

The Songs We Sing with Our Lives
“The Song of Hope”
Psalm 30

Eternity: The hope in Jesus that keeps lifting our spirits and focusing life on what is important.

Gratitude and praise leads the faithful to invest in ministries for the knowledge, worship, and praise of God that will impact current and future generations, v. 1:

A place to worship the Lord at an altar of His choice, 2 Samuel 24:18-25.

Plans prepared for a house of worship, 1 Chronicles 28:11.

Resources set aside for ministries of worship that will reach future generations for the glory of God, 2 Chronicles 29:1-9.

Gratitude expressed to God for His daily care and salvation, vv. 1-2.

Gratitude expressed to God for His eternal salvation, vv. 3-4.

Gratitude expressed to God for His fatherly discipline and restoration, rooted in grace and wisdom (Hebrews 12:7-11), vv. 5-11.

The humble who call on God for mercy are the ones He receives, v. 8.

Gratitude that the person of faith will have eternity to behold and praise God the Father and the Son, vv. 11-12

Join us next weekend as we welcome back our Short Term Mission teams.



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Welcome | to Rolling Hills Covenant Church



August 20-21, 2011

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Pastor Byron MacDonald

Thank you for turning off your pagers and cell phones during services.

Following each worship service, members of the prayer team will be available in front of the platform to pray with you and minister to your spiritual needs.

Receivers for the hearing impaired are available from our ushers.

SERVICE TIMES:

Saturday, 5:00 p.m., Worship Center, Contemporary Worship Music

Saturday, 6:45 p.m., the 290s, Education Bldg., Contemporary Worship Music

Sunday, 9:00 & 10:45 a.m., Worship Center, Blended Contemporary and Traditional Music

Sunday, Chapel Option, 10:45 a.m., North Campus Chapel, Video Message, Contemporary Music

Sunday, Canvas, 9:00 & 10:45 a.m., the 290s, Education Bldg., a Contemporary Worship Option

Sunday, 10:00 a.m., RHCC Community Center, Life on The Hill Outreach Service

We are so happy you have joined us for worship today!



Starting Point is a 4-week orientation to RHCC and our purpose for ministry. Gain insight into God, the Bible, and our beliefs. The seminar meets in the library on Sundays from 10:45 a.m. to noon every other month. Our next series meets September 4 through 25. For more information, visit the Welcome Center.

Are you struggling? The pastoral staff at RHCC is available to help you with your marriage, finances, parenting, emotional issues, or if you are in need of prayer. We can also provide recommendations for Christian counseling services in the South Bay. Contact Nate Aanderud at 310.521.2565 or naanderud@rhcc.net.

Here are some highlights of what's coming up at RHCC. For more information about all of our ministries, pick up the latest issue of *Connections* magazine.

All-Church Baptism

Join us this Sunday, August 21 at 6 p.m. in the Worship Center as we come together to worship and celebrate with those who will be baptized. If you would like to be baptized, please come to Carlson Hall at 5 p.m.

Children's Ministries

We are still in need of 70 volunteers to join us in teaching our children about Jesus beginning September 3/4. We'd love to talk with you and help you find a position that fits your skills and personality. Check out the rolling boards on the patio following services or call us at 310.521.2541.

Pictorial Directory

We have just added our FINAL dates for you to have your photo taken for our church directory. You now have until September 17 to have your portrait taken. You will receive a free 8x10" photo along with a free church directory. Sign up at today RollingHillsCovenant.com/pictorial-directory. If you do not have access to the internet, you can make an appointment by calling our church office at 310.519.9406.

Doors of Hope Rummage Sale

The Doors of Hope women's shelter is having a rummage and bake sale Friday and Saturday, August 26 and 27 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 2118 West Carson Street in Torrance. Want to donate? Contact Linda at 310.328.5371.

Worship Center Flowers

Flowers in the Worship Center have been donated by Susan Johnson in celebration of the 50th anniversary of her parents, Glen and Julie Johnson. *Congratulations!*

Prayer Ministry

Homegoing: Pray for Nora Hild on the homegoing of husband, Karl. A memorial service will be held Friday, August 26 at 1 p.m. in the Worship Center.

Prayer Chain: Peggy Snell at 310.539.0391 or Annette Johnson at 310.530.3292.

Giving Report (as of 8/14)

Giving goal (6/1/11-5/31/12):	\$6,790,000
Budget Needs YTD:	\$1,251,144
Received YTD:	\$1,266,145
Over/Under YTD:	\$15,001
Needed last week:	\$113,905
Received last week:	\$93,224

This past year, we, as church leadership, have spent a lot time, Bible study, and prayer on the need to keep church simple and to focus our ministry on the key essentials that Jesus has given us as His church. The need to keep life in focus is a need all of us have; as we live in times that are so much like a movie title from several years ago, "Fast and Furious." If we don't discipline our lives with deliberate biblical and Holy Spirit intent, we can get so easily distracted and off track from what is really important. Jesus never meant us to live fast and furious. He wanted us not to be distracted by the many things but rather to focus on the few things that are necessary.

The one verse that has most kept my life in focus, and keeps leading to the transforming life and power of Jesus, is John 15:5. Jesus is addressing those who are His disciples, "*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*" In this verse Jesus tells us that God called us to Jesus so that our lives might be fruitful for His glory. My life and your life have daily purpose for God. But all the fruitfulness that God has designed for us comes from each of us being in a personal, living, daily relationship with Jesus. Truly, apart from His life living in and through me, neither I nor you can do anything of importance for God, for His church, for others, or ourselves.

It is very humbling for us as church leaders to realize there is nothing we can do for you apart from your own relationship with Jesus Christ. Worship, preaching, teaching, fellowship, serving, sharing, are all empty and powerless apart from the life of Jesus working in those who serve, those who lead, those who follow. That is why our purpose statement as a church is all encompassing, "***To know Jesus intimately, and to share His love and truth passionately.***" That purpose statement, when it is pursued in life, is what keeps life and church in focus.

This Fall we will be sharing that truth in a special series called **Life in Focus** that will flow from the book of Colossians, and will bring to life our church purpose, vision, and core essentials for living out a life of knowing and loving Jesus. This life leads us to three essentials; *Discover*, *Love*, and *Serve*. **Discover** is the foundation as we pursue a growing relationship and knowledge of Jesus and His will, through our own personal time with Him, through weekend services and small groups. **Love** is the outflow of the love of Jesus as it is expressed in our relationships in the church, and as we love the world enough to share the Gospel. **Serve** is the other outflow of the love of Jesus as we use our spiritual gifts and life resources in Jesus to serve within our church family, and to serve the world with the love and Gospel of Jesus.

I hope you will take full advantage of the opportunity to learn and grow with us as we study how to keep life in focus in Colossians during our weekend service, and then go deeper in knowledge and application through our small group studies. Small groups are also an important part of our *Discover* essential. Small groups are not only key groups to go deeper into the Word and application, they are also important for the love and prayer support we need. We each need a place where everyone knows our name and prays for us. Jesus never sent anyone into the world alone, as He designed us, in knowing and growing in Him, to need each other. Vance Hartzell, our Pastor overseeing small groups, is getting ready now for a big launch in September. We always need good leaders, so if you are interested in serving as a small group leader please let him know (vhartzell@rhcc.net, 310.521.2523). I believe this Fall is shaping up as one of our most important at RHCC and I am so glad you are part of our family, and I pray you take full advantage of this Fall series in learning how to keep life in focus.