

# cornerstone news

praises announcements news updates information prayers



## Worship the Lord with Us

### Sunday Mornings

- 10:00 Sunday School for All Ages  
11:30 Worship Service  
(Nursery care is available)  
12:30 Lunch & Fellowship

### Church Ministries

- Cornerstone Connections  
Chinese Language Class  
Church Choir  
Sports Ministry  
HUGS (Homes Under God's Spirit)  
Fellowship for Families & Young Adults  
Men's & Women's Bible Studies  
MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)  
New Life Bible Study for Seniors  
Praise Band  
Youth Groups: (Jr & Sr High School)  
(<sup>c</sup>AM/PM<sup>a</sup> A Methodist People Machine)  
Ext. 777 (College)



Reaching out to the  
Asian-American community

2050 Valencia Ave  
Placentia, CA 92870-2040  
phone: 714.528.3068  
website: c-umc.info

Jerry Owyang, Pastor  
Office Hours: Mon. thru Thurs.  
9:30 AM to 5:00 PM  
cell: 714 287-8221  
pastorjko@sbcglobal.net

Karl Freeman, Youth Director  
cell: 714-482-7590

Kay Lee, Newsletter Editor  
Audrey Yee, Assistant to Editor



## Come Celebrate Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday!

Cornerstone & Placentia UMCs will be celebrating Pentecost and our Youth Confirmants on May 27th at a combined service at 11:00 AM, with an all-church potluck following.



## Missions



by Wei-ling  
Louie,

What is the mission of our church and the United Methodist Church? Our church is not

only local but also global, and we as members are called to be in ministry in all aspects of our daily lives. There are many opportunities that call us to reach out and give ourselves in love to God's people. We are all partners in God's mission to spread the good news of Jesus Christ through our actions, deeds and financial means.

Cornerstone UMC belongs to the California Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church. Currently the Cal/Pac Conference has 20 missionaries serving throughout the world. Cornerstone has been in a Covenant Relationship with Dr. Elma Jocson, a general surgeon who is our missionary serving in Tansen, Nepal since October 2001. Nepal is one of

the poorest countries in the world with a great deal of political unrest. Her assignment in Nepal ended in February 2007 and she will be taking a study leave to pursue studies in pediatric surgery and plans to return to missionary work upon completing her studies. In a Covenant Relationship, we as a church agree to support her financially as well as in prayer. Our April Mission Offering was collected for Dr. Jocson.



The Missions Committee welcomed Dr. Jocson to our church on April 20th with dinner and great conversation. We had a wonderful turnout with over 70 people in attendance. After dinner, Dr. Jocson told us of her experiences working in a missionary hospital in the rural village of Tansen, Nepal. She completely enthralled us with stories and photos of Nepal and many of her patients. "One great need is in the area of health," says Dr. Jocson and she feels God working through her hands as she recounted the stories of patients who were severely injured or burned and miraculously recovered. It is against the law in Nepal to try to convert the mostly Hindu people to Christianity, but she is able to show patients and others her faith through her works. She also had the responsibility of the Burn Ward where many of the patients are women and children who are victims of abuse or neglect. Dr. Jocson is fluent in Nepalese,

*Missions - Continued on page 5*



## Ch-ch-ch-change...So that...!

*The Spirit in me greets the Spirit in you.*

Change! OK, I've said it. Change in our weather, our world, our personal lives, our families, our work setting or somewhere else—change that is chosen, forced upon us or “just happening”—is unsettling. Not only that, its stressful! Change means life is going to be different. And it can be adventurous!

Change often brings a new way of doing things. Sometimes there are new rules. We can expect and hope for a good outcome, but seldom can we totally control it. There's also grief for what was done—whether it was for better or worse, we often long for the familiar. And the church is no exception when it comes to experiencing and reacting to change. Perhaps the better way is to respond to change and get God's perspective: “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland” (Isaiah 43:19).

Recently, at a leadership conference, it was said that when faced with a change, we often focus on the “what if” questions (which are different from the “what if” questions that raise possibilities) or “yeah, but” statements that express our fears about what change might bring. The counsel was to focus instead on the “so that” of change—to focus on the possibilities, rather than the fears, of what will be. Recently, we changed our Sunday service and bulletin so that we can gather and better focus on worship!

Every church that is moving toward becoming more like Christ is experiencing change. Jesus gave us a model for change and invites us to

- Be Spiritual. Jesus immersed himself in prayer, study, and the scriptures—these will keep us centered on the will of God.
- Be Focused. Jesus kept everything focused on the Kingdom of God—and so must we with our lives, the church, outreach, time, energy,

and prayer.

- Be Persistent. Jesus never gave up—be determined to achieve our vision, ask the hard questions, and be creative with ministries faithful to the Gospel.

Psalm 98:1 says, “Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.” Each day we experience a change as we look to how God is leading us to a new and changed life in Jesus Christ so that we may live a renewed and redeemed life! As you look to the routines of your life, ask the possibility-oriented “what if” questions “so that” we can be in communion and community with God and each other in making disciples for the transformation of the world. And be adventurous! †

Grace & Peace, Pastor Jerry

### NEXT SERMON SERIES

Over the last three years, the reality TV show “American Idol” has won the No. 1 spot on the Nielson Ratings. So, let's take a look at the “idols” we place before God that affect and reset our priorities.

#### THE TOP 5 AMERICAN IDOLS:

April 22	Idol #1: Money
April 29	Idol #2: Family
May 6	Idol #3: Sex
May 13	Idol #4: Work
May 20	Idol #5: Image



### Pray for the Victims and their Families

We mourn for the 32 victims from Virginia Tech University. Prayers go up to their families and loved ones. God comfort them. They will forever be in our thoughts and prayers.



## Cornerstone Captures the Spirit of Easter!

*by Sheree Low*

Wasn't Easter FunDay egg-citing!?! First, Karl Freeman & Friends hid tons of plastic eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt, and our Sports Court was soon overflowing with children searching for the treat-filled surprises. Then Ext. 777's clever Scavenger Hunt had the big kids racing around looking for human clues (do you know who has a passion for missions, and worked for the Anaheim Convention Center?\*)

Worship service was filled with God's spirit through music and song, as we rejoiced and celebrated our risen Savior. The adult and children's choirs were amazing! The festivities continued in the Fellowship Hall which was absolutely brimming with delicious potluck dishes and desserts, thanks to Minnie Lou's and Sherrie Fong's organization. The lunch line was so long that Celeste Wong graciously offered homemade, decorated cookies to those waiting patiently at the end of the line!

The Coloring Contest winners were announced after much careful consideration by distinguished judges Julie Owyang, Nell Mitchell, Diane Hom, Lydia Chu, and Wendy Yu. Congratulations to all the winners and participants... each entry was so unique! Then it got really noisy as Brad Chinn pitted adults vs. youth in a crazy game with people screaming “boing!” or “alive!” to find some hidden bunnies. Finally, our very own “Ed McMahoquesque” Calvin Lowe ended Easter FunDay with Ed Joe's (favorite?) game of all... clean up! Thanks to everyone who donated the generous prizes (Karl won the top prize – \$200 binoculars!), and to all the helping hands who made this event such a success.

\*If you guessed Roger Davidson, you're right! †



### From the Editor Kay Lee

"Grammy! Grammy! Watch! Here is the church. Here is the steeple. Open the door and see all the people"! We did this several times together. Then I showed her the "other" way to do it, by folding our hands in the opposite direction. "Here is the church. Here is the steeple. Open the door. Where are the people"? We decided we liked the first way better, with all the people in the church. We played "popcorn", each taking a turn naming all the people in the church who help us and work at the church. We came up with a VERY long list!

What a blessing! It takes every one of us to make a church. Install an air conditioner? Change a light bulb? Mow the grass? Make copies of the bulletin? Water the flowers? Fix a leaky toilet? Find an extension cord? So many big and little chores are done by the "people" in our church.

How about ministry programs? I can't begin to list all the details that go into running ministries! CUMC is truly blessed with people who are superbly competent and wonderfully supportive of the many ministries we have. They volunteer willingly and are so gifted at what they do. Others attend every event with their enthusiasm and unfailing support.

All this we do for the Lord. We do this to spread the Good News. We do this because Jesus is the Body and we are the arms, legs, and hands commissioned to do the Lord's work. (1 Cor 12) When we open the "door" of our folded hands and see 8 fingers wiggling in the "church", we rejoice in knowing that each is wiggling, working, and serving with God's grace and love. †



### Home Under God's Spirit

by Brad Chinn

The HUGS (Homes Under God's Spirit) "families with kids" group continues to grow with meaningful, spiritual, and fantabulous family gatherings!

We held our first HUGS Gathering of the year on Sun Mar 11. These gatherings are HUGS-sponsored, but open to all interested adults. We are watching the "Love & Respect" series on DVD, based on the conference of the same name, and following it up with group discussion. In short, the series discusses the general need of women for love, and the general need of men for respect. When women don't show respect to men, the men don't react with love. When men don't show love to women, the women don't react with respect. This, the series creators describe, is the "crazy cycle". This is not strictly limited to married couples. It applies to any interaction between the sexes (moms and sons, dads and daughters, boy classmate with girl classmate, etc.). I actually found a way to explain the conference to my sons in a way that applies to them. I told them that they are bound to work on a school project consisting of both boys and girls. They must recognize that boys and girls work, think, act, and react in different ways. They must recognize what makes everyone tick, and work with them in ways that address their basic needs. The point is... this topic is useful to all, including YOU! And... it's FREE! Hope to see you at our next HUGS Gathering at church on Sun June 10!

HUGS is also participating in the 4th annual Family 1-on-1 Day! Families are paired up 1-on-1 (or,

1-on-2) to get together for an activity of their choice on the date of their choice. It encourages families to get together and enjoy the fellowship that God created for each of us. In our busy schedules, we often only see each other on Sundays and don't get the opportunity to really "hang out". I tried to include anyone who would be interested in this activity. If I somehow missed you, please let me know!

By the time you read this, we will have also attended a cost-effective (i.e. CHEAP!) child's stage production of "Aladdin" ([www.broadwayontour.org](http://www.broadwayontour.org)), and we will have held our 2nd Family Nite of the year where we enjoy dinner fellowship together, children-led worship, brief Pastoral message, and some kind of fun activity for the whole family!

#### COMING SOON:

Sat May 19 - Mom's Get-away. Stay tuned for more details of this exciting day, just for the ladies! Mark your calendars now!

Sat Jun 2 - Dad's Get-a-day. Then, it's the guys turn! Save the date!

Sun Jun 10 - HUGS Gathering. The "Love & Respect" series continues.

Please contact Brad Chinn to learn more about all upcoming HUGS activities ([bmwpapa@cox.net](mailto:bmwpapa@cox.net), 714.505.4650) †.



### You Are Invited!!

Sunday morning prayer meetings are being held in Pastor Jerry's office at 9:30 a.m. YOU are invited as we invite God to be in the very process of our plans each week. As we seek God's presence and draw Him close, may our dreams and visions for our church gain strength. We hope we find it necessary to move to a larger area to accommodate all who gather to pray! †





## KFC Corner

by Sheree Low

In observance of Lent, the Kids for Christ group collectively decided to abstain from 1) desserts served with church lunch, and 2) playing Game-boy DS (or other electronic games) at church on Sundays. It was a tough challenge, but the group continued to encourage one another for the weeks leading up to Easter. The following is written by Karen Wong.



## KFC Learns and Grows

by Karen Wong

KFC has been learning a lot of important things during the past few weeks. Recently, we've been learning about Lent. Lent helps us to focus on God, and see all the good things God has given us. Also, it gives us time to be with God, such as reading the Bible, praying, and studying verses and books. Taking away all the distractions (or one) helps us to do some of those activities. We have to remember that Jesus gave something up too, but it was far greater than anything we give up. He laid down his life on Good Friday, but conquered death on Easter morning. For some people, it (Lent) is just a time to give things up; they just figure it's enough. We all need to focus mainly on God, not things. †



## Extension 777

by Jonathan Chen

Extension 777 is doing well. This time around, we are being motivated by the heart of worship. With recently being added onto the monthly Sunday worship cycle, our debut on March 25th, and Youth Sunday on April 15th, worship has been a direct focus for us. Every week we open with a word of prayer and practice. However, spoken from our worship leaders Jonathan Chen and Cheryl Wong, we don't practice to sound good to the church. We practice to be able to tap into the heart of worship. Ext.777 believes that as long as we can stay in the heart of worship, that no matter how we sound, God will bless the room. So far it has been an amazing experience with some nights when we ended the night in silence. Never wanting to leave the presence of God, some of us come into the sanctuary ready to play all out for God, and some of us sing "How great is our God" and "Better is one day" without wanting to stop, singing the words over and over again. We feel blessed to have each other to encourage and keep accountable. After practice we delve into our Bible Study



which has been graciously provided by Pastor Jerry. Ext. 777 is currently studying the Nooma series, a down to earth and approachable video study directed by Rob Bell. After watching the movie we have a discussion.

Extension 777 also has a fellowship outing once a month just to have

fun and get to know each other. These outings include dinner, golfing, and even events as random as home made photo shoots. Ext 777 also recently participated in a drivers training course in Las Vegas that teaches how to drive in a defensive and reactive manner. We recently participated in a Kutless and Newsboys concert in Irvine. We were involved with our beloved church by coordinating the Easter Scavenger Hunt and are very excited for the future mentoring of the KFC kids. Praise God! Praise God! †



(AM/PM)  
A Methodist  
People Machine

## A Moving People Machine for Sure!

by Karl Freeman



The youth are going strong! You all got to see us perform this April 15th for Youth Sunday, and it was a BLAST! The youth had as much fun with it as I'm sure it was to watch. We were pleased to see that you seemed to enjoy it as well. You probably saw a few unfamiliar faces up there, so I want to take this opportunity to introduce a few of our more recent friends who have been joining us for AMPM meetings.

The Worry monster was ably played by Paul. I call him camel-camel, but he may prefer Mr. Green-duck. One way or the other, he sings, he acts, he's quite a fella!

AMPM – Continued on page 6



## Cornerstone Connections

*Building Bridges in Small Groups*

### OHANA CONNECTIONS 1

*by Pam Fitch*

On March 10, the Ohana Connections had a wonderful potluck gathering at Randy and Charlene Wong's home. We enjoyed the various dishes, lively visits and a fun game led by Brad Chinn.

For Easter our group donated bags of personal hygiene products for the needy in Santa Ana through Purple Ark. We are planning a family event on May 20. †

### S.A.L.T. CONNECTIONS 2

*by Alex Yu*



"The Cornerstone Connections 2, aka S.A.L.T. (Serving and Loving Together) group, and other good friends went on an outing to the Star Wars Exhibit at the CA Science Center on Saturday, March 31, 2007. It was a fun time of fellowship and learning as we saw how Star Wars fictional technology related to today's science. Many Star Wars artifacts from the actual movies were on display including: Darth Vader's Suit and Mask, R2D2, C3PO, Luke Skywalker's land speeder, Chewbacca, and many others props from all the Star Wars movies. We saw a robotics show and experienced a ride in the Millennium Falcon that explored the planets and stars.

Even the lunch at McDonalds within the Science Center included great scenery as we ate outside next to the Rose Gardens near the LA Coliseum. We encourage everyone to do more external activities with your connection groups and other church friends so that we can invite other friends to get to know our church better." †

### CONNECTIONS 5

#### PURPLE ARK VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

*by Bill Yee*

May Quon and Roger Davidson spearheaded the planning and preliminary efforts to set up our group's Purple Ark volunteer work on March 9 and 10. Friday evening at church was devoted to preparing 100 sack lunches and assembling 75 hygiene packages to be distributed on Saturday morning to the homeless at Santa Ana Civic Center.



Many of our group, including May's Uncle Wallace and Aunt Margaret, Pastor Jerry and Julie participated in this initial step in a fun-filled efficient manner.

The next morning, others joined in. They met Danny Smith and his Purple Ark bus at Santa Ana Civic



Center to help pass out the sack lunches, hygiene packages and minister to the needy. It was such a blessing to all of our group to witness Danny's active and moving ministry. Later, some of the people followed Danny to Placentia to help serve yet another needy group. We all came away with the awareness that God has blessed us so richly. †

### FBI – CONNECTIONS 6

*by Lydia Chu*

The "FBI" (Funny Bunch of Individuals) group had a fun time at Myrna and Dick Chow's home on Saturday, April 14. Following a tasty pot luck we played "Squeeze-the-water-from-the-towel-into-the-cup!" Then we shared old photos or photo albums about our early years. Many of our members participated in athletics and music in past years. We were especially impressed that Kevin Hasegawa won many accordion contests as a child! For future meetings this year we are planning an outreach activity and an outing. †

#### Missions – Continued from page 1

learning the language in just 5 months so that she could communicate with her patients. She performed an average of 11 major operations daily. She says, "The need is great but our God is even greater."

She is also quite an adventure seeker, trekking the beautiful mountains of Nepal as well as jumping off a cliff and paragliding! She said she loved flying with the birds and seeing the beautiful scenery below. What a remarkable woman.

Continue to keep her in your prayers as she travels to other churches to share her experiences. When she returns to the Philippines to complete her pediatric surgery studies, she will get a chance to spend some time with her parents in Manila. We all feel blessed to have met Dr. Jocson and to have her as Our Very Own Missionary. She has dedicated her life to serving God with her many gifts. She'd love to hear from us throughout the year at the following address:

Dr. Elma T. Jocson  
606 Oval Sta. Nina  
Marikina City 1800 Philippines  
e-mail: dokelma@yahoo.com

If you missed her presentation, ask someone who attended to tell you about the unique ambulances they have in Nepal, or the men with tree limbs stuck in their throat and chest, or Dr. Elma's recipe for Buffalo Milk Ice Cream! †

AMPM – Continued from page 4

The passing motorist who was kind enough to help out Crystal when her "car" broke down was Jonathan. Like Mr. Green-duck, Jonathan is a friend of our own Josh. He's a little quieter than, say, a dumptruck full of marbles falling down a flight of stairs, but he's a welcome and pleasant individual.

To finish up the list of friends that we have been lucky enough to spend time with recently, we have Cathy and Aleena. Both are friends of our sweet little pianist Katie Lowe.

Cathy was the gal at the very end of Youth Sunday typing away so steadily at her "homework" assignment. Cathy is a delightful young lady, always ready to laugh and smile, particularly at the antics of a certain large-ish youth Director.

Aleena was a surprise visitor to our last practice night. Her interest in the Youth Sunday program was as big a surprise as herself. She's a delight, and I look forward to seeing her at many more meetings.

AMPM has been going strong lately. We're looking forward to a little bit of fun and relaxation after the busy preparation for Youth Sunday, but you'll be seeing them around quite a bit anyway. An interest in service has us serving as ushers during the month of April, and we'll be trying hard to continue in that vein, serving as we go +



**Cornerstone**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2050 Valencia Ave  
Placentia, CA 92870-2040

...and the  
**cornerstone**  
of the building  
is Jesus Christ  
himself!  
Ephesians 2:20



*We remember...*

Apr/May 2007