



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

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# March



## Easter Celebrations!

Sunday, March 31st



9:30am  
Breakfast



Bounce House  
for the Kids



10:45am  
Worship



Easter Egg  
Hunt

First Congregational Church of Anaheim

### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

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

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STAFF

## **“Celebrate With Us!”**

**An Article by Pastor Jim**

While watching the movie “Alive Inside” I was reminded of the importance of music. The following review of this movie by Pamela Powell was most helpful.

### ***“Alive Inside Changes Lives”***

*ALIVE INSIDE: A STORY OF MUSIC AND MEMORY is a scientifically emotional film about our basic abilities as humans: communication and connections. Over a three-year period, filmmaker Michael Rosatto-Bennett followed Dan Cohen as he visited various nursing facilities. What takes place on the screen seems almost impossible. It is truly magical. Patients with little connection to people and their environment, some with no recognition of their own adult children, put a set of headphones on, plug into an iPod programmed with songs of their generation and PRESTO! They come to life. They talk about what they are listening to; they reminisce about the time period; and they talk about their feelings. But most importantly, they are connected to people. With **music**, they come back to the world around them and are living again.*

If you haven't seen **Alive Inside** I would highly recommend doing so. As I was viewing the film I thought about the times we've gone Christmas Caroling to various convalescent homes. Sometimes the residents didn't even recognize us but they would sing along without missing a note.

*(Continued on Page 7)*

## **Connect**

**Sunday Morning Worship**

***10:45am on Sundays***

**Connect Online**

**Facebook:** Anaheim Chapel at First Congregational Church of Anaheim.

**YouTube:** First Congregational Church of Anaheim

**Instagram:** FCCAnaheim

**Website:** [www.fcca.org](http://www.fcca.org)

**Easter Schedule**

***Maundy Thursday Service:***

***Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>***

***7:30pm, Griffith House Chapel***

***Easter Morning:***

***Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>***

***9:30-10:30am: Breakfast & Bounce House for the kids!***

***10:45am: Worship & Sunday School (w/Easter Egg Hunt)***

**Small Groups**

***February 14– March 20***

***6:30pm in person or via Zoom***

**JOG: Just Ordinary Guys**

***Monday, March 11th***

***12-1:30pm, McKenzie Hall***

**Guest Speaker: Brian Williams**

**\$12, First-time guests free**

**Women's Lunch**

***Monday, March 18th***

***11:30-1pm, McKenzie Hall***

# FCCA News & Events

## **Easter Plans**

***Maundy Thursday Service:*** Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm; Griffith House Chapel

***Easter Morning Schedule:*** Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>

9:30-10:30am Breakfast & Bounce House for the kids!

10:45am Worship & Sunday School—*An Easter egg hunt will be held during Sunday School. Kids & teachers will be dismissed before the message.*

## **6-Week Small Group Study: “Jesus the Provocative Teacher”**

***Wednesdays at 6:30pm, February 14<sup>th</sup>-March 20<sup>th</sup> (in person in the church office or on Zoom)***

We are continuing a 6-week small group study--“Jesus the Provocative Teacher” by Bill Donahue.

## **Women’s Lunch:** Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1:00pm in McKenzie Hall

Come enjoy warm food and fellowship with other women from the church!

## **Andrew & Karen Bush**

We collected a special offering in February for Andrew & Karen Bush and were able to send them \$1,085. Andrew & Karen are missionaries in Bethlehem that we have supported for decades. Their ministry and friends of their ministry are feeling the pain of war. Pictured: Andrew visiting Bishara and Salwa Awad. Bishara is the founder of Bethlehem Bible College and one of the most respected evangelical leaders in Palestine. During the visit,



Salwa shared about the desperate situation of her elderly sister, who is blind and nearly deaf, and brother. They are native Gazans. They fled their home in Deir al Balah in central Gaza and are sheltering in a construction shack in Rafah in southern Gaza. Thirty people are crammed into a small space without any windows or sanitation. Family members are trying with the help of European officials to secure permission for them to cross into Egypt, but so far without success. This really needs prayer, as do all the Christians who are still in the churches in the center of Gaza City.

# JOG Luncheon

**Featuring Guest Speaker, Brian Williams**



Brian has been married for 25+ years and has three boys ages 24, 22 and 20. He has been serving the city of Los Angeles Fire for 25 years and currently holds the rank as fire captain.

Brian's journey hasn't come without a cost or many trials. Come and hear his testimony of God's faithfulness.

**When: Monday, March 11th, 2024**  
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**

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](mailto:chuck@penningtons-inc.com) or call Chuck at 714-350-8983

# JOG



Of Orange County  
**Just Ordinary Guys (& Gals)**  
Meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Every Month



# Missions' Corner

This month, we are highlighting recent events at the Panamerican Institute in Tijuana, Mexico. PAI is a secondary technical school that serves students equivalent to 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grades in the U.S. They are a non-profit that operates fully on donations—much of which comes from churches. They approach education from a wholistic perspective, not only providing quality education but also connecting students in need with mental health support, meal support and financial support for particular needs as they arise (such as helping with school uniforms, tennis shoes, wifi during COVID, laptops, etc.). The school slogan is, “Education. Love for life.” They pride themselves on providing students with the resources to earn a better way of life in the future through education. Many of the teachers and staff at the school are former students who are grateful for the education they received and the life they currently have as a result of their education.

## RECENT EVENTS AT PANAMERICAN INSTITUTE

*From PAI's January Newsletter*

### TEACHERS' WORKSHOPS

Our teachers attended workshops on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> to prepare new and exciting school projects for our students for the rest of the school year.



## (MISSIONS CORNER/PANAMERICAN INSTITUTE CONT...)

### ASSEMBLY

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Our third-year students gave a presentation about how our Constitution was redacted and created. We also gave diplomas to the participant of a Storytelling contest, the creator of the story and the teacher who prepared the contestant.



### RAINY MONTHS

After a surprisingly dry December, rains in Tijuana started in January, leading to various missed school days. Our city gets flooded, streets are difficult to drive on, and public transportation becomes scarce: all of this making it difficult for students in Tijuana to get to their schools. Our State Government made the decision to cancel several school days to protect our young citizens. Rain season is just starting but we implemented various strategies to keep in touch with our students, and for them to continue school work at home.





## March Birthdays

2-Mar Linda Freud  
3-Mar Samuil Stanev  
7-Mar Donald Stephens  
11-Mar Doug Ramsey  
12-Mar Rishon Krishna  
12-Mar Kevin Rapp  
13-Mar Jim Weddell  
24-Mar La Nona Hoke  
26-Mar Noel Hummel  
28-Mar Raffia Thomas  
28-Mar Rachel Haas  
30-Mar Bev Aye

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](mailto:fccaoffice@gmail.com).

*(Pastor's Article Continued)*

**Music is such an important part of our lives.** I'm convinced it is a gift given to us by God which enriches our lives and soothes our souls. I'm grateful for the fine musicians at our church and am looking forward to celebrating **Maundy**

**Thursday Candle-light Service on Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm** in the Griffith House and **Easter**

**Worship Service on Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:45am** in the sanctuary. A

complimentary breakfast will be served from 9:30 until 10:30am. Raffia Tomas, Isy Martin, Tom Mena, Tyler Robinson, Craig Rowe and other musicians will join us. If you are interested in singing in the choir for Easter, come to rehearsals at 10am on Sundays in the church office.

What a privilege it is to have them lead us in music during this wonderful Lenten season. Remember to invite your friends as we **celebrate Christ's resurrection and the new life He can create within us!**

Grateful for music,  
Pastor Jim



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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