

FCCA Updates & Events

Holy Week and Easter!

This Holy Week we marked the Last Supper Jesus had with his disciples during our Maundy Thursday Candlelight Service in the Griffith House Chapel. It was intimate time to sing hymns, hear a meditation from Pastor Jim and share communion together. On Easter morning, it turned out to be a beautiful day for breakfast on the lawn. What a joy to celebrate that Christ is risen! The kids had fun with the bounce house and enjoyed an Easter egg hunt during Sunday School. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped us with setup, serving and cleanup! We constantly thank God for this community of people.



Women's Lunch: Women Who Eat, Pray and Love

Monday, May 15 from 11:30am-1:00pm in McKenzie Hall

Ms. Sandya Costa, Director of the Montessori Academy of Anaheim that meets on our property, has offered to cook for the May Women's Lunch! Ms. Sandya is from Sri Lanka and is a fabulous cook. During our time together, we will also work on a project for NorthEast of the Well's outreach to women on the streets. They have provided note cards and examples of encouraging scriptures for us to write on the cards. These cards are part of the care packages that they pass out to women.

Mother's Day: Honoring Our Mothers

Robbie Robinson found a beautiful old photo of his mother, and it sparked an idea for the church! On Mother's Day, we will have a slideshow honoring our mothers. If you would like to share a photo in honor of or in memory of your mother (or a woman who has poured into your life), email the church office at fccaoffice@gmail.com. We thank God for women who have given us life in body and spirit!

Children's Sunday School: Sunday School is offered every Sunday! *Children who would like to participate in Sunday School are welcome to leave worship with the teachers before the sermon. Sunday School is held in the first room of the Griffith House (the couch room).*

JOG: Just Ordinary Guys Luncheon

Featuring Guest Speaker, Alexander Emoghene



Alexander grew up in the city of Jos, Nigeria. As a teenager, he migrated to the city of his birth, London. His career as a stylist allowed him to work in the glamour hair and beauty industry for over 28 years. In 2011 he opened his business, Alexander for Healthy Hair, in Rotterdam. He specialized in training future stylists in advanced skills to start up their own businesses. Alexander is an author, speaker, businessman, and the assistant pastor at Claypot Church International. He has been involved in several businesses and ministries where he teaches leadership development. Alex is a dynamic speaker that you won't want to miss!

When: Monday, May 8th, 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 have an excellent meal planned, and tables are 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

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Bethlehem and from the East Jerusalem International Church (below)! On Easter Sunday, the Arabic language greeting among Christians here is **Al Messih qam! Haqqan qam!**



Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!

Because Jesus has risen from the dead, he has broken the hold of all the forms of spiritual death and destruction that ravage societies and appear to be intractable. Because of Christ's victory, we can see with eyes of hope beyond pervasive hatred between peoples to a day in which even "the wolf

will lay down with the lamb," and warring will cease (Isaiah 11.6). We can see a day when cynicism gives way to faith, despair to joy.

We are working toward the fulfillment of that vision. There has never been a time in which peacemaking has been more critical in Israeli and Palestinian societies than in the present. Israel and Palestine have been wracked with upheaval and conflict during the last few weeks. The largest demonstrations in Israel's history recently brought the country to a standstill as Israelis protested the overreach of the ultra-right government to limit the authority of the country's highest court.

In Bethlehem in recent weeks, we have worked hard to build bridges and foster peacemaking. We have met with key educators and students in the Muslim and Christian communities to encourage peacemaking ideas among Palestinian university students (pictured). *(Continued on Next Page)*



(Missions' Corner Contined...) This week we will conduct an online session with Attorney Jonathan Kuttab, who is an influential Palestinian Christian peacemaker. In a few weeks, we will have a similar session with a Jewish Israeli human rights organization. Every day we want to walk in Jesus' call to be peacemakers (Matthew 5.9), and to pray for peace.

Occasionally, we take a day off from our usual seven-day-a-week responsibilities. On Friday, we hiked down into Wadi Qelt, the deep valley east of Jerusalem in the Judean wilderness, to visit an ancient

monastery built in the 5th century. In the middle of the desert where Jesus was tempted, it was a blessing to pray and reflect on God's work through his people through the centuries.

Last Sunday in the East Jerusalem International Church, we praised the Lord and sang Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna to the King of kings! Instead of palms, we waved cuttings from our church garden's olive trees!

Finally, we want to thank you so very much for your financial partnership which helps us work for peace in the Holy Land...

Have a joyful Easter celebration! Christ has risen!

Blessings!

Andrew and Karen

