

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)



Cornerstone
CHURCH

A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



Mission News

by Wei-ling Louie, Chairperson

Our Mission offering in May went to support several organizations. We remembered our two orphans at Threshold Ministries in China, Miao, Bao Yuan, and Liu, Yang. They sent us photos as well as hand written letters and both are doing well in school but having a more difficult time with their English Classes. Liu, Yang's best classes are Math and Chinese and Miao, Bao Yuan is very appreciative for the opportunity of living at the Threshold orphanage.

During the Memorial Day weekend, J. C. and Bessie Dear, Henry Wong, Bock Louie and I helped distribute over 1,600 Crosses and Stars of David the Loma Vista Memorial Park for the Memorial Day Ceremonies. A couple of days later, Bill and Helene Chan, Joyce and Henry Wong, Helen Rogers, Bock and I went back to help remove the crosses and stars and pack them away till next year. A small donation was made to the Fullerton American Veteran's Memorial Fund to help with the purchase and upkeep of flags and crosses.

We also made a donation to the Family Service Network located in Placentia. This group helps needy families with children who have special needs by providing access to early screening and intervention for developmental, behavioral, emotional, social and other "at risk" conditions in children ages 0 through 5.

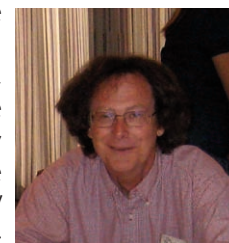
Our Mission donation in June was directed to Ben Yu, our former Youth Director who is now a pastor of the

San Gabriel Presbyterian Church. Ben is going on a mission trip to Cameroon in August. We not only support Ben with our prayers and thoughts but with some financial help for medical supplies, Biblical materials and travel expenses as he will be leading Pastors' Training Sessions in Cameroon.

Thank you to everyone at Cornerstone for being so supportive of our Missions Projects. Pastor Jerry accepted a Certificate of Appreciation at Annual Conference for Cornerstone's full participation in the United Methodist Church's Apportionment and Missionary support. †

A Musical Message Through Song and Spirit

Cornerstone was honored with a unique, uplifting service on Father's Day by Pastor Lee Domann, a singer/songwriter/storyteller with the Untied Methodist Church. "Don't Worry...Be Happy" and "Have a Good Day!" are words we often hear. But do we sincerely and honestly mean those words we so often say? Pastor Lee sang his sermon telling of the "days in the life" of his own father, his life on the farm, and most importantly, how we must live TODAY with acceptance that leads to acts of kindness. Trust, Faith, and Tolerance are the keys to living the day that God has given us. †



New Life

It's summertime! Time for RV's, road trips and just relaxing at home. New Life Bible Studies will not be meeting during the summer but will resume in the fall. †



Rethink Church

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

Have you ever gone on "auto pilot" and then discovered that it was time for a course correction? I have—and I'm quite sure that I'm not the only one who had to stop and re-think the way we've always done things. So, beginning in July we will begin a 12-part Sunday message series to Rethink Church.

In 2001, The United Methodist Church (UMC) began declaring to the world that "our hearts, our minds, and our doors are open." I was fortunate to have been part of the developing process in Nashville that was known as the "Igniting Ministries Campaign." But now it's time to take it to the next level. If you haven't noticed, there's a newer and bolder generation in our midst—Generation Next." You may have noticed their presence in their themes on Youth Sunday and Ext. 777 Sunday—no longer just a Veggie Tales skit! These emerging adults are yearning for a faith to believe in and live for. They are a generation that believes that actions speak louder than words.

In Matthew 28:18-20, God commissioned the Church to lead the way to life transformation but we've been missing the mark. We have not addressed the invisible, unspoken, spiritual needs of the men and women in our communities of faith who are seeking hope and new life. Millions of disillusioned people have walked away from virtually every Christian denomination; the Good News is not being spread and the mission of the Church is not being accomplished.

The UMC is taking "Igniting Ministries" to the next level by having every congregation "Rethink Church" as a lifestyle and a conversation, not a program. So, this summer we will revisit many foundational aspects of our church, just as we took a deeper look at our personal lives and relationships in the One Month to Live

Lenten series.

It's hard to compete with the world—not everyone gets to be in first place. Or second. But what about third? Last year, the CEO of Starbucks re-established the company's commitment to being America's "third place." What's with that? With a different perspective, "third place" is a good thing: if there are, indeed, three primary places in our lives—work, home, and community—then our churches certainly could occupy that third place, a place where people could feel at home. I believe that Cornerstone UMC needs to create this kind of third place not only for our newest guests but also for all of our guests, returning friends, and members. If first impressions are about connection, lasting impressions are about relationships.

As we Rethink Church, I ask that you pray with me not just for Cornerstone UMC, but our entire denomination with whom we are connected, as we open up ourselves to the Spirit of Pentecost and allow a fresh wind to breathe a new breath into us.

Grace & Peace, Pastor Jerry †

Welcome to our New Member!



A big Cornerstone "WHOO HOO" to Judy Haya-kawa! Judy has been attending Cornerstone for three years and on May 24, 2009, took the big step to become an official Cornerstonian! Welcome, Judy! We love that you have found a home with Cornerstone. May God always bless this big decision you have made. †

Good-bye! Hello!



After serving as volunteer Church Secretary for 16 years, Anita Lee is retiring. It will be strange not to have her around

when there are a myriad of questions we need answers to! Anita, you will never imagine how much you will be missed. You've served under two pastors and oversaw our transition to our present campus. You know where everything is kept and you know everything that's going on with Cornerstone. You've organized conferences and printed out pamphlets and booklets. Even when we need a marker or a box of tissue, you magically produce them with a reach of your arm. It would take a whole page to acknowledge everything you do! We will miss you, Anita. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts and wish you Godspeed.



Hello to Sheree Low! Sheree is no stranger to the workings of Cornerstone. Sheree was a teenager when she first came to Cornerstone. She's been active ever since her AMPM years, then HUGS, and serving on the Administrative Board in numerous capacities. In addition she is mentoring Kids' For Christ and juggling a career. Her organizational skills, dedication, and pleasant demeanor will help us through anything that Cornerstone encounters. We welcome you, Sheree, as our new Church Secretary! †

Congratulations Graduates!!

June always brings milestones in our lives. We honor our three Cornerstone Graduates of 2009! Pictured above are: Crystal Lee from Valencia High School, Amy Wong from Esperanza High School, and Taylor Hughes from Walnut High School. Congratulations and Blessings



for your future! We are proud of you! †



From the Editor

Most of you know my "bucket list" – to see all 7 Wonders of the World. This spring, a group of us journeyed to China and saw and did extraordinary things. Perhaps it's because I'm fast approaching my 7th decade that I feel the need to fulfill lifelong dreams. While some people think that this is the time to slow down, I have found a renewed sense of energy, purpose, and yes, even urgency, greeting me at the door to my 7th decade.

Our group of 13 traveled by taxi, short buses, train, and plane to the innards of China, visiting the villages, schools, farms, and factories. A city guide would greet us in each locale to "show and tell". Each guide spoke impeccable English, was well dressed, very articulate and intelligent, and socially mature for a 20-something. Whenever I had the opportunity to have private conversations, I would ask how communism had an effect on their lives. Every one of them gave the same answer!! They are taught to obey their government. They believe what they were taught as youngsters and do not see the need to question. Although there were numerous temples and we observed people bowing and burning incense to honor their ancestors, that seemed to be the extent of their spirituality.

On the other hand, Christianity in China is budding and blooming. There are little pockets of "churches" especially in the larger cities. A friend, a retired Pastor, travels to China, Germany, and France to disciple the Chinese people. He conducts seminars at people's homes and teaches them how to teach others. They are hungry for the Word. They are eager to learn of this man called Jesus. Mostly, they love that Jesus loves and accepts them.

So now there is one more "wonder" to add to my bucket list. I've scratched off the Great Wall and will add: To see Christianity in full bloom and recognized by the Chinese government. †

A CUMC Father's Day

Father's Day Worship at CUMC was special indeed. Dads were serenaded by moms with "It Takes A Special Man", a tune created by Arleen Hasegawa. Fifteen strong chil-



dren's voices rang with "DoReMi", a joyful, fun song especially for dads. Not to be outdone by what the dads



feted moms with last month, the women put a superlucious feast on the



table for the dads. Beautifully decorated tables made the food taste all the better. Our dads are very special at CUMC!! †



Confirmation Sunday

May 31, 2009 will be a day to remember for our eight young Confirmands. They were nurtured as growing Christian disciples through their Confirmation Class with Pastor Jerry. Our eight young people who reaffirmed their faith in Jesus Christ were: Matthew Chinn, Christian Gayle, Kevin Hayakawa, Elizabeth Lowe, Jeffrey Nishikawa, Alina Viera, Kevin Wong, Victoria Zhang. †

Magical Mother's Day



Each year the Cornerstone Men magically (which means hard work) honor Cornerstone Moms with a superb luncheon and fine entertainment. This year was no different. The



Mens Choir provided music during the worship service and to top it off, Dads Alex Yu and Dan Nishikawa gave a stirring rendition of "Just the Way You Look Tonight." †





Extension 777

By Cheryl Wong

Get Uncomfortable!!!

The words were everywhere. Not only in our minds, but also our hearts. Extension 777 prepared ourselves for leading service on May 24, 2009 to present the idea to the congregation that God calls us to get uncomfortable in order for His greater purpose.



Extension 777 would like to thank everyone who helped participate in the amazing service. God certainly took our words and our efforts blessed them.

We pray that Cornerstone continues to get uncomfortable for Him and continues to stretch themselves into the person that He wants them to be. We'd like to give all the credit to God for His support, His love, and His words that day. We couldn't have done it without His blessing.



Of course, we can't forget all of those who helped us along the way. BIG thanks to Amy Wong and Crystal Lee for being those vital parts in our skit. A thanks goes out to Kat, who did the cover of our bulletin. We'd like to thank everyone who helped with the sound, powerpoints, and bulletin during the week before. Our team of five was very much helped by your assistance! We'd like to give a big thanks to all who supported us,



especially Pastor Jerry for his guidance and for "watching our backs."

A video taping of our skit is not on the Internet at this time, but for those who would like to watch what inspired us, visit this link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cyheJ48oLYA>

Extension 777 will start studying the Truth Project late this summer, so come join us if you weren't able to start the project the first time around!



Now college group is looking forward to the summer. We're focusing on building community this summer and welcoming in our new graduates. Our summer schedule is available on our message board (www.ext777.pro boards85.com). We're looking forward to going to the beach, going to Six Flags, having themed snack Fridays, and more! †



Cornerstone Connections

Building Bridges in Small Groups

Connection Group 8 is actively underway. May Quon coordinated a Caring Project during the month of May and plans for the future include participating at a Parish Work Day. Way to go, Group 8!!

No-Name Yet Group 1 will be eating, drinking, fellowshiping, and gaming at the home of Randy and Charlene Wong. According to Chairs Yin and Myrna, great plans are in store for a wonderful new year of connecting. †



(AM/PM)
A Methodist
People Machine

AMPM Youth

by Lizzie Lowe



Hello CUMC!

I am so excited and happy to be talking about AMPM. This is my first time writing in a newsletter. So here it goes! If anyone didn't know, AMPM has been split into two groups. For high school its A.M.M.O, (A Mighty Methodist Organization) and for junior high it's GPS Highway to Heaven. These two groups have just started the evolution series. It's going to be a fun and awesome time to learn about this topic. On Sunday, May 31, we celebrated Pentecost!! This is when we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after his Ascension, when Jesus went to Heaven. It was also Confirmation Sunday. Alina Viera, Kevin Hayakawa, Kevin Wong, Matthew Chinn, Vickie Zhang, Jeffrey Nishikawa, and Elizabeth Lowe are now members of the church! Now you know what AMPM has been doing! †



On February 6th, the AMPM Youth group went rock climbing at Rock City in Anaheim. It was a great night of hanging from ropes and racing each other to see who could climb the fastest and the highest. †

CUMC Ladies Day

by Byung-Mee Chinn

The ladies of Cornerstone went on our yearly outing, this time to Tustin. Our day started with a delicious Dim Sum brunch in Orange. Then we went



on a home tour sponsored by Tustin Historic Society. There were many home decor and gardens to admire.



We even saw a home where the owners were raising chickens in their backyard! I don't know how many of our ladies were inspired by that. It was a lot of walking all over Old Tustin, but a great way to burn off the all food we ate at Dim Sum. Of course a day out with the ladies cannot be complete without a shopping trip. We



went to "The District" in Tustin where we sipped coffee and rested before going on our shopping adventure. Some of the ladies found great deals, especially on shoes. Our ladies are the best bargain hunters! We ended the day at a nice seafood restaurant where everybody ordered their favorite fish. If you missed this year's jaunt, hope you can join us next year! †

HUGS (Home Under God's Spirit)

by Brad Chinn

The HUGS family fellowship group sponsored the annual "CUMC Ladies Day" on May 2nd. That event is covered in another article. By the time you are reading this, the "CUMC Men's Day" would also have happened on Sat June 13. About 8 guys will have raced electric cars at K1 Speed on a private indoor race track. Another 10 men will have joined up for a BBQ dinner at Randy Wong's home, followed by low-stakes poker, movies and video games. Details aren't known at the time of this writing, but it's sure to have been a good time!



On Sun May 31, our college group (Ext. 777) joined HUGS at outdoor laser tag in Huntington Beach Central



Park. Three hours of non-stop family fun, laser tag team games in the trees, such as "snipe a target that the other



team knows to protect" and "snipe a target that the other team doesn't know to protect", or just "laser tag shoot as many people as possible until they run out of lives". Over 25 adults

and kids participated, followed by a pizza dinner together.



Al & Celeste Wong continue to lead everyone through the exciting "Truth Project" series (www.truthproject.org)—open to everyone! We're learning the truth of God's existence and purpose, through the study of topics from Science, History, Sociology, and more! We're reminded of His incredible, intelligent design in everything around us - that cannot possibly be attributed to random "chance". DNA, circulatory systems, social orders, and chicken eggs! Yes... chicken eggs! Ask someone about that.

We're approaching one of our biggest activities of the year...CAMP-ING at Refugio State Beach near Santa Barbara.

If you'd like to learn more about HUGS activities and studies, please contact Brad at 714-505-4650. †

Pentecost Sunday



Cornerstone celebrated Pentecost Sunday with a release of beautiful red balloons heavenward. Pentecost Sunday is celebrated on the 50th Day after Easter, commemorating the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles in Jerusalem. As we rejoice in the presence of God through the Holy Spirit, we also commit ourselves to become stronger mission witnesses to God's world of peace and love. †

Joslyn's Bridal Shower



Elegant!
Beautiful!
Creative!
Such were the
comments
as CUMC ladies
entered our

plain old fellowship hall into what was transformed into an elegant, beautiful, and creatively decorated party room. The elegance was to honor Joslyn Owyang with showers of love, recipes for favorite dishes,



and messages of "advice" for marriage and home building. There was much laughter and joy in celebrating Joslyn's upcoming marriage to Ian



McHenry. The eye-catcher in the room was the fountain of luscious chocolate cascading into a chocolicious pool for dipping a variety of fruits. Mom and Dad Owyang (Jerry and



Julie) shared in the merriment by sitting with Joslyn in honored seats as the celebration progressed. Congratulations, Best Wishes and Blessings to the bride and groom! †

China Memories

by Lydia Chu

On our family trip to China in May, we had the wonderful opportunity to spend some time with my oldest sister's descendants. These two special days were the highlight of our 2 week trip. Between their limited English and my limited Chinese we were able to communicate sufficiently to have made for a pleasant family reunion.

Dick and I were able to see the contrast between the homes my relatives have now and the home they lived in 25 years ago. When we visited my sister in Hom Dun village, Xinhui (south-west of Guangzhou) in 1984 she, her husband and their family of 4 lived in a house that was shared with several other families. The square building had 4 bedrooms on each side, the kitchen had a wood burning stove, and all the rooms opened into a living/storage area. There was a dirt floor, the walls were exposed gray brick, and they had no electricity. A basket dangled overhead for the leftover food. That house, occupied now by distant relatives, looks the same today.

While walking through this village we noticed that every available plot of land is used for growing vegetables (bitter melon, squash, beans, lettuce), and fruit trees (lichee, longan). There is a pond meandering through the village.

Now my two nephews have separate homes next to each other in another part of the same village. Their houses have drywall, the floors are tiled, and the kitchen stoves have burners that use propane. They have big TVs. Their bathrooms have flush toilets, though they are of the "squat" variety!

My sister and her husband were farmers 25 years ago; now there is a teacher and a nurse among their grandchildren.

As I compare our trip in May to what we observed on our first trip, this area of China has experienced tremendous development and industrialization. Where we previously had to take a ferry across the Jiangmen River from Guangzhou to Xinhui City, now there is a sleek modern bridge for motorists. It used to be a bumpy gravel road into the villages; there are now paved roads. In addition to walking, biking and public buses, my rela-

tives can now ride their motorbikes to get to where they're going. None of them owns a car yet!

I'm reminded that for many of us, our parents were pretty brave to come to the United States, a strange country, without knowledge of the language, to make a living and raise a family here. And we're the fortunate recipients of that legacy!

Special thanks to my church friends (Bill & Helene Chan, JC Dear, Stacey & Steven Wong) who patiently answered my many questions about Chinese dialects and Cantonese culture. †

New Faces

by May Quon



Perhaps
you have
noticed two
new faces at
Cornerstone.

Leland and Lily Yee introduced their friends William and Selene Lee one Sunday and since then, we have learned some interesting facts about them. The Lees moved to Cerritos from the San Fernando Valley in August, '08 and very quickly became part of the community when William volunteered as a SCORE counsellor. SCORE stands for Service Corps of Retired Executives which is one of the links under the Small Business Administration. William has had a wide range of experiences, from an engineer at Litton Industries to a successful restaurateur. Ask him about the celebrities who frequented his restaurant! He has just recently earned his real estate license and is contemplating writing a book. No retirement for this retiree!

Selene worked alongside William in the restaurant business, as did two of their four children. She still serves as an interpreter for the Interview Services of America conducting surveys via telephone. Selene came to the U.S. from Hong Kong when she was 17 years old. The Lees are ultimate grandparents, babysitting their 9 month old grandbaby. Occasionally, they return to their church in the Valley but have felt so welcomed here at CUMC that they go back less frequently! They've enjoyed meeting CUMC'ers and were disappointed when New Life went on summer hiatus! Welcome, William and Selene! †



Four "C" in Life

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Christ Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pray together- Worship God together- Study the bible- Focus on Jesus Christ <p>(Be kind, patient, giving, forgiving, considerate, humble, caring, serving and compassionate)</p> <p>2. Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Listen to each other.- Use "I" instead of "you"- Do not criticize each other over the little things- Do not fester over the past- Communicate the positives, not the negatives- Use gentle, thoughtful, considerate tone of language | <p>3. Compliment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sincerely compliment each other- No matter how little, share your thankfulness- Show appreciation and gratitude every day- Count your blessings <p>4. Cuddle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hug each other every day- Hold each other as much as possible- Look into each other's eyes lovingly- Smile, Hug, Hug- Love and Cuddle, Cuddle, Cuddle |
|---|--|

Shared at Joslyn Owyang's Bridal Shower