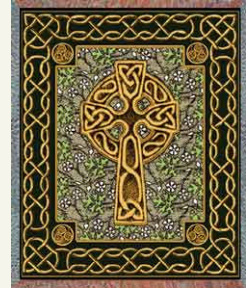


"LIVES CHANGED TO CHANGE LIVES"

In the Know...

therockchristianchurch



WELCOME...

WHAT'S NEW?

Message Series:

- Tearing Down American Idols

Plan Ahead:

- **Saturday night service, July 18th** due to Walkabout trip.
- Walkabout (July 19-25)
Cost \$399; a backpacking experience for adults.

New Baby:

Ariel Ventimiglia gave birth to Mia Bella at 2:17 pm on June 28, 2009. She weighed in at 10.5 Lbs. Congrats to the grandparents Dave & Val.

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.

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



Chris & Vicki Lynn

HOW ARE WE DOING?

- **Baptisms 2009:** (3) Julian Tryhorn, Jeremy & Rebecca Jordan.
- **Newborns 2009:** (2) Noah Jayden Hemphill & Mia Bella Ventimiglia.

• Giving Report: 2009

January	\$7,385.62
February	\$8,341.50
March	\$12,526.07
April	\$ 6,241.53
May	\$10,345.59
June	\$8,495.76

Monthly Need: 8,300

'09 Need: \$49,800 (6 mos)

'09 Giving: \$53,336.07

'09 surplus: \$3,536.07

• Prayer Needs:

Darlene August's mother (Janet) diagnosed with cancer. **Those expecting babies** Tabitha & Matt Hornyak, Alexia & Josh Purdy & Rebecca & Jeremy Jordan.

Financial strength and stability for The Rock so that the pastor & staff may return to their original pay scale instead of the 33%-50% salary cuts.

MISSING THE POINT?

There are times when we get so wrapped up in ourselves that we miss what God is doing right in front of us. Let's face it, we get caught up in the busyness of life going from one place to another, cramming our PDA's or iPhones with back-to-back appointments, feeling like we have to be everywhere, doing everything only to discover that we are in this vicious cycle of a "Rat Race." The American Dream has become a nightmare for some as we find ourselves frantically chasing an ideology that won't necessarily bring us liberation and true happiness.

The first century was no different. Life in Palestine may not have been as fast paced but it certainly had its own set of problems. Before Jesus arrived on the scene, for over four hundred years the Jews had lived in exile and just prior to Christ's birth Jews were returning back to their homeland (the Promise Land). Free to return to Israel, the Jews quickly discovered that they were under Roman occupation. Imagine being a Jew. An empire set you free from oppression and exile only to return home to be oppressed by another empire. Why? What was the point? It would have been better if they were

not freed at all. Sound familiar? (It's the same attitude the Jews had when God freed them from slavery and the oppression of Egypt) So what is God up to? Just as we have an American Dream, the Jews had a "Jewish Dream." It was a dream to be a "Free" nation with its own ruling government and military power. The dream was for a political figure or a military leader to free them from the oppression of the Roman empire. Their desire was so great that many charismatic leaders claiming to be the messiah led movements only to be crushed because of their false claims. So what was God doing? Why would God return his people back to their home land only to be in "Exiled" on their own soil. I believe that God is on the move. He has heard the cry of his people and He is ready to respond.

As Rome extended its empire to become the largest in history, it also developed a system of paths. We've all heard of this popular saying, "All roads lead to _____." Do you realize what this means? It's time to liberate people from a greater oppression. It's time to return all people from "Exile" (East

of Eden). The Good News of the gospel of Jesus Christ now has a way, a road, a path to reach the ends of the earth.

Jesus said, "I've come to set the captives free." The power of His life, death & resurrection has a way to reach all nations. In Acts 1:8 Jesus says to his disciple, "You will be my witness in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." That's exactly what happened. The infrastructure was completed, the Gospel has pathways to liberate not just Jews, but all people. God is at work...and many of his own missed it. Caught up in their own agendas, many missed what was happening right in front of their very own eyes (The Roman Empire self-destructed, Israel became a free state again). But God's agenda was to liberate us from sin and return us from exile to a restored relationship with Him.

Here's the real question. Are you too busy pursuing the American Dream that you are missing what God wants to liberate in your life & in others? God wants to liberate Vegas he has made pathways in our community & the school we meet at...Join us @ His work!

YOUR NEXT STEPS...

• Your Journey...

...begins with your next steps. The Rock is about a community that is relationally driven. We are designed for a relationship with God and each other. Our desire is to discover God through the context of authentic community. When we do life together we witness the power of God in community. When we share life together we experience the love of Christ. When we seek God together the journey is far richer and deeper. That is why we place a priority on each person stepping into an SG (Small Gathering)...Where you become and belong. Stop by the connection table for a list of SG's offered & step into the journey. We guarantee that you will not regret it.

• Small Gatherings List

MONDAYS

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

TUESDAYS

- 2) **[Mixed SG]** 6:30 pm, Dave Reed & Eric Honea
Meets @ Various Southwest locations v:245-4742
[Mountains Edge]

WEDNESDAYS

- 3) **[Moms & Women's SG]** 9:30 am, Vicki Lynn Tong
Meets: Various Locations v: 340-6378
[Southwest]
- 4) **[Worship Teams]** 6:00pm, Joe Ancheta Meets:
various locations v:308-6748
- 5) **[Women's SG]** 6:30 pm, Jennifer Krejci's, Meets @
8909 Rendon Street, LV, 89143 v: 575-3739
[Northwest]

THURSDAYS

- 6) **[Men's SG]** 6:30 pm, Keith Krejci Meets: various
locations v: 575-2740
- 7) **[Mixed SG]** 6:30pm, Steve Ranney & Christine Hardin
Meets @ 9545 Swiss Stone Court, LV, 89123 v:528-
8805 [Silverado Ranch]

• Meet the Pastors...Sat, Aug. 8th; 5:30pm

Take a step towards becoming a partner and a part of the family at The Rock. Those who have visited The Rock will receive personal invitations to hear about the mission God has given us along with Q&A time with our staff & leadership team over a light meal provided by our hosts.

• New SG's...Wednesday & Tuesday

Look for more details as Dave Reed (SG Team leader) will be starting new communities with PC.

YOUR JOURNEY CONTINUES BY SERVING & GROWING...

Saturday Church Service

The Gathering will meet on **Saturday, July 18th @ 5:30pm** for the purpose of giving Walkabout participants plenty of time to travel and be back before next Sunday. This is only a one time change...We sure appreciate your willingness to change your schedule to help us reach our mission and vision of developing deeper disciples.

Walkabout .09

Please keep our "Walkabout Team" in prayer as we trek into God's creation and discover His wonders as well as discover the wonder of authentic community. The following will be backpacking in the Sierra Nevada Mt. (backside of Yosemite). Orientation Monday, July 6 @ Chris & Vicki Lynn's home @ 6:30pm.

- Dave Ventimiglia
- Steve Ranney
- Tommy Vulaj
- Adam Jones
- Jordan Jones
- Nicole Abapo
- Dana Polito
- Christine Hardin
- Vicki Lynn Tong
- Pastor Chris

Daily Bread

Looking for resources that will help you mature as a disciple of Christ? Every month we receive a box of daily devotionals that help you connect with God daily. Pick up a FREE copy at the connection table while supplies last.

E Street Essentials

Together we can help our homeless friends survive the hot Vegas summers. Below is a list of essential needs...

- Toiletries: travel size (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, & deodorant)
 - New or used summer clothes
 - New Socks & underwear
 - Wet wipes, tissues, washcloth.
- Every 3rd Saturday; 9:00 AM @ Ethel Pearson park (Washington & E St.) Next date: Sat. July 18.

Google Maps

You can do one of two ways to write a review under our name for Google Maps:

1. Create a Google account (follow

instructions) on Google site.

2. Place "The Rock, A Christian Church" in the search field
3. Find us & click "write a review" - follow instructions

- OR -

1. Place "The Rock, A Christian Church" in the search field.
2. Find us & click "write a review" It will then advise you to login into your Google account or setup a new one; choose setup new one if you do not have one already set up - follow instructions

New Homepage

Take a look at our new homepage at www.therockLV.com. Let us know how you like it. The website is still under construction, the other pages will soon have a new look.

Fantasy Football

You've seen it on ESPN. You've even tried online leagues but you haven't tried FFL with The Rock. Our church dares to develop friendly competition that draws people

together with something in common. Can you believe it? Opening day for NFL is only 10 weeks away. "Are you ready for some football?" Call Steve Ranney our commissioner @ 528-8805 and reserve your spot with an entry fee. There are only 12 spaces, if we fill them up we can start a second league. Everything is done online except the draft and Monday night games.

Got job leads?

Share with us, so we may share with others. Send your findings to ctong_therockLV@cox.net. Check out the following links:

www.indeed.com
www.hotjobs.com
www.2010census.gov

Job Fair at University of Phoenix 7777 Eastgate Rd. Henderson, NV 89011, **July 7th 11am-2pm**
Also check with Social Security Administration, our sources say they are hiring in Henderson.

STAYING CONNECTED

• DVD recommendations

Fireproof, Australia, New in Town, Slum dog Millionaire, Last Chance Harvey, & Faith Like Potatoes.

• Walkabout 2009

July 19-25 Backpacking :: \$399

• NEXT SG Leaders Mtg.

Wednesday, July 15th, 6:30 PM

• NEXT Meet the Pastors

Saturday, August 8th , 5:30 pm

• Rock T-Shirts

Available @ the connection table
Short sleeve \$15; long \$20

• LEADERSHIP TEAM

- David Reed (Team Leader)
- Tony Davis
- Eric Honea
- Haleigh Honea
- Keith Krejci
- Christine Hardin
- Glenn Cazar

• NEXT Leadership Team Mtg.

Monday, July 13 @ 6:30 pm

• Copies of a Message:

Missed a Gathering? Email us...
ctong_therocklv@cox.net.

• CONTACT US:

Pastor Chris: 340-6379

ctong_therocklv@cox.net

Vicki Lynn: 340-6378

vickilynn_therocklv@cox.net

Christine: 340-9202 (office)

chardin_therocklv@cox.net

Joe Ancheta: 308-6748

jjanch23@yahoo.com

Sarah Ancheta: Nursery/Childcare

Sarah150@juno.com

Tammy Tyler: Kids Rock (Gr. 1-5)

496-6228; tammyt21@aol.com

SENT PARTNER...

ANNA ADAMEK

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

Email Contact:

Anna_adamek@sil.org

JONATHAN & JOJO BRADLEY

Rock partners who are now missionaries in New Mexico as a teachers at Shiprock High School (Navajo Nation).