



September



Griffith House
94th Anniversary Celebration
Saturday, September 7th
2:00-4:30pm; 1920s Theme!
Light Refreshments! Model T Cars! Live Music!
With professional artists: Marlen Landin, Reinhold
Schwarzwald and Isy Martin, Jr.!

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

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Janice Bowers—Missions, Gil Owen—Visitation
Mike Austin & Chuck Pennington—J.O.G (Just Ordinary Guys)
Sandya Costa—Montessori Director

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Griffith House Beginnings

We have been busy preparing for the Griffith House Anniversary Celebration that will be held at the beginning of the month! A 1920s themed open house will be held on Saturday, September 7th from 2:00-4:30pm to celebrate and share the rich history of the Spanish style home that began the life of our church! There will be appetizers, Model T cars, and a fabulous band organized by Isy Martin, Jr. Marlen Landin, vocalist, and Reinhold Schwarzwald, sax and vocals, will perform with Isy on the lawn. See the inserted flyer for more information about these incredible musicians!

As you step into the Griffith House at the event, I invite you to appreciate the slides, videos and documents that tell the story of the home. I was amazed to learn that the high beams in the chapel are completely original—used first as a living room. Notice the garage photos, now our church office, that the Griffith boys originally used to build sail boats! Did you know that there was a specific meaning associated with the blue trim around the original windows? I'll let you search the history or ask helpers at the event to find the answer. It's fascinating!

I would love to introduce you to an incredible woman—Mrs. Caroline Southwick Plumb Griffith. Mrs. Griffith and her family moved into the Griffith House in 1927 and oversaw eight acres of orange groves that surrounded the home. In 1957, Mrs. Griffith and her sons gifted their home to four trustees, all ministers, for the purpose of planting a Congregational church in Anaheim. Disneyland had just come to town, and property in Anaheim was in high demand. A realtor commented, "This land is too valuable to be used for a church!" Why would Mrs. Griffith choose to donate 2 1/2 acres of prime land to begin a Congregational church? Mrs. Griffith wrote a beautiful letter explaining the history that shaped her own heart and faith. The following are excerpts from her letter.

"My grandfather was responsible for my being a Congregationalist—Abidjan Southwick had a station in the Underground Railway. His farm was near Ashtabula, Ohio. He had an old two-seated carriage with side curtains that he used when taking the escaping slaves from his barn to the harbor when he learned that a boat from Canada was coming in—one that was a part of the line.

(Continued on Page 7)

September

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30am in the Sanctuary

NorthEast of the Well

Mondays, 6-8pm

McKenzie Hall/Sanctuary

FCCA Choir

Thursdays at 7:00pm

*Choir practice will resume
on Thursday, September
19th

Men's J.O.G. Meeting

Monday, September 9th

12-1:30pm, McKenzie Hall

RSVP: Mike 714-425-2649

Cost: \$12

Griffith House

94th Anniversary

Celebration!

Saturday, September 7th

1920's Theme Open House

2:00-4:30pm

Appetizers, Model T Cars,
and Band Entertainment!

Photos, video, and documents
will be set up inside
the Griffith House, telling
the story of our beginnings.

Visitors in Worship:

Samoan Congregational

Christian Church from

San Diego

Sunday, September 15th

During worship, the
Samoan Congregational
church will share a song
and dance presentation of
how the Gospel came to
Samoa. After worship, we
will enjoy lunch on the
lawn!

JOG Men's Luncheon

Featuring Guest Speaker, Aron Darling



Aron is a Cultural Architect and has the life purpose of adding value to people by helping them develop their full potential. He helps organizations put in place frameworks for identifying potential and then a pipeline for developing that potential. With a focus on leadership, communications and growth; he helps organizations realize their most appreciable assets are their people.

Aron served with the Marine Corps from 1994-1998. He has been married to his wife Stacey for just over 3-years and they have two wonderful Lil' Darlings, Trina and Rydr.

When: Monday, September 9th 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



Of Orange County

Just Ordinary Guys

Meeting the 2nd Monday of Every Month



Griffith House

94th Anniversary Celebration

First Congregational Church of Anaheim
515 N. State College Blvd.; Anaheim, CA 92806
(714) 776-0960, www.fccanaheim.org

SEPTEMBER 7, 2019

1920's Themed Open House

2:00pm - 4:30pm

Light Refreshments! Model T Cars! Entertainment!

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 of our long time members.

Meet the Band:



Marlen Landin,
Vocals

Marlen Landin, Singer and Song Writer, performs with Olivia Newton-John, Pink Lady, and Grease.



Reinhold Schwarzwald,
Sax and Vocals

Award-winning Recording Artist, Bandleader, Composer and Producer, Reinhold Schwarzwald has worked internationally with Grammy-winning, Grammy-nominated, Gold and Platinum selling artists.



Isy Martin, Jr., Guitar and Vocals

Isy Martin, Jr., four time Hall of Famer, Singer, Songwriter, Producer, and Performer has worked with a variety of artists including Michael Jackson, Rose Royce, and Chaka Kahn.

September Guests in Worship:

Samoan Congregational Christian Church from San Diego

Sunday, September 15th

10:30am Worship, Lunch Following



The Samoan Congregational Christian Church will share a song and dance presentation of how the Gospel came to Samoa. Following worship, we will have lunch on the lawn.

On the Left: A photo of the Samoan Congregational Christian Church presenting at the National Meeting for our Congregational association that was held in San Diego last year.

August Updates



Women's Lunch: *Women from the church enjoyed lunch together alongside women from Grandma's House of Hope this month. We had Mexican food, enjoyed a devotional led by Linda Freud, sang a couple of hymns and played jeopardy as created by our women! It was fun to see the categories that women came up with – from Women of the Bible to Types of Apples, we had some interesting and challenging questions!*



Construction Progress:

The city has been planting along the outside of our wall on State College Blvd.! Preparation for our new sign has also moved forward, and new glass has been installed in the sanctuary to replace the white railing around the top platform.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Getting to know all about you

By: Eleanor Phillips

We are known as very friendly people. There is a time we greet each other. Good morning, how are you, did you have a good week? Do you know anything more about them?

If you want to know about the birds and bees, there is a couple you might want to ask. One is for the birds. What I mean is he is a bird watcher and belongs to the Audubon Society.

He also builds bird houses, then places them in parks, golf courses and even on our grounds. Looking for different species takes him to many interesting places. On one trip to South America he was wakened not by a singing bird but an erupting volcano.

Now for the bees. His wife is the one to ask. She has been quilting for many years. She has belonged to quilting bees. Designing, piecing and quilting, she has enjoyed traveling to quilt shows.

They are Dick and Katie Purvis



September Birthdays

- 1-Sep Carol Peterson
- 4-Sep Michael Villa-Real
- 5-Sep Jay Ramsay
- 7-Sep Angelina Morookian
- 7-Sep Maria Doyle
- 8-Sep Laurie Schibsted
- 10-Sep Derek Fender
- 18-Sep Amy Eades
- 18-Sep Daniel Arredondo
- 24-Sep Stacey Cohee
- 24-Sep Jamie von Grabow
- 28-Sep Bunnie Haas

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

(Griffith House Beginnings Continued...)

"In those days women wore large shawls and when grandmother walked out the back door down a slope and into the hayloft of the barn, hidden under her shawl was food which she dropped into the stalls below after lifting a loosened board. I have one of her shawls and I like to think that many a fresh loaf from her oven was hidden under its folds and dropped to those hungry and frightened human beings. Mother was the youngest of five children in the Southwick family. But helping escaping slaves had been a part of the family living for so many years that she was born into the pattern and does not remember ever being cautioned not to mention it. Had grandfather been caught, he would have lost his property.

"Abidjan and Roxanna were not happy in their church because it would not take a stand against slavery. So grandfather and some friends organized a Congregational Church [that would take a stand against slavery] ...

"Growing up in a Congregational Church, and I hope I am still growing up, helped to broaden me mentally and spiritually. But freedom imposes responsibility. And I suppose that, and wishing others could find the same help. In living is the answer to the question that was put to me the other day— 'Why do you and your sons wish to give your home for a Congregational Church?'"

Mrs. Griffith lived a simple faith: Love God and neighbor. Known as the "sandwich lady," Mrs. Griffith regularly prepared sandwiches and brought them to the tubercular ward of the Orange County Hospital. She did the same for the homeless who found shelter under a bridge on the Santa Ana River.

"But freedom imposes responsibility." This phrase has echoed in my mind since I first read Mrs. Griffith's letter months ago. Just as Mrs. Griffith's choices may be understood by her history, I believe our church will be enriched by reflecting on our beginning. The freedom that comes from our faith in Christ presents us with responsibility. I have noticed that deep love for missions and a posture of generosity flow throughout the history of the church. May this celebration nurture our gratitude for the freedom we have in Christ and energize us to continue to use this freedom for the love of our neighbor.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Emily

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

515 N State College Blvd. Anaheim, CA 92806
phone 714.776.0960; email fccaooffice@gmail.com
Check us out on the web at www.fccanaheim.org

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Member: National Association of Congregational Christian Churches—Since 1956

Member: Cal-West Association—Since 1964

Please consider sponsoring an issue of "The Call".
Your donation of \$50 can help offset the cost.
Please contact the Church Office for details at 714.776.0960