



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

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## August



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#### IN THIS ISSUE

CALL Article	2
August Calendar	2
Church Updates	3
JOG Flyer	5
Missions Corner	6
Birthdays	7



## **Rooted Groups Starting this Fall!**

Pastor Jim often says, "I believe small groups are where it's at." There is so much truth in that statement. Small groups offer us space to connect with others and encourage us to go deeper in our faith. The Holy Spirit has an amazing way of showing up in conversation when people are willing to honestly and humbly share their lives, their questions and their faith with one another.

This fall we are excited to facilitate Rooted groups. Rooted is a small group experience that was designed by Mariners Church. The church was discouraged to find that Christians are just as likely to embrace lifestyles that are consumer-driven, self-centered and immoral as those who do not claim to be Christ followers. They found that Christians in the Western world tend to know information, but they do not necessarily experience the transformation promised in Scriptures. Mariners was led to explore how they might encourage transformation in Christ. Below is an excerpt written by Mariners Church:

*"We at Mariners wanted to create an experience that bridged the disparity between what we say we believe, and how we live. We wanted something that would be experiential and transferable across all ages, stages and even cultures."*

*"In 2008, Mariners began a partnership with Pastor Muriithi Wanjau and Mavuno Church in Nairobi, Kenya and we quickly learned they had a similar passion to see people encounter God and grow deeper in their relationship with Him and His Church...During one of our visits to Mavuno, they told us about an experience their church family was going through that had been developed by Pastor Muriithi. They called it Mizizi, Swahili for 'roots.' It wasn't a Bible study, class, or program, and it wasn't 'taught' in the traditional sense. It was a 10-week journey with daily homework that each member of their church went on in the community with each other. Groups of men and women would gather each week, and through a study guide and a facilitator, walk through Scripture, and discover God's purpose for them in their church family and the world."*

*"The impact of Mizizi on their church was staggering. Thousands of people were discovering for the first time that God loved them specifically and had a beautiful plan for their lives. (Continued on Page 7)"*

## **Connect**

### **Sunday Morning Worship**

10:30am Sundays  
*In Person and on Facebook Live*

### **Encouragement for Today**

Pastor Jim, Pastor Emily and friends are sharing short encouraging videos on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week through Facebook.

### **Church Facebook Page**

"Anaheim Chapel at First Congregational Church of Anaheim"

### **Women's Luncheon**

Join us for a Hawaiian themed lunch! We will also start a prayer tree together and we will write in cards that will be sent to encourage others.

**Monday, August 2nd**  
**11:30-1:00pm**

### **JOG: Just Ordinary Guys**

The second Monday of every month, join the guys for lunch, comedy, music and a testimony.

**Monday, August 9th**  
**12:00-1:30pm**

### **Operation Bless** **Food Distribution**

Operation Bless will now continue once a month. The time will be extended since we are not meeting every other week.

August Date:

**Wednesday, August 18**  
**4:30-6:30pm**

Setup will start at 3:30pm.

### **Flowers for the Altar**

If you would like to donate fresh flowers in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please contact us. Susan will purchase and arrange flowers for the altar when donations are provided.

**Single Bouquet: \$20**  
**Two Bouquets: \$35**



# FCCA Updates

## Women's Lunch

*Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> from 11:30-1:00pm*

The women of the church are ready to get together again! Join us on Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> for a Hawaiian themed lunch in McKenzie Hall. During our time together, we are excited to start a prayer tree for the church! We will also write in cards that will be sent out to encourage others.

## Sunday School

We are offering Sunday School on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month during worship. On the other Sundays, we are providing coloring pages for the kids to work on during worship. Thank you, Penny Schibsted and Linda Freud for volunteering your time and your love for our kids!

## Save the Date: "Celebrating 40 Years in Ministry!"

*Worship Celebration and Luncheon on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>*

Pastor Jim and Penny have been in ministry here at FCCA for 40 years! We will celebrate Pastor Jim and Penny and all who have been part of the ministry of FCCA for the last 40 years on Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. We would love for this to be a reunion celebration to honor the many people who have poured into ministry here at FCCA.

## NorthEast of the Well Update

NorthEast of the Well is a ministry that reaches out to people in restoration and recovery by going to local programs with the good news of the gospel. Prior to COVID-19, NorthEast of the Well held dinner and worship gatherings on our property every Monday evening. During COVID-19, NorthEast continued to gather via Zoom. On Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, NorthEast resumed weekly dinner and worship at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Newport. They continue to host Wednesday Zoom gatherings at 5:00pm. This fall they hope to be here at FCCA again on Monday nights. Please keep NorthEast of the Well in prayer as they move forward with in person gatherings.



# FCCA Updates Continued...

## Operation Bless Food Distribution

Drive thru for some free food! The food distribution is now held once a month. Setup starts at 3:30pm and food is distributed between 4:30 and 6:30pm. If you would like to volunteer, call or email the church office – we would love to get you connected.

**August Distribution: Wednesday, August 18th from 4:30-6:30pm.**

## Support for Myanmar

Pastor Jim spoke with Rev. Elvis Sa Do recently as well as other pastor friends located in Myanmar. Myanmar continues to struggle greatly with COVID-19 and with political turmoil in the country. We have been raising funds to support the ministry of Rev. Elvis Sa Do and of Pastor Maa, who has been hospitalized this past month with COVID-19. Rev. Elvis Sa Do is a pastor with the Congregational Church of Myanmar and he works closely with Grace Children's Ministry. Pastor Maa hosted Pastor Jim when he spoke at a Pastor's conference in Myanmar a few months before the pandemic. We would like to send funds to help both of their ministries during this difficult time. If you would like to contribute, mark your offering "Myanmar." Gifts may be received during worship, online or via snail mail.



## Church Family Gratitude

We are so blessed by this church family. Jeffrey Williams and a friend of his built new walls to surround a second dumpster. With increasing weddings, we needed more dumpster space. It is so nice to have an enclosure for the new dumpster! Jim Taylor keeps an eye on property needs, and Susan Fraker has been a big help in the office. Rev. Tom Fraker and Robbie Robinson volunteered to preach this summer while Pastor Jim and Pastor Emily are away. Stephana and Jeffrey Williams faithfully prepare communion every month, and we are blessed with a team of volunteers that help every Sunday. Thank you, Jim Weddell, Mike Villa-Real, Salend Krishna, Dennis Johnson and all of the ushers who step in as needed. I could name so many more people – we are grateful for each and every one of you!

# **JOG Men's Luncheon**

## **Featuring Guest Speaker, Jeff Juhala**



Jeff is the Vice President and National Director of Training for The Royal Family Kids Camp and Mentoring Clubs. This non-profit organization provides Christian mentoring through camping activities for many at risk kids. Jeff received his bachelor's degree from Liberty University and then went on to receive his Masters from Azusa Pacific in 2016. Prior to joining Royal Family Kids, Jeff had spent fifteen years in the construction industry often teaching leadership development. Don't miss this testimony!

**When: Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
12:00pm - 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: Culinary Chef Jose Ramon Chavez.

Please RSVP via email at [chuck@penningtons-inc.com](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Every Month

# Missions Corner

An excerpt from a recent newsletter by Andrew and Karen Bush

*Andrew and Karen Bush have served internationally for almost 35 years. They are full-time, career missionaries, serving the church in the Philippines, the United States, and Israel/Palestine. They seek to make the love of Christ Jesus known through servanthood in the way of the cross. Matthew 16.24*



## A Door Opens for a Moment

*"I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name." Rev. 3.8*

### Dearest Friends,

Yes, we are in Bethlehem! It is by God's grace and your prayers. A colleague who helped obtain government permission for us to enter Israel wrote today: *"You can't imagine how close you came to being refused entry. Another couple who received permission the same day as you but was flying a week later is required to go to a consulate to get the visa stickers in their passports. The problem is, there are no appointments available, or the consulate does not respond to requests. So, they are stuck."*

Israel's closure due to the pandemic has been tough on tourist-dependent Bethlehem. Hotels are closed, olive wood souvenir shops are selling vegetables, and there are no foreigners in sight. The first taxi driver who picked us up said, "I can't believe you are here! You are the first foreigners I have seen in months!"

Jack Sara, president, and everyone at Bethlehem Bible College has received us so warmly. We have an apartment right on campus. From the moment of our arrival, it has been clear that people are starved for fellowship. We already have made new friends.

At the college, we are developing a peace and reconciliation program based on the teachings of Jesus that serves both the Palestinian and international communities. One of our goals is to promote the reasonableness of peacemaking, as opposed to the assumption that violence is necessary in a broken world.

...Thank you again for your persistence in prayer over many months that helped us finally arrive in Jerusalem and Bethlehem. We appreciate your prayers as we pull together what we need to begin our work here. A used compact car is at the top of the list, which we will need to travel into Jerusalem to lead the East Jerusalem International Church. *God bless you all!*

With love always, Andrew and Karen Bush





## August Birthdays

5-Aug Romyana Staneva

6-Aug Kristina Pena

7-Aug Paul Haas

13-Aug Blake Ramsay

14-Aug Celeste Yanez

14-Aug Jan Briley

19-Aug Julie Schibsted

21-Aug Joan Edwards

22-Aug Andy Dang

27-Aug Adrienne Villa-Real

28-Aug Marsha Robinson

If you would like to have your birthday included in the CALL, please contact the church office at 714-776-0960 or [fccaooffice@gmail.com](mailto:fccaooffice@gmail.com).

(Rooted Groups Continued...)

*"They learned God has gifted each of them perfectly for His purposes. They learned how to pray and how to unleash the power of His Spirit. They learned about Jesus' heart for serving the poor, His ability to destroy Satan's strongholds in their lives, and how He wants them to steward the material resources He's given them...Mavuno could hardly keep up with the growth of Mizizi because family members and co-workers who didn't go to church or have a relationship with Jesus were signing up in droves. They saw their friends and family members' lives change before their eyes, and they wanted to know why and how it was happening. The Good News was proving to be really good news when tested. It was astounding to witness.*

*"We wondered what God might do if we brought Mizizi to Orange County.*

*"We began to work with Pastor Muriithi to adapt the Mizizi experience to our culture while keeping the spirit of the original work. We prayed God would use it in the lives of our staff and church family, and He honored our prayers. As people moved through this experience, it became clear it wasn't the curriculum that was changing lives; it was God. People came with open hearts, expectant of what God would show them. And, He did not disappoint..."*

We are excited to offer Rooted groups this fall at FCCA. The Rooted experience encourages 7 rhythms in our faith journey: daily devotion, prayer, freedom from strongholds, sacrificial generosity, serve the community, share your story and celebration. **The goal of Rooted is for you to deepen your connection with God, His Church and with your purpose.** Part of the Rooted experience is also to share our faith journeys with one another. It is a space to listen without judgment, share authentically and pray together for the Holy Spirit to be at work. We will not attempt to "fix" one another.

Rooted groups will start the week of September 5th and will go through the week of November 7th (10 weeks). We are planning for Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm, Wednesday evenings at 7pm and possibly an additional daytime option on a weekday. If you plan to participate, we hope that you make a commitment to attend all group meetings—each person adds an important dynamic to the group! If you know you would miss more than two group meetings, we ask that you attend a different small group session. We are so excited to see how God will be at work during our time together! Blessings, Pastor Emily

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