

Fall 2014

# 4TUCSON

A quarterly  
publication  
of 4Tucson  
FREE

## magazine

### Serve Our Schools

Church volunteers answer  
the SOS to benefit  
Tucson's schools

### The Keys to Economic Vitality

How to help Tucson  
grow from stagnant  
to vibrant

### Voting: The Duty of Every Christian

Governmental change  
will be determined by  
Christian involvement

### Imperfectly Living Out a Perfect Faith

What does it truly mean  
to be a Christian?

Cover photo by Chloe Carlson







## What is 4Tucson?

The mission of 4Tucson is to partner with every sector and domain of society based on common love, common goals and the common good to make Tucson one of the most livable cities in the world, allowing each partner to determine what part it should play.

We see the Christian church engaged in the needs and dreams of Tucson, serving as a catalyst to bring about spiritual and societal transformation for the prosperity of the entire community.

Visit [4tucson.com](http://4tucson.com) to see our Statement of Faith.

## What are Domains?

Our society illustrates change through one of three primary sectors: Public, Private, or Social. 4Tucson has taken those three sectors and identified 12 specific areas of influence within our city. Those areas of influence we call Domains.



Our city is made up of groups of people within Domains who have expertise and unique knowledge in a variety of subjects. Each person within a Domain will tend to view a specific problem from his or her own perspective. For example, if our specific problem were homelessness, someone in the Education Domain may believe the solution is more education. A professional in the Healthcare Domain may believe the solution revolves around dealing with mental illness, while a leader in the Business Domain may see the problem as a lack of motivation or opportunity. Individually, these views are not the solution to the problem of homelessness—but collectively, each holds a piece to the answer to discovering a real and sustainable solution.

Our purpose is to identify difficult problems within the city and bring the expertise of people from a wide variety of backgrounds to focus together to discover and implement long-term solutions.

Each Domain has a Domain Director who coordinates the programs and projects that create solutions to problems encountered within that Domain. Visit [4tucson.com](http://4tucson.com) to see a full listing and detail on each Domain Director.

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All writers are members of the Writers 4Tucson Team serving under the Media/Arts Domain and Domain Leader Francine Rienstra. Writers contributing to this issue are Andrea Arthur Owan, Janis Van Keuren, Meg Villanueva, Kathy Watson, Jeannie Miller Weyrauch, and Lily Winchester. Editor and Writers 4Tucson Team Leader is Adam Colwell. Graphic Design is by Caryn Metcalf. Proofreading is by Meg Villanueva. Project Management and Production is by Adam Colwell's WriteWorks.



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Photo by Sue Johnson  
The City Psalms Worship  
Band leads praise to God  
from the Fox Theatre stage.



# Feature Tucson's Citywide Prayer Night

Celebrating birthday 239 with unity and Shalom • By Andrea Arthur Owan

Tucson turned 239 on August 22, and it received the perfect birthday gift.

A crowd of local Christian laypeople, government leaders, school officials and clergy gathered at the historic Fox Theatre downtown to pray, pursue unity, and ask for God's blessings upon the city.

The dynamic event began when the City Psalms Worship Band—a collaboration of worship leaders from six local churches—led the multi-ethnic and politically diverse audience of all ages in worship. Then Brian Goodall, 4Tucson's Prayer Domain Director, invited Jesus to be the guest of honor at the celebration. "It is He, above all else, who should be honored," he said.

Randy Reynolds, Community Renewal's Executive Director, invited Vice-Mayor Paul Cunningham to read Mayor Jonathan Rothschild's Proclamation of the City of Tucson, declaring August 22 as the official Citywide Prayer Night. It emphasizes Tucson's unique Christian history.

Reynolds then called on Christians to pray and work for the city's welfare. Using Jeremiah 29:4-7 as his reference, Reynolds emphasized that a spirit of Shalom—peace, prosperity and welfare—should permeate people's lives and the town. He punctuated that call by saying believers should be working corporately, not as individuals.

Bernadette Gruber, 4Tucson's Education Domain Director, introduced Dr. Adrian Vega, Deputy Superintendent of Tucson Unified School District and John O'Hare, Desert Christian Schools' Headmaster. Dr. Vega asked for prayers for humility and a servant's heart for himself as well as for anyone involved in the education of Tucson's children, including administrators, teachers, teaching assistants, bus drivers and cafeteria workers. O'Hare pointed out that education is a relational activity fraught with difficulties. His hope is that teachers will be instrumental in passing on the blessings of God to children. Pastor David Drum,

Church Domain Director of 4Tucson, prayed for these men and the city's educators.

Next, 4Tucson's Business Domain Director Tony Simms emphasized that without business, the city suffers. He challenged everyone to be diligent in his work, to treat employees with honor and respect, to provide good service to customers, and to be generous with God's blessings. Sixth-generation Tucsonan and Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman Carlos Ruiz addressed some of the problems facing the business community in the last five years and requested prayers for strength and wisdom, and for business owners and business opportunities in Tucson. Pastor Otis Brown, Senior Pastor of Siloam Freewill Church, prayed for these leaders and Tucson's entrepreneurs.

Before introducing Ward 5 Councilman Richard Fimbres, 4Tucson Government Domain Director Paul Parisi reminded everyone that citizens should honor people working in government instead of nitpicking them. Fimbres asked for wisdom, love, discernment, strength and health, as well as for hope to energize the community to do good things. He also added that the City Council owes a debt of gratitude to the business community for helping them weather the city's recent economic problems. Centro Familiar Fuente de Vida's Senior Pastor Isaac Martinez prayed for Fimbres and those working in the government sector.

The crowd's reaction indicated that they'd been blessed by this special birthday celebration and were ready to go forth in unity and be ministers of peace, prosperity and welfare for all Tucsonans.

*Andrea Arthur Owan is a freelance content writer, published author, speaker and public presentation specialist with over 40 years of experience. Connect with her at [andreaarthurowan@gmail.com](mailto:andreaarthurowan@gmail.com) or through her inspirational blog, "Broken Hearts, Redeemed."*





# Serve Our Schools

Church volunteers answer the SOS to benefit Tucson's schools • By Janis Van Keuren

Photo by Chloe Carlson

Parents went home with full hands and happy hearts during Serve Our Schools.



## Education

An SOS message clicked to churches and ministries throughout Tucson – and the alert was heard. Volunteers were needed to help prepare a back-to-school event that would span two weekends and cover nearly every school district in Tucson. Churches, ministries, and schools eagerly responded to 4Tucson's call in the collaborative effort called Serve Our Schools (SOS).

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More than 800 volunteers from approximately 100 different Christian churches and organizations impacted more than 80 schools across seven Tucson districts. Enthusiastic helpers painted rooms, trimmed shrubs and planted flowers, cleaned and organized teacher supply rooms, assembled desks and shelves, refurbished a teachers' lounge, cleaned and helped teachers set up classrooms, prepared welcome baskets for teachers, and gave out free backpacks and supplies. SOS ran from July 26 through August 2 and involved GAP Ministries, Tucson Church International, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Pantano Christian Church, Community Renewal, Christ Community Church, and 4Tucson.



“The results gave glory to the Lord,” said Bernadette Gruber, 4Tucson Education Domain Director. “It was moving to hear stories of how peoples’ lives were touched through SOS, the number of volunteers who were excited to be part of something bigger than themselves, and parents, teachers and youth who were involved. It created an environment for people to serve and build relationships.”

On Saturday morning July 26, the desert sun baked concrete sidewalks around Tucson while Christians ignited a spiritual fire to launch SOS with prayer walks around several schools. Small groups bonded in faith, circled schools and lifted prayers for peace, safety, academic success, and a thriving environment on the campuses. Every facet of a student’s life was touched with prayer for families, teachers, academics and administrators.

Volunteers then picked up shovels, paint brushes, and tools and began a physical transformation on the schools themselves. St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, for example, had more than 300 volunteers serving with faculty and parents throughout Marana Unified School District and at Oyama Elementary in the Tucson Unified School District. Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene partnered with them, distributing more than 200 backpacks in the Amphitheater Unified School District.

“This event is important to our city so that schools can see that God wants to bless them,” said RuthAnn Smithrud, Outreach Coordinator at St. Andrews. “This event comes from the heart of God. It was His idea to serve and bless our schools through the church community.” St. Andrew’s participation was also part of their Service Worship Sunday.

A few examples of the many churches involved included Pantano Christian Church which gave out 400 backpacks, The Oasis Church distributed office supplies to classrooms and The Well Worship Center built shelves for supply rooms at Hollinger K-8 School. David Drum, 4Tucson Church Domain Director, described how the project developed. “Several streams of churches and ministries wanted to focus on schools. It was just a matter of bringing those streams together and praying to seek God’s heart on how we could collaborate that gave birth to SOS.” From there, plans were developed for two weekend events. “The goal was to minister to the needs of the schools,” said Gruber. “For some districts, the last weekend in July worked best while the first weekend in August was ideal for the Flowing Wells Unified School District.”

“What excited me about Serve Our Schools was the possibility of creating, strengthening, and further developing lasting partnerships with organizations that were truly interested in helping and serving our schools,” said Brenda Moseley, Amphitheater School District Program Coordinator.

Cleaning, organizing and beautification of campuses took place that first weekend. Mike Birrer of Community Renewal was instrumental in recruiting volunteers and organizing projects throughout the city. The second weekend focused on providing Flowing Wells Unified School District students with backpacks, supplies and sports physicals from Victory Worship Center’s medical van. Parents were given resource information from more than 30 vendors that included making healthy meals, dental hygiene, school-based counseling services, qualifications for SNAP (the federal government’s a nutrition assistance program), and how to receive district assistance.

An estimated 4,000 parents and students attended the event, and approximately 2,100 backpacks and thousands of supplies were distributed. Through the district’s coordination, Ronald McDonald greeted students as they entered the gate at Flowing Wells Junior High School on August 2. Pastor Demetrius Miles of Tucson Church International evaluated the event as an opportunity to “give us a better pulse on our community, bringing the love of Jesus to the neighborhood where we are located.”

A deejay played Christian and secular music, setting a festive mood while families enjoyed pretzels, applesauce, hamburgers and bottled water from a food truck. Dax Valles, Assistant Principal of Flowing Wells Junior High, organized the campus, and with the help of more than 100 volunteers assisted families in weaving their way from tickets to games, from gear to resources. “The heart of this is to build relationships with families, administrators, staff and teachers,” said Grey Ayers, President and Founder of GAP Ministries. Stephen McPherson, Church Administrator at Tucson Church International, added, “As a community of believers, this type of event takes us out of the brick and mortar building and personifies our Christian mandate to share the wealth of the Kingdom with people who may not know Jesus.”

“Flowing Wells participation and interaction was critical,” said Gruber. “They were at the table, engaged in the planning, and helped in a lot of different areas. The collaboration between the school district and the church is the beauty of an event like this.”

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“As a community of believers, this type of event takes us out of the brick and mortar building and personifies our Christian mandate to share the wealth of the Kingdom with people who may not know Jesus.” - [Stephen McPherson, Church Administrator at Tucson Church International](#)

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One mother leaving the Flowing Wells function said, “If it wasn’t for this event, I wouldn’t be able to afford backpacks and supplies. I have four kids and this helps so much.”

In the past, GAP Ministries had orchestrated the day, according to Will Chambers from that organization. “But this is the first time we turned the planning over to the district, and it resulted in a different approach and more contact with local businesses,” he said. Martha Petty, Director of the Flowing Wells Extension Program, commented on the importance of SOS. “It serves the children of our city and shows Pima County that schools and churches are united. I know how much love goes into this event and how ‘we’ impact the families we serve. This is only the tip of the iceberg,” Petty said. “As a community we can do great things.”

Attending the event was Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild. Improving education is a priority for him. He considered the event an important step in helping parents provide for their children. Mayor Rothschild is eager for this coordination between schools and organizations to continue throughout the school year.

Dr. Kevin Stoltzfus, Assistant Superintendent of Flowing Wells District, echoed the mayor’s sentiments. “This has been a catalyst event to create opportunities down the road so that ministries can help throughout the year,” he said. “We lack the resources to sustain food, clothing, and medical provisions for our families, so we hope to meet these needs by connecting all the people who are willing to help.”

“We’ll continue to encourage and facilitate with churches adopting schools,” Gruber said. “Our goal is that every school would be adopted by a church in the next five years.”

*Janis Van Keuren is a freelance writer who has authored stories and devotionals appearing in Christian publications and an anthology. She also writes her own blog, “Heart-Filled Moments” at [heartfilledmoments.com](http://heartfilledmoments.com)*



# Healthcare

# Building God's Kingdom through Healthcare

A life leveraged in service to the elderly  
By Kathy Watson

New Healthcare Domain ready to take the pulse of Tucson's healthcare needs.



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Russell Burns, 4Tucson's newest Director of the Healthcare Domain, has long had a passion to serve the Lord by sharing his life with the elderly, their families and caregivers in assisted living facilities. He began working in nursing homes while he was in Bible college and quickly learned the door was wide open to preach and minister to these hungry and grateful hearts. He was also blessed when they shared their hearts through fond and tender memories of the past.

So when Burns and his wife were looking for a place to touch lives and serve God in Tucson, senior and hospice care was a natural choice. Burns quickly realized that working in a care home was like being the pastor over people who need God's love in their lives. "It is a real God-honoring, Mother Teresa-type of ministry. You are working not only with the elderly person, but also with the family who is losing their loved one, the matriarch or patriarch of the family."

As a business owner, Burns loves the fact he can take the "very best possible talent in the field of nursing and provide those from the Christian community a platform to live out their faith. Being a Christian is an asset," he adds, "and I get to encourage and empower people to do and be the very best they can in their jobs."

Burns feels he and his wife have been blessed financially and equipped experientially to influence the Tucson community for the kingdom of God. He believes in taking chances as they look for



opportunities to serve in the healthcare industry. Assisted living, hospice and chronic care homes are all included in their plans to address the spiritual and holistic needs of families. "Life should be about meeting the real needs of people; stepping out and stepping up to whatever God calls us to, and it is often not pretty. The whole arena of senior healthcare is a great opportunity to serve God and those in all areas of need."

Burns' life is full of experiences that he would like to share with others. He has been a pastor in a foreign country, lost a loved one, learned how to show honor and dignity to residents in his care, and owned and managed his own business. Burns would love to leverage his life by sharing his knowledge and expertise alongside other Christian business owners. He also desires the accountability they can offer him.

"I am very fulfilled and satisfied in life. I am pretty happy and grateful. I also really want to do more in my community. I want people to take advantage of who I am and what I can offer," he said. "I want close relationships with people who are in the Kingdom and want to advance the Kingdom here in Tucson. At the end of the day, that is all that's going to matter."

*Kathy Watson is a freelance writer who lives in Vail, Arizona.*



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# The Keys to Economic Vitality



**Business**

## How to help Tucson grow from stagnant to vibrant • By Andrea Arthur Owan

Doug Martin, President of Good News Radio Broadcasting, has seen numerous changes in Tucson's business climate since moving here with his family 30 years ago – some good; others not so much.

"The business climate was much better when I first arrived here," Martin says. "But then Tucson elected a self-proclaimed anti-capitalist mayor who didn't want to see any business development in the city." Combine that, he said, with a City Council that developed the mantra, "Just say 'No!'" to business development, "and you had a recipe for stagnation."

"There were some critical decisions made in the late eighties, like passing the manufacturing tax that caused companies like IBM to downsize or leave the city entirely," he said. "Other anti-growth proponents, including wealthy people who bought ranches in the sleepy Old Pueblo because they liked it sleepy and those in government who simply wanted to control land, were also happy to thwart business development." Then, Martin adds, Tucson didn't push for mountain-to-mountain annexation, resulting in self-contained little bedroom communities springing up around it. Not having a crosstown thoroughfare also contributed to the problem. Still, in spite of the anti-business climate, Tucson continued to grow throughout the nineties.

Then recession hit, and everything came to a screeching halt.

"We never worked to attract or retain business," Martin said, "and now we're paying for it." He compares it to a marriage. "When a husband neglects his wife long enough, then she gives up and leaves. When [the city] is not showing a lot of love, people and businesses finally give up and move."

But Martin, whose non-profit company broadcasts KVOI, KGMS, K-LOVE and KCEE, remains hopeful and committed to seeing Tucson grow and flourish. He has some ideas on how that can happen, and he's encouraged by recent positive, local government changes and attitudes.

"First," he says, "we need a well-trained workforce that's ready for companies looking to relocate here. We need to have good schools and colleges to educate their employees and their children. We need good infrastructure, like an attractive city with good roads. And we need to offer incentives to companies." Martin points to his former hometown of Albuquerque that attracted companies when they cancelled business property taxes and used private funds to rebuild their downtown.

Martin also believes Tucson can incubate and grow businesses. He points to the University of Arizona Tech Park and Start Up Tucson, an organization "working to grow a strong, vibrant startup ecosystem of companies, entrepreneurs, and talent in Tucson" as examples. "Finally," he says, "we need expansion of companies to make sure they don't leave." To accomplish that, Martin believes good roads, physical appearance and school choice must play a big role.

Being an integral part of 4Tucson is a way Martin and his company are making a positive influence in Tucson's business culture. "4Tucson board members meet with councilmembers and city leaders. We let them know we are willing to serve and help." He's encouraged by the positive response they've had to that working-together approach. "The general public's perception is that the church is a drain on society," Martin adds. "The church has been too quiet about [the good things] they've been doing in the community" such as the services and support they offer citizens.

He believes three of the best ways 4Tucson can impact the city are to be the spokesperson for the Christian community, to mobilize Christians, and draw attention to the work Christians are doing here to contribute to Tucson's success. He's convinced that winning combination can change post-modern Tucson into a vibrant city—physically, spiritually and economically.

*Andrea Arthur Owan is a freelance content writer, published author, speaker and public presentation specialist with over 40 years of experience. Connect with her at [andreaarthurowan@gmail.com](mailto:andreaarthurowan@gmail.com) or through her inspirational blog, "Broken Hearts, Redeemed."*



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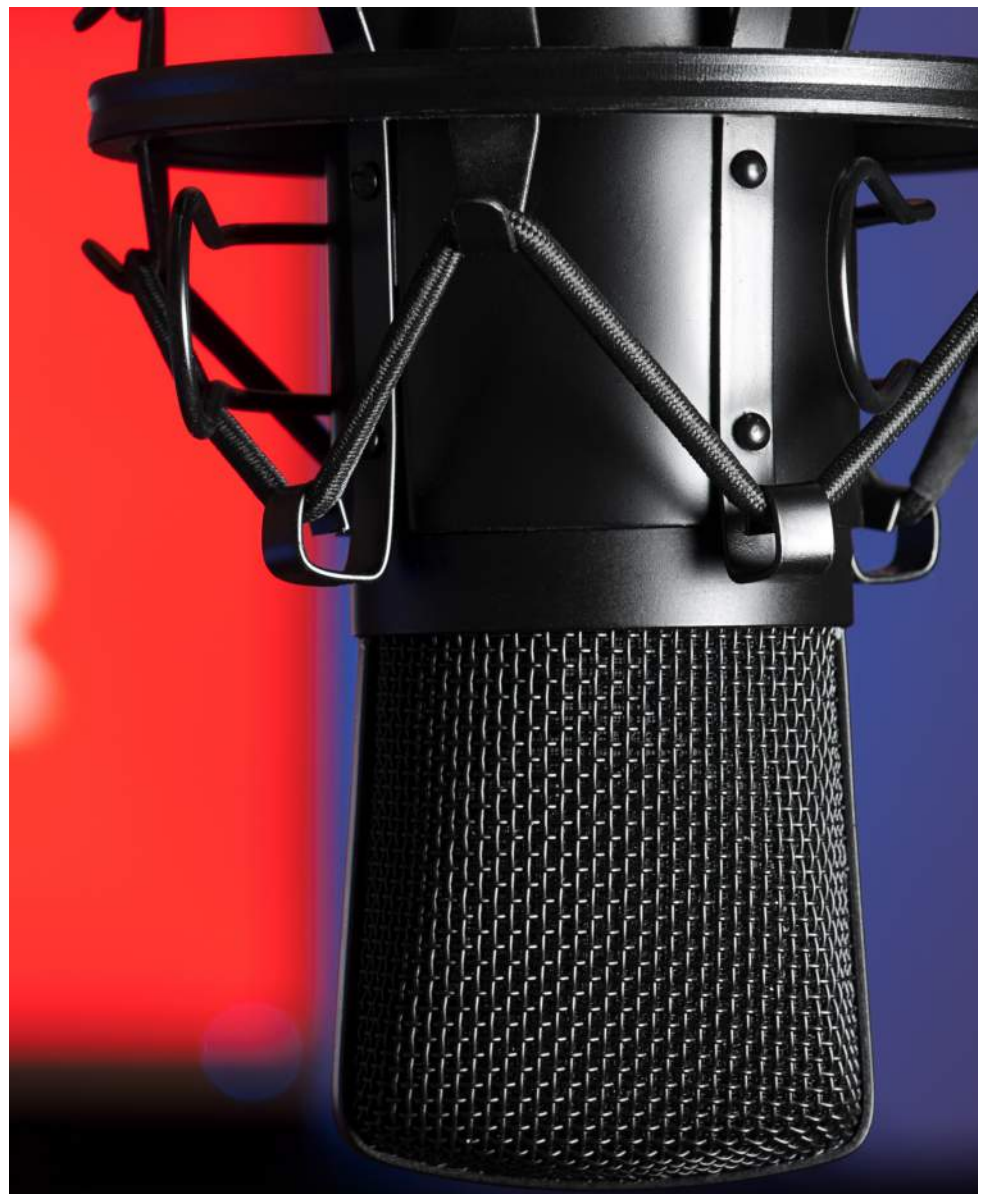
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## No Ordinary Radio Program...

"4Tucson at 4:00 is a unique radio talk show in that we don't just look at issues affecting our city and region, we look at them with a Biblical perspective," says Mike Shaw, veteran award winning journalist and host of the "4Tucson at 4:00" Radio Show.

"While we might spend time on the show identifying problems, we also see what the Bible has to say and explore solutions. How can we as Christians serve our city to make it a better place to live for all of us? That is the key question that drives 4Tucson at 4:00."

"4Tucson at 4:00" Radio Show  
with Mike Shaw  
The Voice 1030 KVOI-AM  
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# Servant Leadership that Leaves a Legacy

Tucson hosts sixth Global Leadership Summit • By Meg Villanueva

This summer, Pantano Christian Church was home to the twelfth annual Global Leadership Summit in Tucson, a conference hosted by the Willow Creek Association in Chicago and broadcast worldwide via satellite. Over 500 people attended, including participants from Oro Valley, Green Valley, Sahuarita and Phoenix.

This is Pantano's sixth year hosting the conference. Crisán Coxe, a staff member at Pantano Christian Church, has worked in various capacities at the conference each of those years. "The Summit never fails to give tools that enhance the attendees' personal and business lives," she said.

Attendees ranged in age and experience from young adult first-timers to elders, but the attitude of eagerness and appreciation that everyone exhibited demonstrated that the Summit had something for everyone.

On the first day, the conference included six speakers, among them Bill Hybels and Patrick Lencioni. "I always find material to take away from Bill Hybels," said David Drum, 4Tucson Church Domain Director. "Hybel's talk contrasted the two shepherds found in John 10: the hireling shepherd and the good shepherd. The hireling puts himself and his needs first, while the good shepherd thinks first and foremost of his sheep. He made the point that as leaders, we need to be good shepherds—legacy leaders. We need to put God first and be ready to give our lives for the cause."

Coxe said she is always impressed with Patrick Lencioni, an always-popular speaker at the Summit. This year his message spoke of the wrong reasons for becoming a leader and can be summed up in one statement: "If it's not servant leadership, it's just economics." Drum explains that Lencioni is "an incredibly gifted speaker, very articulate and assured, very engaging, and very humorous.

There's not a lot of duplication—he's always giving you something different."

During lunch on Thursday, 4Tucson hosted breakout sessions with nearly 80 people in attendance at all sessions. Drum says 4Tucson is unique in its relationship to the Summit. It is the only Summit partner that is citywide, not church based, allowing 4Tucson partners from multiple churches to attend at the heavily discounted partner rate. This partnership has helped Summit attendance grow by about 30 percent. 4Tucson has become an example used by Willow Creek to show how the summit can be leveraged for greater citywide impact.

On the second day, Drum was impressed with the topic of Joseph Grenny's talk called Crucial Conversations. It focused on conversations that are hard to have, but essential for personal and professional growth. Many people have trouble with these conversations, falling for the myth that if you have them, you'll lose a friend. "You have a 97 percent chance of being heard (correctly) if there is mutual purpose—they know you care about their concerns—and mutual respect—they know you care about them," Grenny said.

The Summit will have two campuses next year—one at Pantano and the other on the west side at Victory Worship Center. Drum believes that the change will be good for the conference, since it will attract those who had been unwilling or unable to travel across town as long as one hour to go to Pantano Christian Church. Next year's conference is on August 6-7, 2015. It's not too early to start planning. Contact 4Tucson for more information.

*Meg Villanueva is a published author, poet, and inspirational speaker on the subject of wholeness. Learn more about Meg at [megvillanueva.com](http://megvillanueva.com).*



Photo by Sue Johnson  
4Tucson Church Domain Director David Drum shares at the Global Leadership Summit.





## Who Should I Vote For?

Noah Webster, known as the “Father of American Scholarship and Education” and author of the Webster’s Dictionary, stated:

“In selecting men for office, let principle be your guide. Regard not the particular sect party of the candidate – look to his character... It is alleged by men of loose principles or defective views of the subject that religion and morality are not necessary or important qualifications for political stations. But the Scriptures teach a different doctrine. They direct that rulers should be able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness.”



# Government

# Voting: The Duty of Every Christian

Change in the  
government will  
be determined  
by Christian  
involvement

By Lily Winchester

America is at a point in its history where Christians must assume their responsibilities to preserve the freedoms her citizens enjoy, or she will falter and fail like so many preceding nations. So says Paul Parisi, 4Tucson Government Domain Director, who is working to rejuvenate Christian involvement in politics.

“The problems that we’re facing are largely due to the fact that Christians have abdicated their responsibility to be involved in politics,” adds 4Tucson Founder and Executive Director Mark Harris.

The Providence Forum produced a poll stating that only 50 percent of Christians in America are registered to vote, and only 50 percent of that number actually show up to the polls. This means that a mere 25 percent of the Christian population are taking their duty seriously. Parisi said that Christian apathy toward voting and political involvement is primarily caused by the increased prevalence of media and the continual decrease in influence from the pulpit.

“The way media has changed with the Internet, television, and the things coming out of the media, people are influenced by that and it has changed the way people think,” said Parisi.

According to Harris, if every Christian American would register to vote and then showed up on Election Day, candidates with biblical beliefs and values would be easily ushered into office. “When we see political views that do not align with Scripture, remember it’s largely our absence in the public forum that allowed that to happen,” Harris said. “Christians must understand that our form of government will not work unless Christian people are involved.”

As the Government Domain Director, Parisi found that simply providing information to people was insufficient in motivating participation, and that there is a much deeper issue than just lack of knowledge. “I realized that most Christians don’t even attend church and most really don’t understand

God’s worldview,” Parisi said. “If people vote for the same old people who don’t have virtue, we’re not going to change society. They have to understand God’s worldview first, then they can make an educated vote. If not, then they might as well be using a Magic 8 Ball to vote.”

To address the lack of a biblical worldview and political involvement, the Government Domain hosts several Constitution classes throughout the year, as well as the Truth Project, a 12-week course produced by Focus on the Family. “It really gives God’s worldview on all parts of our lives,” Parisi said. “It opens the mind to thinking, ‘I want somebody in government that knows the truth about what God gives us.’”

Harris said every nation in history has fallen after following a particular pattern, and he challenges Christians to determine where America is in that pattern. “The pattern most nations follow,” Harris said, “is bondage to faith, spiritual faith to great courage, courage to liberty, liberty to abundance, abundance to complacency, complacency to apathy, apathy to dependence, and dependence to bondage.”

To counter that pattern, Harris said, Christians need to understand that their duty to vote comes from God, who is over all leaders and government, and that they have an important role in selecting leaders who seek God, hear His voice and recognize that their inalienable rights are God-given and it’s government’s job to protect them. Parisi adds this is exemplified by the nation’s Founding Fathers who put them in the United States’ Bill of Rights and Constitution.

“God created this system in this country giving us the ability to vote,” Parisi said, “and if we don’t exercise what God’s given us, then we’re wasting a gift from God.”

*Lily Winchester is a third generation Arizona Wildcat, graduating in 2010 with a BA in Journalism. Her passion is to inform people with the truth. She is also very involved in her church and its ministries.*



# Thank you!

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# A New Wind is Blowing

Pastors retreat changes lives  
and unites ministries in Tucson

By Janis Van Keuren



Chris DeHaan had been invited to several pastor retreats organized by 4Tucson, but kept shelving the opportunity because of his busy schedule. When he finally made it a priority to attend one, not only was his ministry as a pastor changed but the church he shepherds, The Vineyard Christian community, was impacted as well.

“I came away refreshed rather than burdened with a list of five more things I had to accomplish as a pastor in my own church,” said DeHaan. “The connection with other ministers was significant to me. We talked about ourselves rather than our churches and we prayed for each other.”

DeHaan gained new insight as he talked, worshiped, and prayed with other ministers throughout the city. “If I’m separated from the larger body, I’m hurting my own church body,” he said.

This spiritual bonding also enlarged DeHaan’s understanding of how God is moving in Tucson. “I came away with a bigger picture of what God was doing instead of being focused only on what my church could accomplish. I saw the church as bigger than my own congregation.”

As a result, DeHaan was inspired to share this experience with other pastors, especially younger ones just starting ministry or those involved in church planting. He found 15 eager pastors and formed a gathering that meets in a relaxed atmosphere downtown once a month. Pastors pray for each other and their ministries, and they openly share the burdens on their hearts. They have also reached out to the needy in the neighboring area where they meet.

“One of the most significant things that happened during the retreat was how the Holy Spirit moved among the pastors and without even realizing it, we all began praying in the same direction,” DeHaan said. “My personal experience at the retreat also affected a change in my church. We connected with churches of different denominations in

the neighborhood. We invited those churches to share at our services about their congregations, their visions and burdens, and we prayed for them.”

From this openness, all of the churches have realized they are not competing with each other but partnering to work in the neighborhood. “We have caught the vision that we are one church among many,” DeHaan added. “We need to be connected to carry out God’s vision for the city of Tucson which encompasses the whole community and city.”

4Tucson will be holding its next one-day Pastor Prayer Summit from 9:00am-4:00pm Thursday, October 30 at the University of Arizona according to Brian Goodall, 4Tucson’s Prayer Domain Director. DeHaan plans to be there with other pastors and ministers whom he has invited.

“Many people are commenting on the fresh wind that’s blowing through our city right now,” said Pastor David Drum, 4Tucson’s Church Domain Director. “That wind is a direct result of our city’s first three-day Pastor Prayer Summit back in 2009. Of all the things that Jesus could have been burdened about as He headed to the cross, John 17 tells us that visible, citywide Christian unity was his passionate plea. We get to help answer Jesus’ prayer.”

The day is loosely structured as the leaders move pastors from prayer to worship with built-in flexibility for God to develop the day according to His plans. “It’s always difficult for a pastor to schedule the retreat because they are so busy,” Goodall said. “But very little is more important on our calendar than praying together for our city, for its needs, and for unity in the churches.”

*Janis Van Keuren is a freelance writer who has authored stories and devotionals appearing in Christian publications and an anthology. She also writes her own blog, “Heart-Filled Moments” at [heartfilledmoments.com](http://heartfilledmoments.com)*





Photo by Chloe Carlson  
All ages and sizes came together to  
bowl and bid with 4Tucson.



Philanthropy

## 4Tucson Friend-raiser Rolls a Strike

Bidding and Bowling brings Tucsonans together • By Jeannie Miller Weyrauch

Strikes, spares, gutter balls, disco lights, and joyful shouting dominated the day at the first-ever 4Tucson Bidding and Bowling event held in July at Tucson's landmark Lucky Strike Bowl.

Organized by the Philanthropy Domain, Director Linda Goode said the event was not only to raise money for 4Tucson, but also had a unique, secondary purpose.

"What was neat about this event is that it was also a friend-raiser. A lot of people brought friends who haven't gone to church, friends from work, and so on to share the fellowship opportunity with them and what 4Tucson is all about through the fun atmosphere of bowling."

Attendees enjoyed two hours of bowling, a slice of pizza and a soda for only \$25. The lane sponsors brought in teams, families signed up, friends joined together, and individuals jumped onto teams. One lane sponsor provided GAP Ministries with two lanes, allowing seven foster kids to have a fun day of bowling.

Goode expressed her gratitude for the 20 lane sponsors and three event sponsors: Safeguard Tucson, T-Shirt Sponsor; Thrivent Financial, Auction Sponsor; and Dr. Ty Endean, Sports Institute of Tucson, Fellowship Sponsor. Generous donations of art work, jewelry, restaurant gift certificates and various other items provided the event with a silent auction. After months of planning and getting the word out on the 4Tucson at 4:00 radio program, Bidding and Bowling brought in approximately 160 bowlers and \$6,000.

The event supported the Philanthropy Domain's primary goal of developing and getting to know our 4Tucson partners and helping to facilitate gifts of all sizes. "But it's a much broader focus than just fundraising events," Goode said. "We want to educate our city with the knowledge that giving is a part of being good stewards of the gifts God has given." Recognizing there are many young people who aren't familiar with managing money and financial stewardship, Goode and her domain want people to learn how to use money using biblical concepts. "We have volunteers who are joining the Domain to help people in that regard," she said.

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"We want to educate our city with the knowledge that giving is a part of being good stewards of the gifts God has given."

- Linda Goode, Philanthropy Domain Director

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One such passionate volunteer is Jerry LeMay. "I seek to be an instrument of God's desire to meet every person at their point of financial need, then fill their financial need to overflowing so that they in turn can give to others. The Philanthropy Domain does this by educating and equipping organizations and individuals with information and tools to help them manage their finances," LeMay said. "God is looking for people who want to be a channel of His blessings to others. Once people learn to give, they experience the joy of investing in God's Kingdom and giving becomes a regular part of their lives. The greatest source of joy, happiness and fulfillment is giving."



In the meantime, 4Tucson domain directors are missionaries who are responsible for obtaining their own funding, which takes a lot of time away from their task of creating a domain that is strategically working for the betterment of Tucson. That's where the Philanthropy Domain steps in.

"If there is a way that I can help accommodate or facilitate the directors so that we can raise at least half of their domain's financial needs, I'm glad to do it. Ultimately, my goal is to raise all of the money for everyone."

*Jeannie Miller Weyrauch serves in children's, women's and music ministries at her church, and has organized the 2 Fish 5 Loaves Food Box Ministry which provides food to a local women's shelter and two organizations supporting homeless veterans. She also established Mike's Trees, an endeavor that provides free Christmas trees to individuals who cannot afford them.*

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## Thank you! Bidding and Bowling Sponsors

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# 4Tucson Golf Tournament

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Rancho de Lago Golf Club  
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12 Noon shotgun start

For details, go to  
**4Tucson.com**





## Social Services

# Filling the Gap: Our Kids, Our Care, Our Prayer

Coming together in prayer to help Tucson's children • By Meg Villanueva

Our Kids Our Care has been actively working to meet the needs of the children of Tucson. With that in mind, representatives from Gap Ministries, Arizona Children's Services, Christian Family Care, the Department of Economic Services, Division of Child Safety, and 4Tucson brainstormed to identify the needs of foster care today. The group came up with the following list:

- professional support
- prevention
- mentors
- support for families in court situations
- kinship support
- resources in child protective services
- adoption
- more homes
- advocacy and community awareness

Such a list seems daunting, but the group then went to work. They voted on what they felt were the most pressing needs, and the answer was clear: advocacy and community awareness. The group agreed they needed to get churches, business, government, and the community

involved and engaged in these areas. Doing so, they reasoned, would address most of the other areas.

It was then that one of the team members said, "Let's pray." Arthur Tigney, 4Tucson Social Services Domain Director, thought that was phenomenal. "I've worked with teams and have done transformation for organizations for years, and prayer was never mentioned as a next step. But instead of relying on our own knowledge, we decided that we wanted to pray. We decided that from here on, we'd have an 'Our Kids, Our Care, Our Prayer' to ask God for the strategies of transforming child welfare."

In the prayer event planned for mid-October, the members will ask God for His strategy to fill in the missing pieces of the puzzle. "We may not have the answers, but when those involved come to pray, we can develop strategies through a systematic process where the pieces of the puzzle can come to the table," Tigney said. "Every supporting member has a piece. But there still are missing pieces because we still have gaps and we still have needs. We believe that the community has some of those missing pieces, and together we can develop a good strategy that we will begin to implement after we've prayed, heard from God, and received his wisdom on these matters."

Tigney says the group wants to see increased funds for prevention, mental health services, increased foster care support, adequate ministry, transitional housing for every child going from the home into foster care, and the assurance that legislation is pro-child welfare. They desire a model of child welfare that will impact city transformation. "If we help our children, it will help our city. But if we don't help our children, it keeps our city at a deficit," he said.

The Our Kids Our Care Our Prayer event is set for October 18 from 5:30pm-8:30pm at Tucson High School. The night will be covered with worship, prayer and communicating the desired outcomes. Food will be provided by GAP Ministries.

"This is our mission statement: Through Our Kids Our Care, we will build relationships with community partners, increase funding, and build awareness for positive transformation in child welfare. We need people who are concerned, who are passionate, and who are ready for boots on the ground—to get to work to make a difference for the children," Tigney said.

*Meg Villanueva is a published author, poet, and inspirational speaker on the subject of wholeness. Learn more about Meg at [megvillanueva.com](http://megvillanueva.com).*







# Why Partner with 4Tucson?

Because each of us holds a piece to the puzzle to bring people together in service and spiritual change to our community.

*"I partner with 4Tucson because I believe God works best through us when we are united in service."*

*"I want to help our public schools, and I know my support to 4Tucson is bringing neighborhood churches and schools together to lift up teachers and administrators, upgrade facilities, and bring tangible assistance to their communities."*

*"I value the work that 4Tucson is doing to engage the public to vote."*

*"I believe the power of Christian unity across racial and cultural lines can transform our city."*

*"My wife and I are business owners here in Tucson. In addition to our church tithe, our business partnership with 4Tucson is another way to express our faith and commitment to make a difference in our city."*

Individually, the task is daunting and beyond our capabilities. But Jesus prayed to God that we be united – or as one – as Jesus and God are one (John 17:11). Together as one, we can impact our city for God’s glory.

You can be a catalyst for change in our city. Make the commitment today to become an Individual Monthly Partner (\$10/mo) or an Organizational Monthly Partner (\$35/mo).

**Yes! I want to help bring transformation to our community by partnering with 4Tucson.**

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# Justice

# Social Justice vs. Biblical Justice

True colors exposed in the light of the Bible • By Lily Winchester

America is the land of equality and pledges to all who come to its shores liberty and justice for all. The core tenant of the Declaration of Independence states: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

This is what America’s Founding Fathers gave their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor to achieve. However, the 4Tucson Justice Domain is concerned that the idea of the true justice they fought for is slowly but surely trying to take on a new shape—and though on the surface that may seem noble, compared to the justice of God it is a detriment to America and the freedoms that its citizens hold dear.

According to materials provided by 4Tucson Executive Director Mark Harris, this alternate form of justice calls for the just support of those who lack in our society and are without means. The term “social justice” demands equality for all, which is the very theme of America. However, the equality that social justice claims to want to achieve comes at the price of others’ freedoms.

What is social justice and how does it relate to what the Bible says? Social justice is defined by the Merriam Webster dictionary as “the state or doctrine of egalitarianism, which is a social philosophy advocating the removal of inequalities among people.” This concept advocates government’s use of taxation of the wealthy to provide for those without means, such as the poor, the orphan, the widow, and foreigners among us who lack resources. It is considered justifiable to tax those who have worked hard for their current income simply because they have more than others and can afford to. There is no thought to the fact that the wealthy had talent that they chose to use, went into debt to grow that talent through education, and then spent years of their life paying off that debt while expanding that talent into places they never dreamed.

How does this relate to Scripture? Several times in the Bible, God commands His people, Christians, to care for those that are less fortunate and need the assistance of others to survive. Americans for the most part are a very giving people, which stems from their Judeo-Christian heritage. However, Christian churches have lost their prominence in society, and more people are looking to the government as their source of security instead of God. The very notion of social justice throws God out of the picture and sets up government as the savior of mankind. With Him in control and



at the center, society thrives because there is no inhibition to giving as it says, “Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV)

When God is seen as the source and the provider, reliance on government diminishes. When a society moves away from government support and the church fills in that gap, the freedoms that we cherish will continue to exist.

*Lily Winchester is a third generation Arizona Wildcat, graduating in 2010 with a BA in Journalism. Her passion is to inform people with the truth. She is also very involved in her church and its ministries.*



# Imperfectly Living Out a Perfect Faith

What does it truly mean to be a Christian?

By Mark Harris

Executive Director, 4Tucson



There is much confusion among the general public, as well as the religious community, about what it means to be a “Christian” in today’s world. It is a popular belief that being a Christian means you can’t go to movies, you can’t go dancing, you can’t have a drink of alcohol, or that you can’t have any fun.

Does being a Christian mean a general belief in a Supreme Being? Does it mean following a particular belief system or joining a church organization and practicing regular rituals of worship? Does it mean changing one’s behavior, prescribing to a moral pattern, or dropping bad habits? Even those who call themselves Christians struggle explaining Christianity to their non-religious friends.

It would be tragic to believe that Christianity is just adherence to a strict set of rules and regulations. Christianity isn’t about rules and regulations; it is about living in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. When people focus predominately on the rules but have no real relationship with Jesus, they almost always rebel against Christianity. Rules without a right relationship equal rebellion. This principle is also applies to parents raising children.

## What is the answer?

Traditional Christianity teaches that in Old Testament times God gave the Law which had to be followed precisely. The Law gave instructions about clothing, diet, rules for the Sabbath, temple procedures, duties of priests, how to treat each other and strangers, and civil laws and punishments for breaking those laws. Those rules had to be observed properly and precisely since all of them affected one’s standing before God. According to the Talmud, there are 613 mitzvot (commandments) in the Torah. Breaking any one of God’s laws is called sin. No human being is capable of perfectly following all of God’s laws. Most of us have



Mark Harris  
4Tucson Executive Director

difficulty just following the Ten Commandments, much less all 613. In Old Testament times, blood sacrifices were made to cover sin.

In the New Testament, we learn that Jesus came into the world to testify to the truth that God loves all humanity. In the New Testament, God’s standards of righteousness didn’t change – and we still can’t keep God’s laws. That creates a significant problem. Because we break God’s laws, we are sinners. We still need a holy sacrifice to cover our sins. Ephesians 5:2 says that we are to “walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. Jesus became the sacrifice for our sins, shedding His blood because He loved us. “God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but everlasting life.” (John 3:16)

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"It would be tragic to believe that Christianity is just adherence to a strict set of rules and regulations. Christianity isn’t about rules and regulations; it is about living in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ."

- Mark Harris, 4Tucson Executive Director

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Early followers of Jesus Christ were called Christians and the name stuck. A Christian by definition is anyone who believes Jesus Christ is the Son of God and follows Him. Followers of Christ are still not perfect and still can’t keep all of God’s laws. Followers of Christ have accepted Jesus as the sacrifice for their sins. Part of the responsibility of being a follower of Jesus is to read the Bible, understand its principles and try to apply what it teaches to daily living as our gift back to God for the sacrifice He has made for us.

*We are Christians in Tucson who are trying to live out their faith through their involvement with 4Tucson. Join us. Visit [4tucson.com](http://4tucson.com) to discover more.*





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