

cornerstone news

praises announcements news updates information prayers

*How Great
Thou Art*

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)
(*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
cell: 714-482-7590

Kay Lee, Newsletter Editor
Audrey Yee, Assistant to Editor



Missions

There are many opportunities to help in the area of Missions. Our Ohana family connections recommended The Center for a Brand New Day as a recipient for our Church's August Mission offering and also donated the proceeds of the luncheon.

We've also had some members indicate an interest in helping to build houses for Habitat for Humanity, which has a local Orange County office in Santa Ana. Currently there are 4 families in Anaheim and 2 families in Fullerton awaiting houses. Groundbreaking for the Fullerton House was in July. The next Habitat New Volunteer orientation will be held on Tuesday, Sept 4, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sisters of St Joseph College, 480 Batavia, Orange. If any of you are interested in attending, please contact Wei-ling Louie.

Other Mission opportunities

- Danny Smith—**Purple Ark** needs volunteers to prepare and pack lunches for the homeless as well as donations of toiletries and hygiene products.
- Cold weather will be coming and blankets will be needed for the Homeless. **Any sewers or knitters available to start making blankets?**

Thank you again to everyone for their generous donations of time and resources to Missions. †

Serving with Gladness



by Stacey Wong, Jr.

On Saturday, August 11th, 47 church members and friends spent an hour and a half picking vegetables for the Second Harvest Food Bank. For our second annual gleaning adventure, we again went to the Incredible Edible Park in Irvine to glean the produce fields. We picked over 2,000 pounds of zucchini, butternut squash, cucumbers, and green beans. Our harvest that day should provide about 8,000 meals to hungry people in Orange County. Although the weather was warm and the squash plants were prickly and a bit itchy, it was a rewarding experience to be serving the Lord and working in the fields that He has tended. I praise God for the daily bread that He provides each and every day, and for those caring hearts who braved the heat to help feed the hungry. †

Extension 777 (College Group)



Don't miss the
Basketball Game of the Year.
Ext. 777 vs. HUGS. Oct. 20, 2007,
7pm, Cornerstone Sports Court.
Tickets \$2.00 each. All profits go
to the Building to Bless Fund.
For more info: contact Cheryl Wong
(missweird13@yahoo.com)



A New Perspective

The Spirit in me greets the Spirit in you.

No one likes to be stereotyped, categorized, or generalized because it diminishes our individuality and uniqueness. When the Bruce Lee movies and Kung Fu TV series were popularized in the '70s, many expected me to be an expert in the martial arts! And with tongue-in-cheek humor, I used to say that I wanted to break the stereotype that all Asians were "Straight-A" students—and I succeeded!

The risk we take in stereotyping is living the "been there, done that, got the T-shirt" attitude, especially when it comes to ministry. This then results in dangerous tunnel vision—missing out on something new. In the endless supply of religious advertising (e.g., the next great evangelistic tool, hip worship, the wannabe megachurch formula, etc.) that comes across my desk, it's easy to become not so much jaded but ambivalent about church and ministry. Perhaps Solomon the Wise was right when he said, "There ain't nothin' new under the sun" (Ecc. 1:9).

What we need, then, is a new perspective. How do we get a new view of an old thing, namely church? What will it take for us to see with new eyes the opportunities around us in our people, the community, and everywhere God's Spirit is moving? Sometimes a new perspective comes from merely looking at the old thing from a different angle. At the HUGS Camping trip, Julie brought a game called Boggle. You shake the letter cubes into a tray and have 3 minutes to spell as many words as possible with contiguous letters. After a minute, I crane my neck (I'm not allowed to touch the tray!) to get a new perspective—I see words that I didn't see before. A new perspective is huge (and scores more points in the game)!

Ever feel depressed about life and then visit someone in the hospital? Spiritual retreats (even in prison) often seems like a big investment of time and budget, but they can be invaluable and lifesaving to a ministry

or a marriage. Even a vacation can give us a new view of life—last month while celebrating our wedding anniversary in Hawaii, I read The Gospel According to Starbucks that pointed out how too many of us line up for God out of duty or guilt and that we completely miss the warmth and richness of the experience of living with God. Oh, if only we'd learn to see with a new perspective what God is doing on earth and especially in our churches, we could participate fully in the irresistible life that he offers!

How have you experienced our worship gatherings these past few months? Have they been meaningful? Has the Song of Reflection after the message helped you ponder a little bit more deeply about your role in the community in which God has placed you? We live in a time that requires new views so we don't look out with glazed eyes. So, try to notice what a newcomer might see and experience at our church—and how you might help that person connect and have a sense of belonging with God through this church. And try sitting in a different seat up front—you might get a new perspective!

Grace & Peace, Pastor Jerry †

A Musical Sunday



You've heard of the Four Preps, the Four Seasons, and the Four Debs. But have you heard of the "Four Guys"? They appeared in person, in concert, on center stage just for us at Cornerstone! Singing "a capella" is not easy; but they made it sound easy! Also appearing during the lunch hour was an enthusiastic praise band from south county performing for an appreciative audience. These musicians are friends of Pastor Jerry's who said they'd do "anything" for their good friend, including singing on Pastor and Julie's 10th anniversary! †

Beauty in a 6 x 6 Tile

by Cheryl Hasegawa



TILE PROJECT

We thank the many of you who had the chance to paint tiles last month as part of our Classroom Beautification Project. The tiles are now fired and ready for mounting on the classroom walls around the patio area. Not only will your tiles brighten up our church, they will also reflect a wonderful spirit of community with our partners at PUMC who initiated the project, and whose tiles will sit side by side with ours! Thanks for bringing your personal and creative ideas to your tiles.



Have you noticed the transformation of the classrooms, thanks to the leadership of Melanie Palmer and Bonnie Heffner and the labor of many members? The classrooms have a fresh coat of soft sage green and cream with colorful and creative murals, the floors are being transformed, chairs have been reupholstered (thanks to our Clarice and friends), cubbies are being built, and much more. God has blessed us with a partnership in friends at PUMC, where we share a vision of hope and joy in our church home. Each of you took part in this vision when you painted a tile for our community wall! Thanks †



**From our
Guest
Editor
Nell
Mitchell**

ANTICIPATION!

What an exciting, breathtaking word. Anticipatory action is even more exciting and breathtaking. John 4:24 says "God is spirit, and His worshippers must worship in spirit and in truth." How we worship Him is far more important than where we worship Him. God is not limited to one physical place, but He may be worshiped anywhere as He is present everywhere.

Consider how we worship God for a moment. The Holy Spirit is willing and waiting to help us worship. Romans 8:26 says "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express." As we collectively join together in the sanctuary to worship God, and quiet our hearts, minds and still our mouths, the Holy Spirit is interceding for us! Think about this—it is very powerful. We can anticipate the presence of the Holy Spirit as He intercedes for us and prepares our hearts and minds for the message Pastor Jerry has been led to prepare—FOR US.

However, if we do not quiet our hearts and minds and still our mouths, we may very well miss the presence of the Holy Spirit in our worship service and miss much of the message from Pastor Jerry.

Instead, let's anticipate our congregation worshipping "the Lord in the splendor of his holiness." (1Chr. 16:29) †



Cornerstone Connections

Building Bridges in Small Groups

OHANA CONNECTIONS 1

Ohana Connections Group 1 provided a Mexican lunch as part of their mission outreach to the "Center for a Brand New Day" a non profit organization that helps the mentally disabled in Garden Grove.

The Center provides the extras that we hope bring some pleasure, challenge and spark to what can be very uneventful and often isolated days in the lives of those who participate. There are classes in arts and crafts, computers, current events, math, language skills and outings into the community. Lunches are available twice a week and there is a mini-market to purchase sandwiches and drinks. We have a "clothing closet" and a weekly "food closet," through the Orange County Food Bank.

Richard and Pam and their volunteer friends have made a significant difference in the lives of approximately 80 mentally ill patients. We see smiles and openness where often there was distrust. We see hugging and greeting where often there was withdrawal and we see eagerness for expressing new ideas. We see members encouraging and supporting one another. We see friendships growing. For many, the center provides the reason to get up in the morning and a destination where they feel safe and welcomed.

Your generous contributions have brightened the lives of the mentally disabled in the Garden Grove community. We praise God and thank you for your generous contributions!

CONNECTIONS 3

PICNIC IN THE PARK

The Cornerstone Connection Group 3 had a picnic at the Turtle Rock Community Park in Irvine. If you are ever in the area, you should check it out. It has a playground, sand volleyball, softball diamond, a nature

center along with a nature walk, a stream with crawfish and guppies. It is very clean and 'woodsy' with a lot of picnic tables. Our next project will be in November to help with Operation Christmas Child. †

Cooking the "RIGHT" Stuff



We all love it, but who knows how to make it? Clarice Lew—that's who! And now we all do. Twenty hungry ladies with sticky hands kneaded, rolled, stuffed, fried, and ate delicious chien doi. Clarice demonstrated the techniques and made it look so easy! There's nothing like hot, fresh chien doi! It was a wonderful day of food and fellowship at Pam and Rich Fitch's home. To top off a fun day, Pam served us all a wonderful lunch in their beautiful, tropical backyard. †



New Lifers

OK, New Lifers—get your clapping hands and tapping feet ready for a hilarious musical written just for us! On **Saturday, October 6, at 2:00 p.m.** you are invited to the La Mirada Theatre show "Too Old for the Chorus" with dinner following at the China Star Buffet. Invite your friends to an afternoon of entertainment and introduce them to this crazy but oh-so-nice bunch of seniors. For specifics, see Pam, Ruth, or Kay. Reservations must be in by **TODAY!!** †



KFC Corner



by
Kimberly
Low

Hi my name is Kimberly Low and I'm 11 years old. I graduated from Plymouth Elementary School at the end of July of this year and now I am going to middle school where I get to meet new friends and learn new things. Attending a new school that I am not too familiar with is exciting and scary at the same time, but I am looking forward to a new change.

The things that I like to do everyday is to go jogging with my dog Bear, swimming at the community pool at YMCA, reading adventure books, playing Runescape on the computer and emailing my friends and family.

I love attending church because I like seeing my cousins Katie and Ryan, Uncle Gary, Auntie Sheree, Uncle Henry and Auntie Sherrie. I love learning about God, stories in the bible and playing with my church friends too!

When I grow up, I want to be either a heart or an eye surgeon. Who knows...? I might change my mind when I get much older like when I'm in high school (now that's old!). †

A New Lifer Activity

by Ed Joe

Because of the hard work, skill and craftsmanship of Clarice, Sen, Victor, Bill and Helene Chan, Nell, Virginia, Ruth and Eddie, Stacey and Steve, Mabel and Ed, Cornerstone has six chairs that have been re-uphol-



stered to look like new and are more comfortable to sit on. These "New Lifers" spent about 4 to 5 hours reworking the original chair into the professional-looking upholstered chairs. Clarice spent much more time in reworking two other chairs on her own. Victor, a re-upholstering instructor, and Clarice were instrumental in organizing and performing the actual stretching and stapling of the fabric to the chairs. The other New Lifers helped in preparing and reassembling the chairs. We invite everyone to take a peak in room #1 and see the beautiful results of their efforts. †



HUGS Summer Camp at Silverwood Lakes

EXCERPTS FROM HUGS JOURNAL

From the Hasegawas HUGS 2007 Camping trip. What a fun adventure into real wilderness! Frogs in the shower, ants in the sleeping bag, protecting our beef stew from swarming persistent hornet/bees, gale force winds at the shore (but we still played VB). As always, Alec and I have AWESOME memories laughing it up with all of you, singing, playing games, eating (I'll let my brother cook), adventuring on the water, fishing (awesome Al and Ed!). Alec will proudly show his fishing merit badge counselor photos of his prize catches! And how fun that Lisa, Garrett, Shane and Lauren got to join us for a real initiation into camping, Lisa has earned the woman warrior award.

Sheree Low writes: It started out scary with bees and desolate places to pitch a tent, but it turned out fun... as usual! Thanks everyone for the great company, for completely misinterpreting my "10... 9... 8..." countdown, for more fun memories. My mouth is still watering over Kevin O's carne asada! I'm happy 'cause Gary said I'll never have to camp alone again. He's getting ready for next year!

Lisa and Garrett Sato wrote: We are so thankful to all of you for your hospitality and kindness. Thank you Cheryl for inviting us along and for your help and encouragement. The trip was amazing! You all are so wonderful...as Brad said...we feel like we've know you all for years! Now that you helped us overcome our camping fears, you won't be able to get rid of us. We're already looking forward to joining you again on another camping adventure!

From the Brad Chinns: Thank you, Ed, for the everlasting firewood, the fishing boat, and your presence. Thank you, Thuy, for your awesome card games and tasty fried rice. Thank you Garrett & Lisa for joining us. Wow! Most of us only knew you for about, oh, ONE DAY. But by the end, we felt like we knew you for years. We love ya! Thank you, Al, for taking everyone out in your boat and for my tasty midnight snack of fish and more fish.

From Ed and Thuy Chang: Thuy and I want to thank the Church for having us. We had a great time camping and fishing. It was also great to be around great friends who never, ever give-up on one another. God works in mysterious ways.

From Ken: We just want thank you all for the memorable time.

1st thank you God for making this possible,

- thanks to the coordinators, the food was great,
- thanks to music and sing along,
- thank to the amazing kids and their talents and outgoingness,
- thanks for fishing secrets,
- thanks to Bees, I would never knew how to make a fly trap. †

HUGS Summer Camp at Silverwood Lakes – July 29-31, 2007

A wonderful time was had by all who attended HUGS Summer Camp. These snapshots tell the whole picture.!



Building Committee Progress Report

by Tom Schofield

On August 2nd, the JPC approved Elite Building Services (EBS) to be the Contractor for our Phase 2 project. August and September will be spent approving final drawings as well as getting proper permits approved by the City of Placentia. Our target date to start construction will be the week of October 15th.



The JP Building Committee and the JP Trustees are working together so we are prepared to handle the closing of the kitchen and Restroom areas with minimal disruption to both churches activities and programs during the 4th quarter.

The Congregations will be kept informed as we progress in the upcoming weeks with our preparation work. This project is one that needs to be done as our restrooms

need to be brought up to AD code as well as needed expansion in both areas.

A major step has been taken by obtaining a qualified Contractor. Now we can earnestly begin to plan around the construction activity so we can keep the Church Activities and programs ongoing.

We ask for your continued prayers and support as we embark on this three month "re-model" project. †



2050 Valencia Ave
Placentia, CA 92870-2040

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



Aug/Sep 2007