

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM
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The Call

First Congregational Church of Anaheim

“To Discover and Grow in God’s Grace and Love”

Vol. 378 No. 11 Published Monthly November 1, 2025

Join Us For Thanksgiving!

Sunday, November 23rd - Details Inside



“O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!” Psalm 107:1



“Grateful for the past — Hopeful for the future”

Celebrating Thanksgiving Together



A Message from Pastor Jim

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.” Psalm 107:1

As we approach this year’s **Community Thanksgiving Service**, my heart is full of gratitude — not only for God’s countless blessings, but for the beautiful spirit of unity we share with our brothers and sisters from other congregations sharing our facilities. This gathering is more than just an annual tradition; it’s a living example that the Body of Christ is much larger than any one church building or denomination. Our annual **Community Thanksgiving Service** is coming up on **Sunday, November 23rd at 10:45 a.m.**, and I couldn’t be more thankful for this special time together!

Different churches will be leading us in song, and it’s always such a joy to worship side by side with sister churches — lifting our voices as one family in Christ. When we come together in worship and fellowship, we are reminded that **we belong to one another**. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Ephesus, *“There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called”* (Ephesians 4:4).

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Connect

Sunday Morning Worship
Sunday, 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School for Kids
Children are welcome to leave with the teachers before the sermon, and meet in the first room of the Griffith House. .

Staff
Dr. Jim Schibsted — Senior Pastor
Rev. Emily Raasch — Assoc. Pastor
Susan Fraker — Office Assistant
Tyler Robinson — Music Director
Angella Kissoon — Accountant
Linda Freud — Missions
Chuck Pennington — J.O.G.
Sandy Costa — Montessori Dir.

Other Ways to Connect
Facebook: Anaheim Chapel
at First Congregational Church
of Anaheim.

YouTube:
First Congregational
Church of Anaheim

Instagram: FCCAnaheim

Website: www.fcca.org

FCCA email:
fccaoffice@gmail.com

FCCA Office Phone:
714-776-0960

JOG: Just Ordinary Guys
November 10, 2025
12-1:30 p.m. (See page 5)

Women’s Lunch
November 17, 2025
11:30 a.m. (See page 6)

Small Groups
November 5th, 12th, & 19th
Wednesdays 6:30—8 p.m.
Church Office or via Zoom
(See page 6)

Celebration of Life
Joan Jacobs Dayton
November 21, 2025
(See page 3)

Thanksgiving
Worship & Feast
November 23, 2025
(See page 5)

Celebrating Thanksgiving...

(Cont. from page 2)

Thanksgiving gives us an opportunity to live out that truth, with our voices joined in praise to the same faithful God who has carried us through yet another year.

Following the service, we’ll gather for our Thanksgiving **feast**, (including ham, turkey and all the trimmings coupled with homemade chicken adobo and tamales), when we share not only delicious food but friendship. Something sacred happens when we sit down at the same table. Conversation replaces isolation, laughter replaces sadness, and gratitude becomes contagious. It’s in those simple moments of breaking bread together that the love of Christ is clearly seen. It’s fun to watch the children play in the playground and enjoy the bounce house.

In a world that often feels divided and disconnected, **our unity in worship and fellowship shines as a powerful witness**. Together, we can encourage one another, strengthen our community, and show our neighbors that Thanksgiving isn’t just a holiday—it’s a way of life grounded in faith and fellowship. Come ready to give thanks, celebrate, and to connect with others. Bring your family, your friends, your appetite, and a heart prepared to worship. Let this Thanksgiving be a reminder that when God’s people come together, blessings are multiplied.

With much gratitude, Pastor Jim

NOVEMBER Birthdays

• 10-Nov Susan Fraker

• 18-Nov James Purvis

• 23-Nov Alissa Williams

• 26-Nov Bob States

• 30-Nov Tom Mena

FCCA Updates

6-Week Small Group Study

Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm, October 15th-November 19th

"Tame Your Thoughts: Three Tools to Renew Your Mind and Transform Your Life" By: Max Lucado

Max Lucado is a prominent American author, minister, and speaker known for his bestselling Christian inspirational books. With more than 150 million products in print, he has been dubbed "America's Pastor" by *Christianity Today*.

What: *In Tame Your Thoughts, Max explores three key thought-management tools and then applies them to the most common thought problems: worry, guilt, anxiety, and other types of mental quicksand that threaten to trap us. God loves us too much to let us lead a life marked by poor thinking. He made our brains; He can retrain our brains. God has not left us alone in this battle of the mind.*

Thanksgiving Worship & Feast

Sunday, November 23rd

10:45am Worship, Feast to Follow

Join us alongside other campus churches as we give thanks to God during worship and enjoy a Thanksgiving Feast! There will be a bounce house for the kids during the Thanksgiving meal.

Women's Lunch

Monday, November 17th at 11:30am

Gini's House

Lunches include a devotional and a light-hearted group activity. This is a great opportunity to enjoy fellowship with other women in the church.

Main Dish: Chicken Tortilla Soup

If you would like to contribute a dish, needs

include: Appetizers, Rolls & Salads

RSVP by contacting the church at fccaoffice@gmail.com or (714) 776-0960.



Mission Corner

Linda Freud and Your Mission Board

The month of October was deemed "World-Wide Mission Month." The church was invited to make donations marked for our general mission fund so that our Mission Board may allocate our typical annual giving amounts to each of our long-supported missions across the globe. The last Sunday of October, Linda Freud held a Bake Sale with help from the Sunday School kids on behalf of our Mission Board.

"Your Mission Board is so grateful for your support in October. So far, we have brought in \$547 for the general mission fund, \$1,050 specifically for the Philippines, and I can excitedly report that the Bake Sale was a huge success!!! \$200.00 was raised in support of our missions. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!"

Faithfully,

Linda Freud

(Cont. on Pg. 4)



In Loving Memory



Joan Jacobs Dayton was a compassionate woman, a gifted author, a devoted mother of 5 children and an integral part of our church for 12 years. Joan's writing reflected her love of children, writing books such as, "Games Grandma's Play: Life Lessons on Christian Faith and Grandchildren." During Joan's time at FCCA, her late husband, Pastor Marvin Jacobs, served as Associate Pastor.

Please join us in celebrating Joan's life on November 21st at First Congregational Church of Anaheim.

- **Visitation at 10:00 a.m. on the church patio.**
- **Service at 11:00 a.m.**
- **Reception following in McKenzie Hall**

In lieu of flowers, the family invites you to honor Joan by making a gift to your favorite charity in her name.

Every Christmas, we support the Panamerican Institute, a mission school in Tijuana that serves low income students roughly equivalent to middle school age in the United States. Christmas break can be hard on families, so each year the school provides families with a Christmas Food Basket thanks to donations from churches. If you'd like to give, please mark your offering online or in person "PAI Christmas Food Basket."

**PANAMERICAN INSTITUTE**
SCHOOL FOUNDED BY THE LATE REV. EDGAR S. WELTY IN 1962

Christmas 2025

Christmas Food Baskets

Continuing our tradition for the 54th consecutive year.

Support a family during the Holidays for \$60 per basket.



Each basket contains:
Pinto beans, rice, wheat flour, sugar, salt, canned tuna and vegetables, margarine, cereal, cooking oil, tomato sauce, cookies, pastas, gelatin, jelly, toiler paper, soap, tooth brushes and paste.

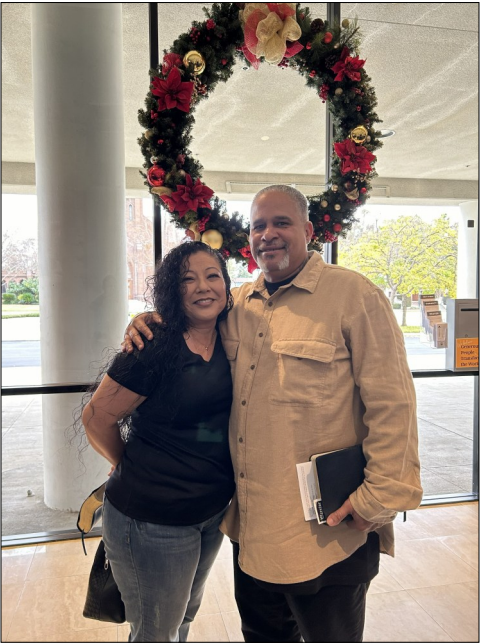


Send your donation designated to PAI to
NACCC/MOMC
P. O. BOX 288
OAK CREEK, WI 53154

Laura Ramirez, President
Laura.Ramirez@paischool.org
PanamericanInstitute@hotmail.com

JOG: Just Ordinary Guys (& Gals)

Meet Pastor Juan Lopez



At 58-years-old, Pastor Juan's life stands as a powerful testimony to God's transforming grace. Raised in Pomona, his journey has included many challenges, including time in prison, yet God's presence never left him. Today, he and his wife, Victoria—each other's first love—celebrate 11 years of marriage and 16 years together. Their story began in their youth, when he was 13 and she was 14, and after 45 years of knowing one another, her steadfast prayers continue to reflect God's mercy and love.

Anchored in faith and the truth of 2 Corinthians 5:17—"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation"—Pastor Juan strives each day to live as a reflection of Christ's light. For over 15 years, he has served faithfully as a Mental Health Recovery Worker with the Mental Health Association of Orange County. He and his wife are the proud parents of four children—Valerie, Vannessa, Liz, and Junior—and are blessed with twenty grandchildren who fill their lives with joy and purpose.

Monday, November 10th from 12:00—1:30 p.m.

Location: McKenzie Hall

Cost: \$12

First-time Visitors: Free