

# Tigard Church of God Tidings

## May 2025 Happenings Each Week

### Sunday

10 am – Worship in Song  
10:15 am – Connection Point  
10:25 am – Sermon

### Monday

Church Offices Closed

### Tuesday

6:30 pm – Elevate Youth  
6:30 pm – Men's Study  
6:30 pm – Children's JAM

### Thursday

6:30 pm – Sisters in Faith Study

### Saturday

9:15 am – 2 or More Prayer



## A FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MILT & SHIRLEY CULVER

Who are Rev. & Mrs. Roy M. Culver Jr? That is a really good question. Most people know me as "Milt," short for Milton. However, I have been more often referred to as Shirley's husband, at least when we went back to Anderson for a visit. Most people know me as "Pastor Milt." Why do I say that?

I grew up as a junior in my early home, and as such, every time they called out "Hey Roy," both my dad and I would answer, "What?" So, He became Roy and I became Milt. Although, it turns out, that was often a blessing while I was in school.

When I was in school, I would usually turn in my homework using my legal name Roy. Most of the teachers, however, knew me as Milt. At times, that would confuse some of the them. One time one of my teachers asked the class, *"Does anyone here know a Roy in the class,"* I would usually respond by asking, *"What grade is on the paper for Roy?"* If it was a good grade, I would let the teacher know it was me.

Looking back at my ministry journey, I began my ministry while attending high school in Spokane, Washington in the 1970's. Our home church was without a youth pastor so I felt the need to lead so I ask the leadership of the church if I could try. We had been running about four to six youth as that time. The boards first words were, *"We can't afford to pay you,"* to which I said, *"If you're willing to cover my expense's I would appreciate it."* They agreed. That was the beginning of my life-long ministry journey beginning at the Hillyard Church of God in Spokane, WA. Just in case, I was given a few adult counselors to help guide as needed. Later, the church hired a youth pastor who was not there very long. After he left, I was once again working with the youth group, although I never did stop.

One day the church called a new senior pastor, Rev. Ward L. Rogers. Little did I know that his daughter was to become my wife and join me in our ministry journey. When I graduated from high

school, I remember one of the adult leaders asking me if I was going to stop working with the youth. I told him that I would continue as long as I could. I was 17 when I started this adventure and I am about to turn 71. This journey took a long time to complete, although it is not over yet. I had no idea I was looking at a lifetime of ministry as I was just wanting to help work with the youth group. Man, what a journey it has been. Shirley and I have enjoyed every day the Lord has given us to work for and with Him in the Kingdom. Even the difficult days.

At one time in my life, I was attending college, taking 20 credit hours, working at our family business full-time, while doing the youth ministry at church. Then, on top of that, I married Shirley once she graduated from high school and we started our family. It was a very busy time in our lives.

We knew, I knew, that my schedule had to change somehow but was not sure how or where? I was studying in college to be an engineer and that alone was demanding a lot. But I had a heart for youth. I know now that it was His calling to serve the Lord and help meet the needs of our church. Shirley told me that she always knew that she would one day marry a minister, and as it turned out, she did.

It would take too much time to go through all the blessings we have experienced as we followed the Lord's leading in ministry. So, let's just say *"God was Good, All the Time!"* With the Lord's leading, we left Spokane where I grew up to take our first full-time position in Southern California as we answered the call to serve in Palmdale, CA, as youth pastors. We stayed there about two years. The church was a small church in a small town, but it was a powerful ministry.

We arrived there to find out that there were only four youth between Junior and senior high students. After a time of prayer, and the Lord's leading, the ministry grew. With the Lord's blessing, it became one of the strongest youth ministries in Southern CA for the Church of God. Praise the Lord! I credit Shirley for her hard work and staying focused on the Lord during all that was taking place. Shirley was greatly involved in the Palmdale church as well. She jumped right in with worship and playing the piano, let alone raising the children.

From there, we were called to work with Shirley's dad once again, in Whittier, CA. I was called to be the youth leader and Shirley with worship. After a few years working with Pastor Rogers, he was called to another church. Thus, the Whittier church began to search for a new senior pastor. After a long search process, they asked us to step up and become the senior pastors. We did, and 23 years later the Lord called us here to Tigard Church of God, where we have been for nearly 17 years.

There are all kinds of stories and events in our lives which brought about many and varied blessings. Blessings the Lord bestowed upon us as we trusted Him to lead and use us within His Kingdom. We both have been involved in a variety of leadership roles within the churches and districts where we have served. From volunteer workers, children and youth coordinators, Chair of the Ministerial Conference, District Chair, Chair of the Youth Ministries and Chair of the Pastor's Ministries. Whatever the Lord asked of us we have tried to do with His strength and leading. Shirley has been just as involved as I have been everywhere we went. She has worked with worship leading, playing the piano, choir directing, the local women's ministries, the national women's ministries and everything in between. As our children aged, she worked hard to care of them while I was busy with ministry, bless her heart. She is a great wife, mother, and now grandmother. She has always stayed heavily involved in ministry and taking care of me and our family. In essence, she has had multiple jobs most of the time.

The other day I was thinking about some of the things she and I have done. Things we will miss. I have driven a van or bus for more than 40 plus years, driving in every church we have served. I think the one thing I will miss is the opportunity I have had to speak into so many young people's lives while I have driven church vehicles.

There have been so many blessings, filled with opportunities to lead people, youth, children,

women and adults to Christ. We would not change anything, even the difficult moments, for we know that the Lord led Shirley and I to where we needed to be and has provided for us every step of the way. I also know He will continue to bless us as we continue to serve Him until we meet Him face to face. Thank you, Lord, for your blessings in life.

Thank you, Lord, for the many people we have met and have had the privilege of calling our church family, in each of the churches. For calling both of us, as I know without a doubt, I would not be the man of God, or the minister He wants me to be, without Shirley by my side as my loving, caring wife on this journey. Thank you, Jesus, for her and her love for You and me. Thank you for the years we have had together. And for the many more to come. I don't know what tomorrow holds, but I know who holds my tomorrows. We will give Him our best wherever He leads.

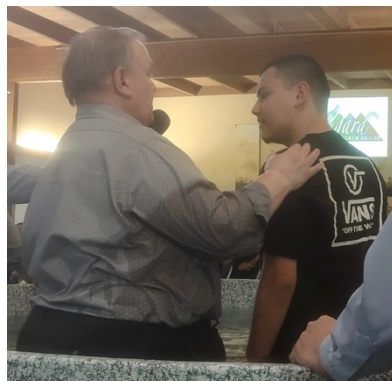


*Sunday, May 11, 2025*



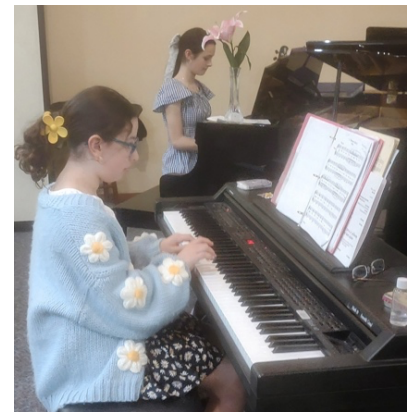


# April 20, Easter Sunday in Review





# Retirement Reception for Pastor Milt and Shirley



Ed and Jane Whitehead were asked to plan the retirement service. Jane played a piano prelude that included *A Mighty Fortress is Our God* and *He Who Began a Good Work in You*. Ed opened in prayer and the congregation sang *Holy Forever, We Believe* and *The Goodness of God*. Pastor Teresa Hellstrom introduced the prayer time, followed by *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* and *Gentle Shepherd*.

Pastor Milt prayed before Charlie Osburn gave a scripture reading from 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 and 5:15-18. A beautiful duet, *Order Our Steps*, was sung by Bruce Krieg and Chris Thompson. Pastor Teresa read Isaiah 6:1-8 and Pastor Milt's message was "Here Am I, Send Me." Another song, *Trust in God*, was sung and Pastor Milt and Shirley were recognized and acknowledged at both the District and Local level. Jerry Davisson, District Pastor of the newly named WARM (Western Area Regional Ministerium) spoke. Gary Provo, Chair of the TCOG Executive Board, also recognized and thanked Pastor Milt and Shirley for their 17 years of ministry at the Tigard Church of God.



Chuck Minear sang a benediction song and Gail Linden gave a prayer of blessing for the lunch that was served. Cold cuts, biscuits, fruit and veggie platters were very tasty. Dessert was a piece of one of the two cakes made for the occasion. During the program and lunch, a video presentation compiled by Tim Osburn was playing on the screen on the platform. Many other people who helped with the program deserve considerable thanks for their help.









Check out the artwork on display on the west wall of the sanctuary from the children who attend JAM on Tuesday evenings.

## SUMMER CAMP INFO AVAILABLE

Information for summer camps for children and teens is available from Heather Foote, Children's Director, Pastor Teresa Hellstrom, Youth Pastor or Kim Zenzano, Church Secretary.

### May Birthdays

Bonny Osburn 8  
Charlie Osburn 11  
Catherine Kemper 14  
Cecelia Krieg 24

Aria Krieg 10  
Barb Provo 11  
Curtis Zenzano 21  
Bruce Krieg 24  
Anita Hicks 30

Tim Osburn 10  
Ron Hitt 13  
Brandon Hellstrom 23  
Theodore Sanford 28

## SENIOR LUNCHEON MAY 2



There were 29 seniors who enjoyed an enchilada luncheon on Friday, May 2. Lynn Peirce shared an inspired devotion.

Thanks to Jane Whitehead for providing pictures of Easter along with Pastor and Shirley's retirement reception.



# Ladies Tea sets new record in attendance on April 12



Reports of attendance at the Ladies Tea were between 113 and 118 women who enjoyed the fellowship, food and decorations. There were 17 tables with various desserts and coffee or tea. Guest speakers Fred and Denise Douglas spoke about the *Follow the Son* theme. The TCOG Worship team provided special music and many door prizes were given out by Jeri Kuns.

Servers were Chance Kemper, Bruce Krieg, William Miller, Charles Osburn, Tim Osburn, Gary Provo, Greg Robertson and Craig Tietje.



Hosting tables were Robin Brooks, Shirley Culver, Sharon Dunn, Grace Erskine, Teresa and Hailey Hellstrom, Juanita Hitt and Lorna Nelson, Catherine Kemper, Nicky Kenney, Alyssa Krieg, Jeri Kuns, Misty Miller, Bonny Osburn, Barbara Proo, Linda Tietje, Jane Whitehead and Kim Zenzano.

Every woman who attended received a sunflower pin, sunflower keychain, sunflower bookmark and a packet of sunflower seeds.

