



Summer 2013
Timber Lake Christian Church
www.timberlakechristian.org

Key Messages and Talking Points

Purpose: To help you prepare to talk about our summer theme, “Good News That Works,” and our all-church community service Sunday (August 11, 2013). These key messages and talking points will help us spread a consistent message about our good work and bring glory to God’s redemptive acts in our community.

Overall Theme: “Good News That Works” is our 2013 summer theme encompassing sermon topics, weekly CARE sheet studies, and resources for families and small groups. After the initial summer launch, this theme and its resources are designed to promote consistent and periodic evangelistic service projects throughout the year. The goal is to get outside of the building and take “The Church” to people that are in our community but outside of “our box.”

Key Message: If Jesus’ gospel is such good news that it can change our eternal hope of salvation, then it also should have the power to change the way we live and the world in which we live. God gives us opportunities to practice servant evangelism one person at a time, one day at a time, one priority at a time.

1. **Community Service Sunday:** On August 11, Timber Lake Christian Church will meet at 8:30am for a single united service and then disperse into our communities to contribute to the help, hope and happiness of people we may not know.
 - Potential community service ideas and resources are available for CARE Groups, families, and other groups to utilize: <http://dougdelp.wordpress.com/2013-good-news-that-works/>
2. **The goals of the Community Service Sunday are:**
 - To mobilize T.L.C.C. groups and families to identify and address the needs of our communities through compassionate acts of kindness and service.
 - To provide an accessible “on ramp” to a Christian service mindset—Christians on a life-long path of service, learning, and civic engagement with their faith.
 - To introduce servant evangelism through a programmed level of ministry of our church. We expect that this kind of servant evangelism will become more spontaneous, intentional, and consistent within our families and various ministry groups for years to come.
3. **The Community Service Sunday** will provide an opportunity for Christian friends and families to take action using God’s gifts. They will share together in opportunities that may begin a lifetime of evangelistic fervor rooted in Christian service.
4. **Community Service Sunday** is an opportunity for young people (with their family and/or friends) to find their voice, take action, build positive self-esteem and life skills, and begin a lifetime of service to others. Numerous studies have demonstrated the positive short- and long-term benefits of service to others, both for the people who serve, and for their communities. [Note: A summary of research can be found at www.nationalservice.gov], or from a Christian perspective The Impact of Volunteering on Christian Faith and Congregational Life: <http://www.baylor.edu/content/services/document.php/22981.pdf>
5. **Communities grow stronger** when young people are part of the solution, addressing tough issues that affect their communities.

6. Frequently Asked Questions—

- Where do I find various kinds of community service Ideas for our community?

Ideas for service projects are available on Doug's blog at dougdelp.wordpress.com. You can also consult the resources listed on the inside flap of our "Good News That Works" Summer folder.

- Who do I contact if I want more information?

Contact the office to schedule an appointment if you have further questions about forming a Community Service Team. Also, Doug, Brian or a couple of Deacons will be available with resources throughout the summer during the Bible Fellowship hour (9:45–10:45am). We can discuss options there.

- Who do I contact if I want to help on a Community Service Team?

Contact your CARE Group leader, Bible Fellowship teacher, one of our ministers or deacons. Any TLCC family can lead a Community Service Team.

- How do I set up a Community Service Team?

First, recruit a team of people with which you would like to work. (Family, a group of families, CARE Group, a new friend you've met at church.

Second, decide on a project or type of project you would like to work. (Go here for a list of resources: www.dougdelp.wordpress.com/2013-good-news-that-works) During the months of June, July, and August, Doug, Brian, and some deacons will be available to discuss ideas at the Timber Lake Café during the Bible Fellowship Hour.

Third, fill out a Community Service Project Plan and provide a copy for the office.

Fourth, Communicate, communicate, communicate with your team. Delegate, anticipate, and execute your plan. Be sure to take some pictures you can share with the office to help encourage others in the future!

- Is funding available?

We encourage groups to get creative to find ways to finance any materials needed for your projects. There is some funding available through the church budget if needed. The elders will approve any funding requests after the Community Service Project Plan is submitted to the office.