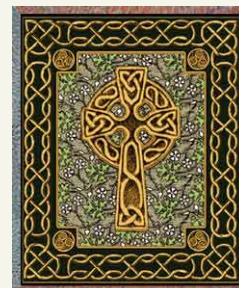


*"LIVES CHANGED TO CHANGE LIVES"*

# In the Know...



**THE ROCK**  
A CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## WELCOME...

### WHAT'S NEW?

- **Oct-Nov Message Series:** Developing Sustainable Faith Change is Coming
- **Small Gatherings (NEW)**  
Monday Night Football SG  
Mountains Edge (Tuesday)  
Men's (Thursday)  
Women's (Wednesday)

### HOW ARE WE DOING?

- **Commitments to Christ in 2008:** (3) Liz, Micah, Cianna.
- **Baptisms 2008:** (5)  
Joey Shepstead, Kenny Robinson, Liz Krejci, Matt & Tabitha Hornyak.
- **Newborns 2008:** (5)  
Hunter Splinter, Maximus Purdy, Summer Austin, Julianne Cicalone, & Hunter Hanson

### • Giving Report: 2008

January	\$7,182.20
February	\$10,967.88
March	\$16,317.82
April	\$7,149.86
May	\$10,779.28
June	\$9,154.43
July	\$9,767.86
August	\$11,394.43
September	\$6,624.52
October	\$7,631.87

Monthly Need: \$12,000

'08 Need: \$120,000.00

'08 Giving: \$96,970.15

'08 Deficit: **\$23,029.85**

### • Prayer Needs:

**Hofmans**-recovering from head-on collision with a drunk driver. **Our** President-elect Obama and process of choosing his cabinet. **Financial** strength and stability for The Rock. Partners would be faithful in tithing 10% to support God's work in people's lives.

We are excited that you have decided to be here with us today. **"The Gathering"** is our worship experience designed to be interactive and engaging. Our desire is to connect with God and each other through relationships.

We want you to know that you matter to us because you matter to Christ. Vicki Lynn and I, along with the partners of The Rock, look forward to connecting with you sometime during The Gathering.

We will begin in a few moments. Meanwhile enjoy the baked goods in the back along with a beverage.

You are invited to participate in communion any time during the service at the communion station in the back. We have developed a prayer station in the case that you need prayer or simply a place to be silent and reflective. Our goal is to create an experience that is relaxed and meaningful. We hope you enjoy the service and we look forward to your next visit.

Blessings,

Chris & Vicki Lynn Tong



## TROUBLED TIMES REQUIRE FAITH...

In times of trouble, where do we turn? When things suddenly turn ugly, what do we do? When we find ourselves in circumstances out of our control, who do we call?

There was a time when the disciples suddenly found themselves in the midst of a life threatening storm (Luke 8:22-25); things were taking a turn for the worst as their fishing boat was overwhelmed by the violent elements. Who did they turn to? Keep in mind that these guys were seasoned fishermen (they were familiar with these conditions and they knew how to navigate through it), but for some reason this particular storm was different. It was a storm of great magnitude, the kind that created "doubt" and "fear." Doubts in regards to their ability and their faith to do anything about the situation. Fear in realizing that this could be the end of life as they knew it.

In times like these, what can we do? The disciples did what we all would do? Call on God for "Help!"

As 2009 approaches, we find ourselves in such a historic time where unemployment is at an all time high (as some at The Rock

have already experienced). The housing market is bottoming as people lose their homes to foreclosures, our economy faces a long recession, and our country is still at war with terrorist. Gasoline prices have soared to historic highs. Our future is uncertain as we await a new leader for our country. Things have turned ugly and for some of us, these are desperate times. Doubts and fears have become the global super storm clouds we face today.

Where do we turn? The answer is obvious...God of course. But it's easier said than done.

Going back to the storm the disciples were facing with their little boat, did you notice that Jesus was asleep when the disciples decided to wake Him up? Not that He was unaware or that He was uncaring; I believe that Jesus was asleep because he was completely confident that the circumstances no matter how chaotic or life-threatening...they were not in control. Jesus was consciously and sub-consciously aware of His Father's control of every situation including the ones we face today.

The only question remains... "Will we trust God?" Will we put our faith in God? Will we hold fast and count on God?

The event concludes with Jesus verbally commanding the life-threatening elements to cease thereby validating His authority over the power of hurricane like winds, raging ocean currents, & super cell storms. The disciples respond in fear, a different kind of fear than they started with...the storm created a fear that is "frightening" which is in contrast to Jesus' authority which created a fear of "respect" for his awesome power. A jaw-dropping kind of awe.

At The Rock we always ask, "So what?" "How is this relevant?"

Here are some question for your consideration...What uncertainties are you facing? What super storms are raging? Are you facing a flood of fears and doubts? If so, are you going to let your fears overcome you or will you be overcomer in fear by God's power and authority for your situation? Trust in God's word (the Bible) and remember that it was the power of His spoken word as "peace" calmed the storm. Trust Jesus at His word.

# PARTNERS TOGETHER

## • Financial Storm...

As you can see, from the front page, our giving has been behind our budgeted expectations by -\$23,000 and based on year-end projections, we will be behind by -\$30,000. The staff has already limited all expenditures to only the essentials. This is a financial storm that The Rock faces and we are praying for 17 more giving units to tithe faithfully (their first 10%) and believe in God to provide for their provisions and the provisions of His church. We're also praying that you may be an answer to our prayers by giving a year-end donation to help off-set our deficit and further our mission to reach the people of our community.

## • Another Parable?

Last Sunday, you heard a parable about "Two pastors at a bar." If you missed it ask someone. Here's another parable by pastor Chris. *There was a family that wanted to throw a party in honor of their father. They sent out invitations. They called their friends and relatives. They spent all their energy to invite their neighbors, co-workers, and community. But when everyone that was invited showed up, no one was there to greet them or welcome them because their hosts were late to the party. So all the guests left and the father was heart broken.*

Who do you think is the family? Who is the father? The family is the church and the

father is God. Every Large Gathering is in a sense a "party" to celebrate God's love and an opportunity to give God worship. When we (the partners) are late, our guests are left alone.

Statistics show that guest make a determination whether they will return within the first 5 minutes. That means we get only one opportunity to make a first impression. We are the host and we ought to be completely prepared to receive our guests so that the Father (God) is honored and glorified. Come at 5:15 pm and together let's love on our guests.

## • Tearing down HELP after service...

Our worship & tech teams will pack the gear & place it in front of the stage or audio area. We need FREE hands to take the gear to the trailer.



The Resistance meets at The Music Bug 7835 S. Rainbow Blvd. Suite 5 & 6 LV, NV 89139.

The Resistance begins 6:45 PM Wednesdays. Students, 6th-12th grades are all invited.

For more info call 340-9202, or email JimiJobin@gmail.com.

Check out our myspace, [www.myspace.com/therockresistance](http://www.myspace.com/therockresistance).

## CONNECT THROUGH SERVING & GROWING...

### Cook a "BIRD?"

We have SIX frozen turkeys that need to be cooked for our friends on E Street, 9:00 AM Saturday, Nov. 15th. So far, Glenn & Geri Cazar have volunteered to cook a bird. Who will join them in helping the less fortunate? Please call Christine @ 340-9202 to sign-up.

### E Street Essentials

This winter, you can make a difference for our friends who live in extreme conditions. Below are the essential needs of our friends...

- Toiletries: small travel size (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, & deodorant)
  - New or used Winter Clothes (Sweatshirts, jackets, gloves, hats)
  - New Socks & underwear
  - Wet wipes, tissues, washcloth.
- Every 3rd Saturday; Ethel Pearson park (Washington & E St.).

### Newborns

Congrats to Dustin & Jenna Cicalone upon the arrival of their

2nd girl, Julianne. Also congrats to Dirk & Kathy Hanson upon the arrival of their son Hunter.

Juan & Stephany Manriquez are expecting their 3rd child any day now, Joe & Liz Hemphill their first child, Jared & Darcie Splinter their 2nd, and Joe & Sarah their 2nd.

### On the "Court"

Thank you to the following who came to visit one of Sierra Vista High school home games and met Coach Tong's JV team: John Schmidt, Wendy Stubbs, Dave Pena, Dave Reed, Steve Ranney, CL Washington, Christine Hardin and Vicki Lynn.

### Racquetball anyone?

Join us on the court Thursdays at 3:00 PM at Silver Springs Recreation Center (Green Valley Pkwy & Silver Springs Rd.) for fun & friendships. Call 340-9202 for details.

### Small Gathering

Be a part of a group where life is shared & becoming happens.

### MONDAYS

1) [Family SG] 6:30 pm, Noreen Tong & Mitzi Gill Meets @ 266 Bella Matese, Las Vegas, 89183 v: 270-8668 [by South Point]

2) [MNF] 5:30 pm, Steve Ranney & Tony Davis Meets @ 9545 Swiss Stone Court, LV, NV 89123 v:528-8805

### TUESDAYS

3) [Mixed SG] 6:30 pm, Dave Reed & Eric Honea Meets @ Dave Pena's home 7950 Valladoid Ave LV, NV 89178 v:245-4742 [Mountains Edge] **NEW SG**

### WEDNESDAYS

4) [Moms SG] 9:30 am, Vicki Lynn Tong Meets: Various Locations v: 340-6378 [Various locations--Southwest]

5) [Women's SG] 6:30 pm, Jennifer Krejci's, Meets @ 8909 Rendon Street, Las Vegas, NV 89143 **\*\*NEW SG\*\*** v: 575-3739 [NW: 95 & Durango]

### THURSDAYS

6) [Men's SG] 6:30 pm, Keith Krejci Meets: various locations v: 575-2740 **\*\*NEW SG\*\***

7) [Mixed SG] 6:30pm, Steve Ranney & Christine Hardin Meets @ 9545 Swiss Stone Court, LV, NV 9123 v:528-8805 [Silverado Ranch]

## STAYING CONNECTED

### • DVD Recommendations

August Rush, The Bucket List, Journey to the Center of the Earth (Family fun), & Expelled.

### • Upcoming Releases

"Fireproof" & "Madagascar 2" now showing.

### • NEXT SG Leaders Mtg.

Wednesday, Nov. 12th, 6:30 pm at the Tong's home.

### • NEXT Meet the Pastors

Saturday, Nov. 22nd, 5:30 pm At the Tong's home.

### • LEADERSHIP TEAM

- David Reed (Team Leader)
- Tony Davis
- Eric Honea
- Haleigh Honea
- Joe Hemphill
- Christine Hardin

### • NEXT Leadership Team Mtg.

Monday, Dec. 1st, 6:30 pm at the Tong's home.

### • Copies of a Message:

Missed a Gathering? Email us... [ctong\\_therocklv@cox.net](mailto:ctong_therocklv@cox.net)

### • CONTACT US:

Office: 340-9202 or 896-8410

**Pastor Chris:** 340-6379

[ctong\\_therocklv@cox.net](mailto:ctong_therocklv@cox.net)

**Vicki Lynn:** 340-6378

[vickilynn\\_therocklv@cox.net](mailto:vickilynn_therocklv@cox.net)

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**Joe Ancheta:** 308-6748

[jjanch23@yahoo.com](mailto:jjanch23@yahoo.com)

**Jimi Jobin:**

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

### SENT PARTNER...

#### ANNA ADAMEK

Our very own missionary in Eastern Europe. Let's stay connected with her.

#### Email Contact:

[Anna\\_adamek@sil.org](mailto:Anna_adamek@sil.org)

#### JONATHAN & JOJO BRADLEY

Our partners since the launch team are now Rock missionaries in New Mexico as a teacher at Shiprock High School (Navajo). They live in a 28ft trailer & want to start a church like The Rock.