



Planning · Architecture · Design

**tpc** architects inc.

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## TPC Architects, Inc. Newsletter

### Northgate Christian Fellowship Grows



Northgate Christian Fellowship of Benicia, CA continues to take shape.

Keep praying for NCF, Reeve-Knight Construction, and the Design Team.

### TPC In Oregon!



TPC Architects is licensed in Oregon!

We have a few projects under way there, and look forward to new opportunities.

### A word from Behind the

### **Celebration!**

For centuries church congregations have planned, designed, and constructed environments to worship God. Throughout the world we find incredible undertakings, from St. Peter's Basilica in Rome to Russian Orthodox Cathedrals in the former Soviet Union. Art and architecture have been powerfully and brilliantly woven together, fueled by a passion to worship God and glorify Him through this work. Michelangelo had an incredible creative gift from God as an artist, sculptor, and designer. His frescoes in the Sistine Chapel in Rome are magnificent!

What about today? What can an architect or designer do to create a worship environment that invokes praise and celebration by God's people? Many years ago I was in a small shop just before Christmas and saw a nativity scene that I think captured the essence of "architectural celebration". Its simplicity captivated me. It was a piece of white paperboard cut out in the classic profile of a stable "floor plan", but without walls or roof. Placed on this board were six nativity figures: Joseph, Mary, the infant Jesus, and the three kings. There was no architecture to get in the way. And yet no one mistook the meaning; the focus was inescapably on the Savior!

## Screens



It took me 4 years of planning and saving, and almost 6 months of active searching, but I've finally found my first house. Escrow closes at the end of December, and I hope to move in by the end of January.

I'm embarking on a new journey of home ownership, and it's humbling. And a leap of faith. Relying on God for provisions takes on new meaning with this new responsibility.

I've had to rely and wait on the Lord through this whole process. You'd think that would be sufficient proof He'd provide for me after I own the house, even as He provided for me to get it. And it is proof enough, but I have to admit, a mortgage is going to keep my eyes on the hills (PS 121:1-2)

Here's to 2016 being a year full of making the most of the time, resources, and relationships we're given, to the glory of Christ.

-Jared

## Useful Links



*Perfect Worship Design*

How can we not celebrate the Savior in such simplicity? Those three kings did not need a special environment, which arguably could have interfered with their worship. This is a good reference point for designers today!

Is there a place for elaborate worship space design? Of course! God spared no detail in His construction documents for His temple (like in 2 Chronicles 3). He deserves to be recognized, worshiped and praised! However we must be careful to guard against injecting design elements that are more for our glory than His!

Whatever path you are taking as you plan your church's worship environment, we can encourage you to start at the manger. Keep it simple.

Weigh your decisions by "who gets the glory?"

As we celebrate Christmas this year, let's strengthen our resolve to celebrate the Savior!

***Merry Christmas from TPC Architects!***

[Worship Facilities Magazine](#)

[Faith and Form Website](#)

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I encourage you to contact me personally with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

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