

FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF
ANAHEIM



The Call

"To Discover and Grow in God's Grace and Love"

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July



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

Dr. Jim Schibsted—Senior Pastor, Rev. Emily Miller-Todd—Associate Pastor
Tyler Robinson—Music Director
Angella Kisson—Accountant
Beverly Aye—Administrative Volunteer
Diana Hutchinson, Myra Allen, and Linda Martin—Event Coordinators
Janice Bowers—Missions, Gil Owen—Visitation
Mike Austin & Chuck Pennington—J.O.G (Just Ordinary Guys)
Sandya Costa—Montessori Director

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STAFF

"Grateful for the Past—Hopeful for the Future!"

Pastor's Letter

Rev. Emily Miller-Todd

It was a privilege to attend the graduation ceremony on June 29th at the Panamerican Institute in Tijuana. The school educates students from some of the poorest families in Tijuana to help them develop skills and advance educationally in order to have a better way of life. The school was first started by Rev. Welty, a Congregational



pastor. A young woman who was a student in the original school became the next Director. Juana Santos served as Director until her recent retirement. Now, Juana's daughter, Laura Ramirez, is the new Director. It is common for students to return and serve the school as teachers. It amazes me to witness the love and the bonds that develop at the school. One of the students spoke during graduation, telling her classmates that this was not a time to be sad, but a time to be happy and to celebrate their achievements. As she said these words, tears ran down her face. Each graduation I have attended, I have witnessed the deep love that has been part of the education these students have received.

To represent the Board of Directors, I was invited to share a short speech during the ceremony. I chose to share with them a shortened version of a story that I am so grateful Pastor Jim shared with me and our church board: "Who Moved My Cheese?" by Spencer Johnson, MD. It is a modern day parable



about how we face change. One of the main statements that stands out to me from the parable is: What would you do if you were not afraid? My prayer for these students is that they will continue to change and adapt, trusting that God goes behind them, with them, and before

them. For us all, so much more is possible when we venture out beyond our fears and into the unknown. God tells us over and over again, "Do not be afraid." May we trust that God goes with us in all times and all seasons, and may that make us people who live and love bravely.

July

Sunday Morning Worship
10:30am in the Sanctuary

NorthEast of the Well
Monday Dinner & Worship
6:00-8:00pm
McKenzie Hall/Sanctuary

JOG: Just Ordinary Guys
Join JOG for lunch, comedy, music and a testimony!
Monday, July 8th
12-1:30pm, McKenzie Hall
RSVP: Mike 714-425-2649
Cost: \$12

FCCA Choir Rehearsals
Now on Summer Break

FCCA Board Meeting
Sunday, July 14th

FCCA Missions Meeting
Sunday, July 21

Save the Date:
Griffith House 94th*
Anniversary Celebration
Saturday, September 7th
*Initial information indicated that 2019 was the 100th anniversary. After digging further into historical records, we have learned differently. We look forward to celebrating and sharing the rich, updated history we have learned!
We are grateful that we may also share the living memories our longtime members have to share.

Men's JOG Luncheon Featured Speaker Steve Mahoney



Steve Mahoney tells the Gospel of John from memory and in a storytelling fashion.

Scholars suggest that close to 90% of people in Jesus' day could not read or write, so this is an example of how people of the first century may have heard the Gospel of John told.

Steve tries to maintain close to 95% accuracy with the version of the text he is using. That version, the "Logos 21 Version" of the Gospel of John can be found online at: LivingWater.org.

Steve has been married to Diane for 40 years, has two grown, married sons, and loves to tell the stories of Jesus.

When: Monday, July 8th 2019
12:00 pm - 1:30pm

Where: First Congregational Church of Anaheim
515 North State College Blvd Anaheim, Ca 92806
(Located one block south of La Palma on the west side of State College in the city of Anaheim)

Cost: \$12

Plan on enjoying another delicious meal prepared especially,
By Adam Curry and his helpful staff.

Please RSVP via email at chuck@penningtons-inc.com or
Call Chuck at 714-350-8983 or Mike Austin at 714-425-2649

JOG



Of Orange County
Just Ordinary Guys
Meeting the 2nd Monday of Every Month

June Photos and Updates



The Kindergarten class of the Montessori Academy of Anaheim graduated on Tuesday, June 25th. Congratulations! They put on a beautiful program with the whole school.



Congratulations to Rev. Sara Lawson!

Rev. Sandy Freud, Linda Freud, Cheryl Cook and Nancy Clark attended Sara Lawson's Ordination Ceremony at Oneonta Congregational Church in South Pasadena on Saturday, June 29th. We are proud to welcome her into the Cal-West Association as an ordained clergy member!

JOG: Just Ordinary Guys in June Featured Chaplain George Gregory

Chaplain Gregory, of the Los Angeles Chargers, introduced the group to the book, "Chase the Lion" by Mark Batterson. He encouraged the group to consider that all of us will face lions in our life – how we respond in those moments may determine our destiny. In his testimony, he shared how God has called he and his wife periodically into radical change – to "change their name and leave their people" like Abraham and Sarah did as they trusted God and moved into the unknown and unfamiliar.



Missions' Corner...

Meet Grandma's House of Hope



On Monday, June 24th, we had a women's lunch with Grandma's House of Hope and heard from Tobi Aclaro, Faith Relations Manager. Grandma's House of Hope has been connected to NorthEast of the Well's ministry for years. NorthEast of the Well hosts Bible studies in some of the Grandma's House locations each week, and a number of women attend dinner and worship here on our property each Monday night with NorthEast of the Well. The

women's lunch was a wonderful opportunity to bring together women who worship in the same space each week but have not crossed paths because they are here on different days.

At our lunch together, we enjoyed Hawaiian themed food and decorations – the idea came from Linda Freud and the menu was led by Susan Fraker and Beverly Aye, two of our church members that grew up in Hawaii. Thank you to all who helped make the luncheon with GHH a success! It was a good afternoon of fellowship.

Grandma's House of Hope Mission:

Empowering the Invisible Populations of Orange County. We say "Yes!"

Grandma's House Vision:

When our good works are done, we envision a thriving, supportive community full of caring and productive individuals where everyone has a safe place to call home.

"When Grandma's House of Hope (GHH) opened in 2004, we began providing 10 women with emergency shelter and now we provide more than 3,500 women, seniors, children and families with well-rounded basic needs and supportive services every year...Our Women's Rescued and Restored program consists of 10 homes and provides housing for 92 women in a warm, supportive, and loving community that feels like home. Wellness classes, specialized group meetings, bible studies and other extra-curricular activities are available throughout each week" (GHH Brochure).

Meet Grandma's House of Hope Continued...

Message from the Founder (GHH Brochure)

"One episode of illness, 3 missed paychecks or even one bad decision can evolve into homelessness. That's what happened to me in 1994. Over the next 3 years, I lived in fear for mine and my son's life.

One day I was sitting in a park reading a book when a kind-hearted stranger approached me and changed my life forever. We were offered a place to live and heal. Over time, I began to rebuild my life, fell in love, married and had a second son and adopted teenage daughter.

In 2004, my dream came full circle when my husband and I opened Grandma's House of Hope. I now consider my trials a training ground that prepared me to carry forward the blessings of a loving god.

The ultimate goal of GHH is to offer a loving environment to instill hope for a purposeful life and offer time to heal from the trauma of homelessness. Bless you for your compassion for those of us with complicated stories to tell.

Je'net Kreitner

Founder & Executive Director

Grandma's House of Hope



GHH Services include:

- Emergency, transitional, long-term and supportive housing
- Basic needs, such as food, hygiene products and clothing provided
- Case Managers on-site daily
- Care coordination to help maintain all of your health needs

"Here at GHH, we welcome women from all backgrounds – from chronic homelessness, to those struggling with addiction, arrest, human trafficking, mental health conditions and even more serious illnesses like cancer. We provide more than just a roof over your head. GHH is committed to meeting your basic needs, such as food, shelter, clothing and hygiene, as well as providing individualized care through case management, counseling, workforce development and many other support services" (GHH Brochure).



July Birthdays

- 3 Cynthia Montes
- 8 John Michael Morookian
- 9 Katherine Nguyen
- 9 Christina Ramsay
- 12 Raquel Rodriguez
- 11 Carolyn-Ann Alba
- 11 Carson Parker
- 12 Terri DiCamillo
- 13 Tanya Santos
- 15 Jim Schibsted
- 21 Jennifer Brunson
- 22 Teresa Davies
- 22 Christina Alba
- 23 Ramina Swanson
- 24 Ray Craig
- 27 Janice Bowers

If you would like to have your birthday included in the CALL, please contact the church office at 714-776-0960 or fccoffice@gmail.com.

Known as a 'de-clutterer,' I found an article you might enjoy:

How to Become a Sweet Old Lady Instead of a Mean Old Witch Or A Fine Man Instead of an Old Grouch

By: Eleanor Phillips, Age 97

1. Develop a personality. What kind of personality have you developed? Do you smell the roses or complain about the thorns?
2. Create your own party. Be happy by your own choosing. Be thankful for and share with friends. Your life will be as happy as you make it. Open your heart and home and make others happy also. I heard this year Roger and Janice Bowers did and made some happy guests.
3. Wear out don't rust out. Keep busy, don't sit and rust away. Find things to do. Volunteer, join a church group or call someone on the phone who is alone. Wally Hass recently flew to Sacramento to visit an old friend that has Alzheimer's. His friend made Wally happy by knowing him. The same week he flew to his grandson's graduation.
4. Try new things. Live life to the fullest. Start a new career—do the things you always wanted to and never took time to. Go back to school, teach a class (Sunday School?) or join a group. Bruce Edwards recently retired and he is having a great time enjoying life, and Joan is enjoying his meals when she comes home from work.
5. Make new friends. Find someone who is lonely and enrich their life. Do something for others without expecting any return.
6. Develop a vital personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Live one day at a time with a positive attitude. Ask and allow God to change you.

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Please contact the Church Office for details at 714.776.0960