



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

Vol. 376 No. 2

Published Once A Month

February 1, 2023

February

*Save the Date:
65th Anniversary
Celebration,
Sunday, March 12*

Sunday
Sermon
Series:
One Another

Sundays @ 10:45am

STAFF

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

Dr. Jim Schibsted—Senior Pastor
Rev. Emily Raasch—Associate Pastor
Susan Fraker—Office Assistant
Tyler Robinson—Music Director
Angella Kisson—Accountant
Linda Freud—Missions
Mike Austin & Chuck Pennington—J.O.G (Just Ordinary Guys)
Sandya Costa—Montessori Director

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Beyond COVID - 19

A Letter from Pastor Jim

I am so thankful the worst of the pandemic is over, and life is returning to a new normal. Currently there are 7 churches (soon to be 8), plus Northeast of the Well worshipping in person on our church campus. JOG (Just Ordinary Guys), the Women's Group, the Easter Seals and people gathering for weddings are a reality once again. People who we hadn't seen during the peak of the pandemic have returned. But one of the benefits of the pandemic is that we learned to have worship services, inspirational talks and meetings online. This in turn allowed us to connect with people literally around the world. I am so thankful for Shalend and Raul's technical knowledge and for donations that made streaming possible. Who would have imagined that we would be having small group studies both in person and online a few years ago?

Last Sunday, we began a new sermon series on *One Another* scripture passages. For the next 12 weeks we will explore such topics as "Encourage One Another," "Welcome One Another," "Comfort One Another," "Bear One Another's Burdens," "Stir One Another Up," "Forgive One Another" and "Love One Another." These passages really show how important it is to live in community!

(Continued on Page 7)

Connect

Sunday Morning Worship

10:45am on Sundays

Join us in person or online! You may join worship live at 10:45am on Facebook. Worship is also uploaded to our YouTube channel on Mondays.

Connect Online

Facebook: Anaheim Chapel at First Congregational Church of Anaheim.

YouTube: First Congregational Church of Anaheim

Instagram: FCCAnaheim

Website: www.fccanaheim.org

NorthEast of the Well

Every Monday, 6-8pm

Dinner: 6pm, Hall

Worship: 6:45pm, Sanctuary

JOG: Just Ordinary Guys

Monday, February 13th

12:00-1:30pm, \$12 for lunch

Featured Speaker: Chris Stanton

New Member Sunday & Annual Church Meeting

Sunday, February 5th

During worship we will welcome new members into our church family! Following worship, we will have our annual meeting to vote on new council members, receive reports and vote on a new budget.

FCCA Updates & Events

Old Picture Day

Robbie Robinson (pictured with Marsha and daughter, Schvounder) encouraged the congregation to participate in an “Old Picture Day” that was held on Sunday, January 29th. Individuals and families sent in photos from childhood or photos that were a minimum of 30 years old. Jim Weddell graciously created a slideshow out of the photos, and hard copies were shared after worship over snacks and coffee in the library. Check the e-news sent out on Thursday, February 2nd for a link to the video created by Jim Weddell! Thank you for the fun idea, Robbie. It was a treat to share memories!



New Members Class

On Sunday, January 29th, 7 individuals met in the church office for a New Member’s Class. It was a privilege to get to know new individuals in our church better and to hear about their journey of faith. On Sunday, February 5th, we will welcome the new members into our church family! Membership enables individuals to vote at our annual church meeting and to potentially serve on our church council. Membership is not a requirement to participate in church life. We see membership as a meaningful gesture for both for the individual and for the church. It is a time for the congregation to commit to praying for the faith journey of the individual member and a time for the new member to commit to pray for and support the work of Christ in the church.

Annual Church Meeting: *Sunday, February 5th*

Join us after worship to receive the Church Council’s annual report, vote on new council members and vote on the 2023 budget.

JOG Luncheon

Featuring Guest Speaker, Chris Stanton



Chris was born in California and raised in the Midwest, yet his heart was to be found in Morocco. Chris spent 25 years in leadership development as a Christian in a Muslim dominated country. His love for the Moroccans and his accomplishments brought him the USA Presidential "Point of Light Award." This award was given to him by President George H. Bush in 2003. He is author of a book entitled, "The Wandering Servant." Chris has been married for 46 years, has four grown children and four grandkids. We thank God that he just recently received a successful kidney transplant. Come hear this excellent speaker with a huge heart for Christ.

When: Monday, February 13th, 2023

12:00pm - 1:30pm

Where: First Congregational Church of Anaheim

515 North State College Blvd Anaheim, Ca 92806

Cost: \$12

Enjoy the music of singer and guitar player, Bob Goodrich, as well as the humor from Normandy Veteran, Jack Gutman, and football coach, Tom Meiss. We will have an excellent meal planned with tables always filled with good fellowship.

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

Missions' Corner

We are part of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. One of the benefits of being part of the association is that we receive information about NACCC approved missions. We have the freedom to support the missions we choose, and we have the benefit of help from the national association in looking into various missions around the globe. Below, enjoy updates from three of the missions highlighted in the NACCC's most recent "News & Needs of our Missions" newsletter. The FCCA Mission Board supports each of these ministries with monies from our missions account.

Asociacion Civil Cristiana Congregational, Argentina

From Rev. Dr. Harding Stricker, Director:

In conjunction with the Ministry of Education, the mission is offering its schoolroom facilities to give classes of assistance for children with learning/comprehension issues. An inspection by a governmental office has successfully been completed. Such inspections will repeat quite often in the future because our mission is receiving funds from outside the country. We were able to adapt the performance of the mission to its financial possibilities without giving up any of its services. Please pray for encouragement for everyone participating in our mission activities, especially for the mission board.

Christ to the Villages, Nigeria

From Matthew Oladele, Director:

We thank God, who has blessed us with such a great responsibility to care for children. In rural areas, available teachers just try to keep the children busy so the adults can



Children's Ministry

have "itch-free worship." When we are in the villages, we gather the children together and my wife, Mary, who was trained by Child Evangelism Fellowship (*Continued on Next Page*)

(Missions' Corner Continued...)

a few years ago, teaches them. The children are always happy to receive us. They listen with much interest and ask questions a lot. Gifts, such as cookies, are given to encourage them. Some of the children only listen from afar because of their parents who are not Christians, or because they are shy. Our conviction is that Jesus loves and cares for all the children, and so do we.

Congregational Church of Myanmar

From Rev. Sa Do, General Secretary: Our Grace school in Chakhai village has been running with 37 children. Yangon Grace Home children are doing very well in their education. Our outreach ministry of home cell churches actively share the Gospel every Saturday and Sunday evening. Bible Class for church children and Grace Home Children has been reopened, and at least 28 children are joining the class. The Mission Secretary was able to visit mission fields a number of times.



Okkan Home Church



February Birthdays

- 1-Feb Rolf Rolnicki
- 6-Feb Aidan von Grabow
- 7-Feb Ronda Rolnicki
- 8-Feb Twana Marderos
- 12-Feb Laura Doeschot
- 13-Feb Carson Davis
- 14-Feb Luis Zavala
- 16-Feb David Rider
- 17-Feb Lori Rider
- 18-Feb Miranda Brunson

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.

(Pastor's Letter, Continued...) We also had a New Members Class last Sunday. Each person was invited to share their faith journey and how they came to this church. Hearing the different backgrounds and stories of how God worked in each life was so encouraging. We are very blessed to have these new people become a part of our worshipping community!

On March 12, during our worship service we will celebrate our Church's 65th Anniversary!!! Following the worship service, a group picture will be taken and we will have a reception. I hope you make every effort to attend and bring a friend or two!

Grateful to be together,

Pastor Jim

SAVE THE DATE
65TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION!



SUNDAY, MARCH 12

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

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

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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