



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

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# October

**JUST ORDINARY GUYS**

**October JOG  
Speaker:  
Jay Hewitt**



**AUTHOR OF  
"I AM WEAK, I AM STRONG"**



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## ***Old Testament Characters: A Letter from Pastor Jim***

Peter Scazzero in his Old Testament Character Study writes...

*We live in a world that is desperate for heroes. Super macho film and TV stars, professional athletes, rock stars and “the rich and famous” are held up to us as role models. Yet deep within the pages of the Old Testament, we meet real, flesh-and-blood people like us, with both weaknesses and strengths, who provide us with genuine models we can imitate.*

*The problem, however, is that large portions of the Old Testament remain literally a closed book to many. The reason is not hard to find. The Old Testament is not a continuous, easy-to-read account of the history of Israel. In a collection of thirty-nine different books, written over a period of a thousand years, one encounters poetry, law, history, moral advice, prophecy and visions. Add to this the very different customs and cultures of these times and it becomes easy to see why many have become discouraged.*

*The most surprising discovery made, however, by studying the lives of people such as Esther, Jonah, Elijah and Joshua is their humanness and relevance for today. (Continued on Page 7)*

## **Connect**

### **Sunday Morning Worship**

*10:45 am 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)

### **NorthEast of the Well**

*Every Monday, 6-8 pm*

**Dinner:** 6 pm, Hall

**Worship:** 6:45 pm, Sanctuary

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

*Monday, October 9th*

Speaker: Jay Hewitt

12:00-1:30pm, McKenzie Hall

### **Service Opportunity:**

#### **Meridian Worship**

*Wednesday, Oct. 11th at 2 pm*

### **Small Groups**

#### ***Old Testament Characters***

Resuming on Wednesdays at

6:30 pm in November:

November 1st, 8th, 15th

Group Dinner: November 29th

### **Women's Lunch**

*Monday, November 6th*

11:30-1:00 pm, McKenzie Hall

# FCCA Updates

## **FCCA Sunday School & Children's News**

Just before the sermon during Sunday worship, children are welcome to leave with leaders for Sunday School in the Griffith House. This month, we also have some fun activities coming up! Sunday School teachers will be participating with the Montessori Academy of Anaheim's Harvest Festival by providing a trunk for trunk-or-treating. In addition, Pastor Jim's family and the grandkids are excited to invite the Sunday School kids to join them for trick-or-treating in Anaheim Hills!

## **Service Opportunity: Meridian Senior Living Worship Service**

*Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm, The Meridian at Anaheim Hills*

All are welcome to join us for worship (violin prelude, hymn sing + short message) at The Meridian in Anaheim Hills. Come, help us greet and visit with residents who attend. Contact the church office at [fccaoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fccaoffice@gmail.com) if you would like to join.

## **November Women's Lunch**

**Monday, November 6th from 11:30-1:00 pm in McKenzie Hall**

Lunches often include an ice-breaker to get to know each other better, devotional/prayer time, a group game and of course food! In the past we have done projects for a local ministry, other times we have heard from mission guests and recently we did a project to take home and personally enjoy.



## **Fall Small Groups: Old Testament Characters**

*"Abraham is an unforgettable portrait of faith. Daniel is a classic example of holiness. And through her willingness to risk her own life, Esther shows us what commitment means. This LifeGuide Bible Study introduces you to remarkable lives described in the Old Testament. The stories of these people from the ancient past can help you learn to live well even today."*

**Meetings take place on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm in person or via Zoom. All are welcome to join us for the second half of our fall study on the following dates:** November 1, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> with a group dinner on November 29<sup>th</sup>!

# FCCA Updates Continued

## **JOG Luncheon: Featuring Guest Speaker, Jay Hewitt**

**Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm in McKenzie Hall; Cost: \$12**



After receiving a devastating brain cancer diagnosis, Jay Hewitt had a decision to make: Turn to God or walk away from faith? In “I Am Weak, I Am Strong,” Jay chronicles the power of God on display in his weakness as he conquered an IRONMAN triathlon while undergoing cancer treatment. His race was a grand gesture of love for his young daughter, and a call to resilience for us all. Learn how to finish what you start and fulfill your life’s calling. “I Am Weak, I Am Strong” will teach you to turn obstacles to opportunities and allow God to transform your weakness to strength. *Come 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.*

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

## **Missions’ Corner: A Letter from Linda Freud, Missions Chair**

Last month in The Call I listed various missions that received some financial support from FCCA. The Mission Board makes these allocations each August. I decided that it would be good to highlight a different mission each month in the Mission Corner. Just as I was preparing to pick a mission, I received the Spring 2023 newsletter from Christ to the Villages in Nigeria. So, I am sharing it with you this month. Please see a portion of their recent newsletter included on the next two pages.

First, here is little background information. Christ to the Villages Mission ministers to hundreds of persons in the remote villages of central Nigeria. The mission was founded by Rev. Solomon Oladele and his wife Margaret in the 1980’s. This mission has been supported by our church and our National Association over many years. The mission serves numerous village churches and runs a Nursery and Primary and High School. Sadly, Solomon passed in October 2009. His son, Matthew, stepped up to serve the mission. He was pursuing his Master’s Degree here in the States at the time, but has returned to Nigeria. Matthew has visited FCCA and other Cal West Association churches.

Please continue to keep Christ to the Villages Mission, Rev. Matthew Oladele, his wife and his mother, his staff, the students, and all the people they serve in your prayers. Faithfully, Linda Freud



# NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

*Christ to the Villages*

## VILLAGE OUTREACH

Rural evangelism is unique in many ways; ranging from the experiences of the bad roads to some villages and the people's orientation in the rural areas. We pray and sing on our way to the villages in preparation for reaching the people with the Gospel of Christ. We are usually met with excitement from the people as we visit and worship with them. Mary engages the children by teaching them Bible stories, and new songs and sharing cookies at the end of service, while I worship with the adults and youths.



## For God so Love the world...

Over the past few months, we have continued to reach people with the gospel of love and hope in Christ through our three mission schools and outreach to the villages. During the holiday, we hosted the Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) camp on our premises at Shao for 3 days. Over 300 children and over 40 CEF volunteer teachers from Shao and other villages were in attendance. It was a blessing for us to make available our facilities to be used as a blessing to others. This way we work together for the expansion of the Kingdom of God.



# NEWSLETTER *Christ to the Villages*

Spring 2023



## MISSION SCHOOLS

### **Mission among Children:**

Mission among the children requires patience, humility, and being vigilant. Patience because their level of understanding is different and still developing. One must give room for them to make mistakes, and learn from them. Correction must be constructive, not demoralizing. Working among them therefore requires humility to think and sometimes act like them in order to reach them. You have to jump, run, and play their games, just to communicate with them. Also, being vigilant of their moods, needs, surroundings, and safety can be a daunting but necessary task. A stitch in time, they say, saves nine. These are some of the demands of the mission among children. This is what God has called us into. Thank you for being part of the solution through your partnership with us.





# NEWSLETTER *Christ to the Villages*

Spring 2023

## MISSION CHALLENGES



## Mission Challenges:

There has been a change of government in Nigeria. The new president was sworn in on the 29th of May. In his inaugural speech, he announced the removal of subsidy for fuel (PMS or Gas) by his predecessor in the budget handed over to him. By the afternoon of that day, there was a scarcity of fuel as most gas stations were closed. The few that were still selling increased their price. Two days later, a new official price was announced. The new price is N515 per liter, which is over two and a half times the formal official price. There has been another increase to N617, but some independent marketers are selling as high as #650 or even #700 per liter. This has greatly multiplied difficulties in Nigeria. Please pray for Nigeria and for Christ to the Villages.

## Health Challenge:

I was down with malaria for weeks. I started feeling uneasy a few days before, so I visited the hospital on the 5th of June, did tests, and was given two injections and some medications. I had to return back to the hospital the evening of the next day as my condition did not change. My doctor suggested putting me on admission (hospitalization), which I declined for some reasons. So I was given three injections, he changed my medication, and placed me on injection for the next two days. Although I was getting better, my recovery was slow, as I still got tired easily after talking for a while or walking a short distance. Few weeks after, went to another clinic for tests. This time the malaria was negative. However, the test came positive for typhoid, so I underwent another treatment. Praise God, I am much better now.

# NEWSLETTER *Christ to the Villages*

Spring 2023

## PARTNER WITH US

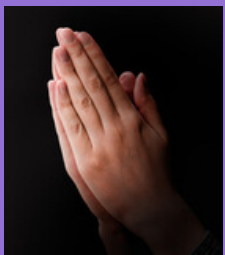
Please prayerfully consider ways you can support the work of Christ to the Villages Mission through weekly, monthly, or quarterly gifts. You could also give to meet any of the mission's specific needs or projects. Thank you and God bless you.

## Needs:

- Printers
- Photocopier machines
- Grinding/milling machine
- Small Electric Generator
- Plastic Chairs
- Desktop computers for students Lab
- School Admin laptops (4)
- Sports facilities & equipment
- Laboratory Stools
- Classroom Desk and Chairs
- Solar security lights (12 floodlights)
- Mini solar systems for reading and hostels
- School bus
- Classrooms and Laboratories ceilings (7 in Alpha & 9 in Omega)
- Restrooms building
- Completion of a school Lodge building
- Off-road Four Wheel drive car
- Solar System for the schools in Shao (for appliances)

## Prayers:

- Divine protection from all danger and political instability
- God's wisdom for the leadership of this ministry
- God's blessing on the work of Christ to the villages
- Provision to meet the needs of the mission
- Prayer for Nigeria as elections commence 25th of February, 2023
- Prayer for MOMC, NACCC, and our friends



Please prayerfully consider ways you can support the work of Christ to the Villages Mission through weekly, monthly, or quarterly gifts. You could also give to meet any of the mission's specific needs or projects.

Thank you and God bless you.

Follow Christ to the villages mission on our Facebook group page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/christtothevillagesmission>

Email: [mattshola@gmail.com](mailto:mattshola@gmail.com)

[www.christtothevillages.org](http://www.christtothevillages.org)





## October Birthdays

3-Oct Camila Zavala  
16-Oct Rudy Marderos  
17-Oct Pastor Emily Raasch  
23-Oct Nancy Clark  
24-Oct Pam Evans  
24-Oct Jon Ryan Hill  
29-Oct David Hill  
30-Oct Penny Schibsted  
30-Oct Lucas Rider

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).

*(Old Testament Characters Continued...)*

*As Jerry Sittser has written: "We observe that God uses common people...to make history. The powerful of society often form a background in which the little people, the faithful people, honor God and transform the world."*

Studying Old Testament characters during our Bible Study has been very enjoyable. The insights, honest conversation, laughter, tears and prayers are life giving. Part 2 of our fall series on the study of Old Testament characters will take place on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm on November 1, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in my office or via Zoom. A group dinner is scheduled for November 29<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to attend. I hope you can join us for this life-giving series.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Jim



**FALL SMALL GROUPS:  
OLD TESTAMENT  
CHARACTERS**

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