

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 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



Mission News

by Wei-ling Louie, Chairperson

The July Mission Offering went to help some of our young military families stationed at Camp Pendleton in San Clemente. Most of these Marine families are living far from home and relatives.

The St. Andrews by the Sea UMC helps to sponsor a Military Family Outreach Program which allows communities in Southern California to become their military families' local family.

St. Andrews provide free office space for the San Clemente Military Family Outreach, a non-profit, all volunteer program.

Through this program, volunteers offer friendship, sponsor morale events, provide assistance with financial needs such as groceries, infant diapers, formula, cribs and car seats, car repairs and other emergency requests, school supplies, and counseling.

The Missions Committee is planning for Christmas already! Selina Yee has ordered 100 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes from Samaritan's Purse and they will be delivered to Church sometime in the Fall. Connection groups or individuals may contact Selina for the number of boxes they would like to fill and return them to the processing center in time for shipping.

During the months of November and December, millions of gift-filled shoe boxes are sent to Samaritan's Purse for distribution to underprivileged children around the world. Volunteers carefully inspect the shoe

boxes, remove any inappropriate items and prepare them for shipping. Volunteers must be 13 years or older. Groups work in 4 hour sessions. Several Connection Groups have already made reservations to work at the Orange County distribution center.

For more information go to: http://www.samaritanspurse.org/ind ex.php/OCC/Processing_Center/

The Orange County distribution center phone number is 714-432-7030.



Our August Mission Offering went to prepare School Kits for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). The ladies of Cornerstone went on a sewing spree and thanks to so many who also donated fabric, they cut and sewed 75 school bags. Special thanks to Lydia Chu for coordinating the seamstresses and to Katie Low who helped to gather the school supplies. We filled the bags and packed them to send to UMCOR, where they will be distributed to needy children around the world. It was fun as well as rewarding to make a difference in the life of a needy child.

Check out the following UMCOR blog for more information about where some of the school bags may be directed. Cheers for Pencils <http://media.gbpm-umc.org/umcorblog/>

FYI: We received a letter from Threshold Ministries Inc., the organization through which we support two orphans in China. They need to increase the amount of money to

Continued on page 3 – Missions



Invitation to Change

The Spirit in me greets the Spirit in you.

"Methods change...styles change...music changes..."

but the Gospel never changes!" This was the message at the recent Harvest Crusade at Angel Stadium and for those of us from Cornerstone UMC who shared space with 126,000 attendees over the 3-day event we heard this eternal message and witnessed many of the 11,969 decisions for Christ! As the Harvest Crusade celebrated its 20th anniversary, the invitation to change and begin "Day One" with Jesus Christ was given.

Not everyone who went onto the field made a first-time decision to accept Jesus Christ. I'm sure that many went to have their faith affirmed in a setting different from the "usual" church—like experiencing God differently when camping at the beach or at a youth retreat in the mountains. Nevertheless, we are all invited to change—even those of us sitting in the stands to pray for those (and ourselves) that are connecting with God again for the first time.

It is a wonderful thing to be invited, not coerced or manipulated, but truly invited to the home of someone you have looked forward to getting to know...to a party with fun people...to dinner with friends...on a date with someone who is intriguing. There is something about being invited that makes the heart glad. It means someone is seeking me out, desiring my presence enough to initiate being with me.

The invitation into a relationship with God is just that. It is an invitation to enter more deeply into the intimacy of relationship with the One who waits just outside the noise and busyness of our lives for a space within which meaningful connection can occur. It is an invitation to communication and communion with the One who is always present even when our awareness has been dulled by all the distractions of just plain living. It is an

invitation to the adventure of spiritual transformation in the deepest places of our being, an adventure that will result in greater freedom and authenticity and surrender to God than we have yet experienced.

In other words, the best is yet to come! When you accept an invitation to Home Town Buffet, there are lots of choices as soon as you walk in: salad, entrée, or dessert? My answer: Yes! In accepting Christ, there are many changes to which we are invited: thoughts, lifestyle, trust, serving. My answer: Don't be afraid to be amazing! The invitation to know God is an invitation to all of this, and the beauty of a true invitation is that we really do have a choice. We can say yes or no. God extends the invitation, but he honors our freedom and will not push himself where he is not wanted. Instead he waits for us to respond from the depths of our desire. When your invitation to change comes, I pray you will say yes.

Grace & Peace, Pastor Jerry †

What if...

What if we Rethink Church—not in terms of what it is, but what it could be? What would it look like? What if our church was a vibrant, active place where people wanted to be, not just on Sundays but all week long? What if church was not just a place to go, but something we do? What if we were to go beyond the doors of the church to serve those in the world who are in need? What if we were able to engage the world through our faith? And what if we could offer the world a dramatically new vision of the church—a vision that inspires hope, faith, and action?

What if Cornerstone UMC began to Rethink Church and started to become these things? What if you were a vital part of this new Spirit of God designed to refresh us all and our community—what would that do for you? What if we answered the questions from the Rethink Church sermon series? What if we truly responded to God's calling and connected with

those outside our doors? Would you come? I'll be looking for you.

Pastor Jerry – Find out more at www.RethinkChurch.org. †



Cornerstone Connections Building Bridges in Small Groups



Connections Group I aka Ichiban

by Myrna Chow

We have a name—Ichiban—which means Number 1 in Japanese.

The purpose of our first gathering was to get to know each other better. We had a potluck dinner at Randy and Charlene Wong's home on July 11.

After dinner, the children went upstairs to play video and Wii games while the adults continued with their meal and sat around the dining room table. Some brought pictures of their childhood, teenage years, weddings and vacations and shared hilarious stories, including how we met our spouses. The highlight of the evening was a slide show of Brad and Byung Chinn's trip to New York with their boys.

Our service project will be serving lunch for the congregation in October. Plans are being made to attend the play, "A Christmas Carol", at OCPAC in December and have dinner together after the show. We look forward to hearing more hidden tales of the past from the members of our group.

Note: Brad is missing from the picture; he left to pick up the AM/PM children who were having fun at the beach. †



Extension 777

Do you really believe that what you believe is really real? If we truly believed that God had saved us from eternal death, what would that look like? What would our lives look like? How would Christians be transforming the world if we really believed what we say we believe?

The truth is spreading and it's infectious. After Al Wong finished teaching the Truth Project, Cheryl has chosen to lead Extension 777 through the Truth Project series. They started mid-August, and we are excited to see what God has in store for transforming lives.



After spending the summer going to Six Flags, having beach outings, having a Lock-In, having delectable treats on Fridays, and enjoying time discovering God's plan, the summer is drawing to a close. School starts once again, but we pray that the last quarter of this year is filled with learning and metamorphosis!

The college group also has a new website to better meet our needs: <http://grou.ps/ext777/home>. Our schedule is listed under the "Board" tab at the top of the screen. Our meetings start weekly at 7:30pm. †



SAVE THE DATE!
Feb. 13, 14, 15, 2010

An awesome **All-Church Camp** is being planned for us! Games, fellowship, food, and just plain FUN are in store for YOU. Be sure to write "Church Camp" on your calendar. †



KFC Corner



Thank you, KFCers (present, past and future), for preparing and serving lunch in August. We were impressed with your hard work ethic, enthusiasm and that you did not run away when it came time to clean up! Awesome! This is a wonderful way to minister to our church family and glorify God!

Kimble - The tomato platter was beautiful. Great job stacking tomatoes and tearing lettuce the day before!

Austin & Garrett - You spread a mean flat mayo now, perfect, without messy edges! And you laid out the plates in the conference room with such coordination.

Kyle and Ryan L - Expert sandwich makers you are now. You lay out the lunchmeat so artfully, your moms might ask you to make your own lunches if they know your skill. Ryan, you're a skilled nacho cheese spooner. Kyle, you scooped the ice cream with such ease.

William - Expert cheese stacker, sandwich slicer and all-around willing helper, including policing the guacamole :o).

Matt & Brandon W - You mastered the perfect ratio for a sweet, tasty punch, providing ice for the coldest chilled drinks. And you smashed cookies with such gusto. The best ice cream topping!

Sophie - You are handy with the knife, comfortable slicing sandwiches, dishing out chips and trouble shooting! Good job!!

Jordan and Christina, you're both such enthusiastic helpers. What future KFCers!

You were all awesome washing up the dishes while singing and making lots of suds! If we were hiring for culinary club, you would be top choices! Can't wait till next time we serve lunch!!

We're proud of you, KFCers! †

Missions *Continued from page 1*

support each child by \$5.00 as the current sponsorship fees no longer cover the complete care needed for the children; so as of January 2010 the sponsorship for an orphan will be \$90/month and \$40/month for an outreach child. The cumulative effects of inflation and diminishing exchange rate have contributed to this increase.

Hi Everyone,

What a wonderful response to our school kits for UMCOR. We filled the 75 school bags that our ladies made and we have enough extra school supplies to fill almost 25 more bags. We have lots of extra paper and we will donate it to Placentia UMC's Community Alliance for Ruby Drive Elementary School in Placentia. Great job, Katie Low for your help in getting us all motivated to shop for the school supplies.

Lydia Chu will be getting some more fabric so the ladies can make 25 more bags and we'll make up the difference with a few more scissors and erasers and pack them up to send to UMCOR later. If any of you seamstresses want to make a few more school bags, please contact Lydia. Thank you to all for a job well done. It blossomed into a whole church effort. It was great to see everyone pitching in to help.

Blessings to all,
Wei-ling Louie †



We remember.....

Martha Lam, sister of Molly Lew and aunt of Anita Lee, who passed away on July 23, 2009.

Walter Ruckert, Patti Ruckert's dad, who entered into the presence of God on July 24th, 2009.

Ji Sheng Lu, father of Yin Lu, who passed away on August 3, 2009.

We offer our prayers of hope, love, and peace to our CUMC families and celebrate the lives of their loved ones. †

Family Fun Week 2009

by Cheryl Wong



Gotta have good coaches! Our enthusiastic and patient coaches inspired and motivated our future basketball stars!



Enthusiastic 5 and 6 year olds learned basketball skills that surprised us all!



Dribble! Pass! Watch your feet! Who had more fun-----coaches or kids?!



Would you like to be a Fire Fighter when you grow up? The Placentia Fire Department became involved in our Family Fun Week.

If you walked through Family Fun Week this year with your eyes closed, you would have heard a lot of different sounds: the thump thump thump of the basketballs on the pavement, the cheers of toddlers singing praise songs, the sizzle of pancakes on the griddle, the whirring of electric scooter motors, the words of professionals giving advice. And if you listened hard enough, you would have heard, above all of the other noises but also gently nudging, God's voice.

This year's Family Fun Weeks was the most successful of them yet. This success did not come from the record number of kids participating or from the numerous volunteers who helped manage this more efficient event. The success came from the way that God allowed Cornerstone to touch the lives of the families who were involved.

God blessed this Family Fun Week, and that is pretty much the only way to describe it. It would take too long to give details on the basketball camp, the kids crafts, the older children's cooking classes, the parent seminars, the volunteers, the opening and closing ceremonies, the slide show, the security, and so on. God took our efforts of this third time around and blessed them with families interested in finding a church home as a result of our efforts.

I thank God for His voice that spoke throughout the Family Fun Week, and I pray that it continues to bless all of the events we do here at Cornerstone. †



Mmmm! Mmmm! Mmmm! You could hear a pin drop while the Sushi Chef demonstrated how vegetables are cut for sushi making.



Family Fun Week involved CUMC young helpers who were an integral part of the staff. Here they are displaying the sunken treasure chests made by little hands.



"Security"??? C'mon, guys---enough relaxing! In reality, our Security Guards made all feel safe and protected.



Helping hands prepare healthy snacks for a hundred hungry kids, coaches, and parents.



Behind the scenes, staff members Randy Wong and Dianna Wong worked tirelessly for the success of Family Fun Week.



Excellent organization and planning made Opening Day a breeze! Seventy-six participants, 21 coaches, 26 volunteers, and 35 parents were involved in CUMC's 3rd Annual Family Fun Week.



Beads! Beads! Beads!! Great practice for eye-hand coordination for little ones with beautiful results!



Novelty cooking was the name of the game. Kids made ice cream, mint, bread and rolls, and more. After tasting and sharing, samples even went home for families to taste.

HUGS (Home Under God's Spirit)

by Brad Chinn

The HUGS ("Homes Under God's Spirit") family fellowship group just returned from our summer highlight activity: Camping! This year, we reserved the 80-person group site at Refugio State Beach near Santa Barbara. We had about 76 campers in all. Here it is in "their own words"... If you'd like to learn more about HUGS activities and studies, please contact Brad at 714-505-4650.

My favorite memory of this camping trip, what made it unique, what made me laugh, what I'd like to remember...



BRAD CHINN: I loved seeing the kids hanging out, taking pics, playing vball, jailbreak, singing, and enjoying their independence.

I hated my boogie board flip, slamming into the sand bar with my head. My neck hurts. I look like Mikhail Gorbachev.

CHERYL HASAGAWA: My fav was also seeing the kids in a circle talking, playing vb or jailbreak, digging, body surfing. Like an amoeba, they moved through the day as one. I loved seeing the giant pelicans fly in flocks and dive right out from shore, straight down, splash! to catch their dinner. KO's carne asada tacos n' homemade beans n' homemade salsa. Watching the little ones jumping the surf, laughing and challenging themselves. Most of all, I enjoyed laughing and talking with friends. Cal and Brad in seaweed soup was unique. Never saw that much seaweed before on shore!

KEVIN OKADA: Lots of Seaweed; Getting Sunburned/Tan; Getting FOUR tens in poker vs Brad's full-house; BBQ Carne Asada; 18 Pizzas

James throwing the football half a mile; dew in the morning.

ARLEEN HASEGAWA: I will remember:

...a tool box grill
...the longest truck ever
...tar on bare feet
...dolphins off the coast

YIN LU: Sound of the waves. Beach V-ball, it was so fun I would love to do again.

Sitting at the beach doing nothing and watching the sunset, the kids, and Sofie playing in the waves all day

First time I've seen the Milky Way. If Celeste didn't point it out, I wouldn't have known it.

I asked my kids to rate this camping in 1~10 scale: They both said it was 10.



CALVIN & PEGGY LOWE: We will remember:

Seaweed all over Cal-looking like the monster from the swamp

Singing at the campfire with KO and B-Rad



Losing in disgust the first night of poker, then watching in delight as Eric lost his winnings the next night!

Talking with Benny all night at the campfire

Homemade churros!

The explosions of the crashing tide with the stereophonic foam

Beach run with Peggy

Getting to know James and Stephanie better---MWAH!!!

And the kids helping break camp!!

JOHN & ANITA LEE: Remember when: Anita, I, and Christina Boyd witnessed a real legendary fisherman (Uncle Al) who did indeed hook the lips of one of the largest and most fighting ocean fish with his 25 lb test line on Friday afternoon. As fishing legend stories read however, the "big fish broke the line and got away" before anyone had a chance to see it out of the water.

Two happy moms stand next to each other with excitement and tears in their eyes as they watched the early sunset of the Saturday night bon fire where some twenty tall "teenagers" gathered in chatter when only last year they were short elementary school kids. One mom commented with a big smile, isn't "this what we lived for".

A new Anita discovery for Hugs Campers is that Johnson Baby Oil is an inexpensive remover of tar off your skin that leaves you baby soft afterwards.

A life lesson on importance of learning basic math was demonstrated

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HUGS

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before several kids, when Uncle Gary asked Uncle Calvin, "if I have a 1.2mg tablet of medicine and break it into what number of parts so I can have a 0.33 mg that I am supposed to take. The answer was correct, because Uncle Gary was still standing healthy at the time Hugs camp departed on Sunday morning!

ALEX & WENDY YU:

Haha! I agree with Brad...

The feat of Gary Low balancing a ball...AMAZING... and making it to camp (thanks to Benny) although Gary made Benny forget his sandals for the second year in a row!...priceless! Gary and Benny, it's okay to get your feet dirt...just make sure you



pass by Anita's tar removing station:)

Also, Alex and Erick attempting to go snorkeling in the ocean and seeing...lots of seaweed!!! Duh:).

Taking walks to the little caves. Watching the birds and kites flying. Roasting marshmallows and crescent rolls (Celeste's creation) with butter and cinnamon...yum! William had 5 or 6! Finding better bathrooms and showers down the hill. Karl sleeping in Ama's car in the morning. Going to sleep to the roaring sound of the ocean waves and thankfully no train whistles.

JENNIE LOW: My favorite moment was on Saturday night when I was trying to get over my throbbing headache. I wasn't able to participate in any activities except gathering around

and enjoying the company. But the chilly winds were creeping in and the fire was getting low. We were all embracing the coldness and Peggy (Bless her heart) went to the tent and grabbed a few blankets; but still the coldness was seeping into our bones. One of our dear sisters stood up with her back to the fire pit. She said "This really helps to keep me warm." Then



out of nowhere, my dear brother-in-law said (not in exact words)" HEY, DO YOU MIND MOVING OVER BECAUSE YOU ARE BLOCKING MY HEAT AND I AM COLD! I WAS WONDERING WHY I WASN'T FEELING THE HEAT. I AM SO GLAD SOMEONE IS GETTING WARM HERE." It was SO spontaneous, funny and he said it with such conviction on his face, we all busted out laughing like crazy. Well, my headache disappeared that night. WHO SAID LAUGHTER IS NOT THE BEST MEDICINE!

KEN & DI WONG: Looking at the Stars and the Milky Way

Three boys trying to use the minimum amount of quarters as possible in the shower

Brandon catching his first ocean fish
Al catching enough seaweed to fill a sushi bar

Di & I getting up at 2:00am to see how close the waves were crashing

Having Ocean Front Property
Having our tent full of Camp Fire Smoke

Sitting, Relaxing, Doing Nothing. †



(AM/PM)
A Methodist
People Machine

AMPM Youth

by Lizzie Lowe

Hello Cornerstone!!! During the summer we had many fun events, such as a beach bonfire and a lock-in!! At the lock-in we talked about relationships between a boy and a girl. We split into two groups, discussed and made a poster about what we look for in a girl or a boy. The boys made a wonderful poem for the girls and you are welcome to see it in the youth room. At that event we got closer and now have a better relationship with each other and God. Another awesome event was on August 14. We went to the Harvest Crusade to hear and sing along to wonderful Christian music at Angels Stadium. To top off the whole summer we are going to Knott's Berry Farm!!! Even though I'm not a fan of roller coasters we are going to have a fun time!! For Bible study AMPM is finishing up the series of evolution. It was a very exciting topic that taught us more about Darwin and the conflict between religion and science. We also watched a movie called Expelled No Intelligence Allowed. Professors got fired because they taught about God instead of Darwin. The series helped us understand evolution a little more. This is what we have been learning and doing in youth group, and now I hope you know more about what AMPM does. †



Bonfire event at Huntington Beach on July 11, 2009. Missing from the photo are Kevin Hayakawa, James Lowe and his friend.



From the Editor

I had no idea for an editorial this month. Nothing. Nada. My mind was a blank. So I flipped the Bible open as so many have done before me, closed my eyes and plopped my pointer finger on a page. And there it was: *"He who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin."* (Proverbs 13:3)

THAT is definitely a problem of mine. I say things off the top of my head and even as I'm saying the

words, my brain is telling me to zip my lips. Sometimes it gets me into trouble. Sometimes I can fudge a little and say something else that will cover my witless words. I remember the children's song we all learned..."be careful little mouth what you say...for the Father up above is looking down with love...be careful little mouth what you say." From childhood to senior-hood, we need to remember those lyrics.

Wise old King Solomon must have known that people like me would need sage advice about what words can and cannot do. As my Bible lays open to Proverbs 13:3, I look through both pages and find nine more bits of advice about keeping my words, tongue, and lips in check; to think about what I say, for words are a powerful tool. It would behoove me greatly to heed King Solomon's advice.

How about you? †



2050 Valencia Ave
Placentia, CA 92870-2040

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