

# 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 High & High School)  
 ("AM/PM" 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  
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Kay Lee, Newsletter Editor  
 Audrey Yee, Assistant to Editor



## June and July Mission News

Dear Church family,

We received letters from the Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church thanking us for our gift to missions with our generous support for Myanmar Cyclone Emergency as well as the China Earthquake Disaster. You are to be commended for your spirit of mission and compassion. Our grand total of support was \$2,977 in May.

In June we supported the Sager Brown Depot in Louisiana with our gift of support for Layette kits. These layette kits really make a difference to underprivileged mothers throughout the U. S. and around the world so that new babies get much needed birthday clothing and diapers.

Our July Mission offering is going to help support our Covenant Relationship Missionary, Dr. Elma T. Jocson. We have supported Dr. Elma for the past 8 years when she was working in Tibet and we continue to support her now as she is taking time off from Missionary work to complete her studies in Pediatric Surgery. I'll forward her most recent (July) e-mail concerning her surgery internship in the Philippines to all of you. You'll find that she continues to be a Dr. in mission as you read about her patients. What a wonderful and supportive example for all of us to try to emulate.

From Annual Conference our church received a Special Recognition Certificate as a Missionary Supporting Church, paying in Full our World

Service Conference Apportionments and Missionary Support. Congratulations to us all. You've all been involved in supporting people in need all around the world. Thank you for making a difference.

Grace and Peace,  
 Wei-ling Louie,  
 Mission Chairperson †

You are invited to  
 join us on our  
**30th Anniversary**  
**September 14, 2008**



## Cornerstone UMC to Celebrate Her 30th Anniversary

A generation ago, some very wise people at the Los Angeles Chinatown UMC developed a mission to begin an intentional English-speaking church in Orange County. Today, we enjoy the Fruit of Spirit from that labor as the Cornerstone United Methodist Church and on September 14th, we will celebrate Thirty Years of Ministry! Reserve the date as we rejoice in the Lord's goodness with special friends and events on that day. †



## Interruption and Interference

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

There's nothing like moving from one residence to another to disrupt the routines of life! After months (it seems like years) of sorting and packing, Julie and I are settling into our new "temporary" home (we'll go through this process again when we search for a place to purchase as the Lord leads. But for now, we're counting our blessings—and the costs...and that leads to a God Moment!

It's simple to add up the receipts of a physical move, but there is another fact that needs to be tabulated with every endeavor: the emotional and spiritual outlay of all that we do. While trying to catch up with things at the office, I kept running into emails and articles about "bringing families back to the table." Apparently, gathering around the dinner table is more than just about food—it's about nurturing relationships.

Ideally, it's in the homes in which we were raised that we first experience loving and being the beloved. Ideally, our childhood homes are where we learn to honor and to be honored; to respect and be respected; to serve and to be served; to trust and to be trustworthy; to give and to receive; to learn and to teach; and so on. Experiences—both positive and negative—shape our relationship with others as well as how we relate and experience God. We might have to unlearn some things...and we can—that's the beauty of God's grace!

Time, distance, and circumstance can be impediments to families, especially for those desiring to share the gifts of different generations. Time together and being present are vital to growing families; and time with God and attention to His ever-presence are essential to deepening our bond with our Creator. An activity like moving into a new home can create deficits not only in the pocket-

book, but especially in the heart, mind, body, and spirit as well—debts that must be paid from God's inexhaustible bank account of love and forgiveness.

It's not so much that the moving of our household has interfered and interrupted my life; rather, it's the discovery that God wants to step into my life when I think I have it all together! I can be praying for someone and rattle off all the things I want God to do—and then God interrupts, asking, "And would you like My input on any of this?" Oops! Or I can be consumed with "administrivia" and miss the adventure God desires to share with me as he interferes with my routine and brings me into a conversation through my sermon writing. Oops again!

All this means is that we should not be too surprised when we experience an interruption and interference of life—God exposes us to new kinds of vulnerabilities, teaches us ways to pray, and prods us to ask Him boldly for things we might never have dreamed of asking. We are being interfered with by the most deliberate, most loving Father there ever was! And I don't mind that kind of interruption—how about you? Thanks be to God.

Grace & Peace,  
Pastor Jerry †

## PUMC's New Pastor

We welcome Rev. Judy Chung as the new pastor to Placentia UMC. Prior to this appointment, Pastor Judy has served at the La Mirada UMC and, most recently, as the Executive Secretary of the Asian American and Pacific Islanders Ministries at the General Board of Global Ministries in New York. Born in Korea, Pastor Judy blends her bi-cultural heritage into her bridge-building ministry. She and her husband, David Brewer, were married earlier this year. David is a Youth Pastor at a local United Methodist Church and a Ph.D candidate at Fuller Seminary. We look forward to getting to know our good neighbors! †



We have some exciting news! Cheryl Wong has published a meditation in the latest issue of DevoZine, a devotional magazine just for teens from The Upper Room. We are proud of Cheryl and want you to know about her achievement as a published writer (apart from her Christmas letters!). You go, girl! †

## Men's Day

by Randy Wong



This was the first Men's Day that had two New Lifers joining the HUGS guys. Richard Fitch and Bill Yee were the hit of the party, especially when they asked for their senior discounts at China Buffet. After dinner, most of the guys headed over to Randy's house for movies and poker. The usual HUGS poker party took an unusual turn as Richard taught us a new poker game that was nicknamed "Fitch's Folly." It was fun to see the camaraderie and bonding going on around the table. The big winner of the night was Bill, who left us with a memorable saying: "Treachery and old age conquer over youth every time." †







### From the Editor

Have you ever been so tired that you don't think you can get that left foot in front of the right? Or so bamboozled with the longest "Things to Do" list that you feel like throwing your hands in the air? This is especially so for young families whose time is so precious. There are not enough hours in the day to tend to every little detail. Swimming lessons, Music lessons, unpacking boxes, getting ready for camp, Scouts, Tennis lessons, Soccer games. The list goes on and on. Exhaustion and grouchiness set in. Tempers flare. Patience eludes you.

TIME OUT! Even a 5-minute (or one minute?!) break does wonders. "Come to me—and I will give you rest", Jesus said. (Mark 6:31) What a beautiful invitation! We are invited to come to Jesus with our frustrations and grouchiness. He gives us true rest when He listens to us and we listen to Him. He gives us true rest when we walk with Him and allow Him to shape our lives.

Take a deep breath (3 times) and close your eyes. Bask in the Lord's presence even on your busiest and most frustrating day and find rest. †

### Welcome New Members!



A hearty Cornerstone welcome to the Smith Family! Danny, Marla, Sophie, and Winston (*not in photo*) were formally received into membership with Cornerstone UMC on July 6, 2008. You've served the Lord with compassion and love in your ministry to help the working poor and homeless, Danny and Marla. We are truly blessed to have you among us! †



### Extension 777



*Jon Chen, Cheryl Wong, Jazmyn Jackson, and Joe Horvath clown around at the beach. Extension 777, a college group, takes advantage of lazy summer days to have mission projects and fellowship. During the school year, these 4 clowns are very much the serious students!*

When the days grow warmer, so does Extension 777's excitement. Summertime has brought about many opportunities to fellowship and serve the Lord.

With more people home from school for the summer, we are excited about increased numbers at our meetings. We also look forward to the new high school graduates joining our numbers. Recently, we've spent our fun time going to the beach, having Lock-Ins at church, and going to Six Flags Magic Mountain.

We are continuing to lead worship for AMPM on Fridays once a month and eagerly pursue creating an atmosphere for genuine worship on those days. The energy shared by AMPM and the group boost our worship through the roof!

On July 26th, the group participated once again in the annual Serve Day. Serve Day is a county-wide event where churches all go out on one morning to help volunteer in the community. This year, Ext. 777 volunteered by painting the inside of a senior center.

Our college and young adult group continues to remain active. In attempts to achieve our purpose of providing a healthy place for our age group to fellowship, relax, and grow together, we have sought the Lord's blessing on our busy schedules. We

also have aimed to use our energy (while we still have it!) to serve Him.

Our schedule is constantly updated in the schedule thread of our website: [www.ext777.proboards85.com](http://www.ext777.proboards85.com) †

### Congratulations, Grads!!

We celebrate your graduations, Graduates! Emily Luckett received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English from U.C.I. and Michelle Wong, also from U.C.I., received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. Michelle will be pursuing graduate studies in the fall. Good luck and best wishes as you go forward with your careers!



#### High School and College Graduates

*Jessica Abe, H.S.; Michelle Wong, College; James Mijares and Stephanie Low, H.S. (not in photo, Emily Luckett)*

High School graduates include Jessica Abe from Sunny Hills High School, and Stephanie Low and James Mijares from Monrovia High School. Both Jessica and Stephanie will be attending U.C.R. and they will be roommates!! Jessica has declared a major in Environmental Sciences and Stephanie in Communications. James will be matriculating at Pasadena City College with a focus on Kinesiology. Congratulations to all of you!

Junior High graduates are Alex Boyd, Jeffrey Nishikawa, and Rebecca Rogers.

Promotions from Elementary to Jr. High are Matthew Chinn, Christian Gayle, Ryan Low, Lizzie Lowe, Katie Nishikawa, Garrett Wong, and Vickie Zhang. †

### More College News

After four years at ASU, Carissa Abe will be home in Orange County. Cari has enrolled in the Graduate Program at the Southern California University of Health Sciences in Whittier. It's so good to have you home, Cari! †

## Celebrating Our Confirmands



Sunday, June 1, 2008, was an exciting day for six of our young people as they reaffirmed their vows and beliefs in Jesus Christ and His church. As their families and mentors stood with them, they were recognized and welcomed as members of the church. Confirmands in above photo: Alec Hasegawa, Scott Lee, Brandon Chinn, Jamie Yu, Karen Wong, and Rebecca Rogers, who was also baptized. †

## Our Resident Entrepreneur

Who would've "thunk" that one of our own, here at CUMC, runs a huge "Leashes and Leads" facility? High atop a hill that is visible from the highway, Nell Mitchell and her nephew, Jerry Fischer, have established "Montgomery Meadows", a Country Store and Doggy Day Care Center in Byron, Minnesota. People from all over the greater



Rochester area have made reservations for their dogs to be trained and housed in this luxury center. After seven years of research, Nell and Jerry broke ground in June of 2007 and in May 23, 2008, held a ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening. In addition to city dignitaries, six CUMC'ers and two of Nell's friends helped to celebrate. Plans for the near future include an indoor/outdoor horse arena and training center. Congratulations, Nell! †



## Father's Day

Dad's Day at Cornerstone was a hootin', tootin' EEEE-HAW, rollicking Sunday afternoon! Cornerstone Cowgals cooked and served up a delicious BBQ which the Cowkids served to their Cowboy dads. The dads especially loved their cool root beer floats! The afternoon was made extra special with music in cheer sung by all the children.



Preceding this celebration was a joyful worship service with special prayers for our Classes of 2008 and our loving dads—our Heavenly Dad and our Earthly Dads. A Women's trio had some special music for us during offertory and a special Moments with the Children was presented by Grandma Myrna Chow and grandson Ryan Low. †







## Our 2nd Annual Twilight Basketball and Family Fun Week



### A Wonderful Way to Welcome the Summer!

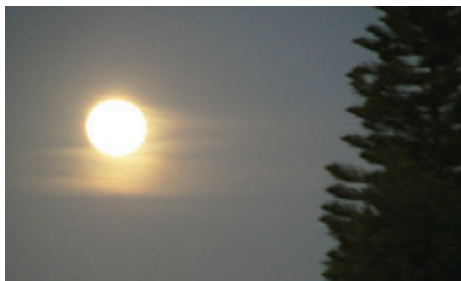
The church campus was ALIVE and GREEN during the week of June 16-20! A hundred kids, parents, and CUMC members kicked off the summer with Twilight Basketball, fun crafts, cool cooking, and cerebral sessions for parents. Amid a sea of green tee-shirts 5-12 year olds learned basketball techniques from Cornerstone coaches. They demonstrated their skills and sportsmanship on Friday night for parents

and friends. What a game it was! The cheering was deafening, and the high 5's and high 10's were being slapped with enthusiasm! For their sportsmanship, each participant received a basketball and a handsome trophy.

Basketball wasn't the only excitement on campus. If a child weren't too interested in sports, there were craft and cooking classes. Some novel creations were crafted and tasty meals and desserts were made in the kitchen. Some dishes were unique but each child tasted them and licked their lips!

There was even a Parents' Time Out! Twenty two parents attended sessions in Raising Teenagers, Raising Strong Willed Children, and Internet Safety.

The week concluded with a fabulous Hot Dog Cart Dinner. From Family Fun Week chair, John Lee, comes this sincere comment: "A special thank you to all the church members who gave their time and talents and juggled their schedules to make this event a happy and safe community outreach. I really believe the Holy Spirit is moving our church family to accomplish His good works. Thank you!" †





## HUGS (Home Under God's Spirit)

### CARPINTERIA CAMPERS' ENJOY A FOUR DAY FESTIVAL!

by Brad Chin

Our Cornerstone family fellowship group, HUGS (Homes Under God's Spirit), just returned from our annual camping adventure. We camped in tents at Carpinteria State Beach just south of Santa Barbara. There were 60+ people in all sharing the Heron group site. Most of us arrived at camp on Sat July 19, and slept in tents for 1-3 nights. Some people made a day trip to hang out with everyone without having to set up camp. This was arguably our best experience to date. We had a great turnout, a pleasant 2-3 hour drive, clean camping facilities, steps to the beach, and an abundance of food and fellowship! Each night, 3 couples would cook for 20+ people each. This gave us a tasty variety of food rather than forcing one group to cook for all 60 people and only having one main dish. The menu varied from Korean BBQ to Chow Mein, Fried Rice, Kahlua Pork, and Kevin Okada's famous Carne Asada tacos!

Highlights included beach volleyball, boogie boarding, rock painting (thanks Cheryl Hasegawa!), midnight grunion chasing, sand shoveling, strolling, sleeping, relaxing, eating, football tossing, mah jong, poker, uno, campfire karaoke, smores, etc.



And, our old friends Sheldon/Patty/Kathryn/Julia Fung drove seven hours to join us! Sheldon brought his kayak for ocean voyages. He and Al Wong entertained us with their wave-riding flip-over capsizes. In addition to the Fungs, we welcomed first-timers such as the Danny Smiths, Dan Nishikawas, Pat Gayle and Christian. Pat Gayle was the Camping Queen with her majestic, towering, Taj Mahal tent with porch and double cots. The entire group and paparazzi were dazzled by the class brought to camp by Pat and Christian. Danny and Marla Smith's tent swallowed a HUGE air mattress through its front doors like a snake expanding to eat a big ole rat. Danny also led an inspiring

devotion on Sunday morning, and distributed awesome baseball caps to everyone with the letters, "MD", on the front—which the kids decided would stand for "Mighty Disciples". You da man, Danny! Chef Dan Nishikawa whipped up some home-made fried spam rice for everyone with jovial enthusiasm and laughter.

All in all, it was an unforgettable experience. Perfect weather, virtually no flying insects (just a few friendly raccoons and squirrels), and the best people in the whole world. What more could you ask for? Cheryl Hasegawa deserves a rousing round of applause for her tremendous planning, organization, and spirit as she was indeed the heartbeat of our camp. See ya next year! †





## Cornerstone Connections

*Building Bridges in Small Groups*

### Ohana Connections

*by Randy Wong*

Our most recent activity was serving breakfast and lunch at the Parish Work Day on June 14. This was an activity that our members unanimously wanted to do because it was an opportunity to serve the members of both churches. After a morning of toil and sweat, all workers appreciated the hearty lunch. †

## Women of Cornerstone News

*by Lydia Chu*

The women of CUMC have been busy clicking their needles all spring! Six large bags of knitted and crocheted hats and scarves have been completed. All of you have been wonderful about the response, but Arleen Hasegawa deserves a medal for the "most determined"! She claimed to be "unteachable", but upon learning to knit she has produced 10 scarves, each with a different pattern!

Completed projects can be given to Helen Rogers by August 1 so the Chinese children of Threshold Ministries will get them in time for winter.

Thanks also to all of you who have helped with cutting and sewing nearly 50 large bibs for Caring Companions of Fullerton. They will be distributed to various convalescent homes in North Orange County this fall.

Lastly, with our local United Methodist Women funds, towels, utensils, bins, and a trash can have been purchased for our kitchen. Another serving cart is back ordered. The PBOT is also installing a filtered water system.

Thanks be to God for his blessings. And thank you to all for your cooperation! †



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



Jul/Aug 2008