JULIAN PIZARRO
4/15	GOOD FRIDAY
4/16,17	EASTER
4/30,5/1	FREE CHURCH SUPPER
5/7,8	MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND
5/14,15	COOKIE WEEKEND
5/14-5/28	HURMON HAMILTON 3-WEEK SERIES
6/4,5	CELEBRATE GRADS
8/20,21	JEREMIAH J. JOHNSTON BEGINS SERIES
9/17,18	FALL SERIES BEGINS
12/23-25	CHRISTMAS WEEKEND