



FirstChristianNews

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH HOLLYWOOD
A CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the
mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar
and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

– PSALM 46:1-2

JOIN US IN PERSON OR WATCH SERVICES ON [YOUTUBE](#) OR [FACEBOOK](#).

Check out recent service streams and more at www.fccnh.org.



Letter to the Family

One of my favorite things to do as we turn the page for a new year is to start fresh with new manila folders. I enjoy the entire process of closing out the old year by going through the folders to see what the previous year held. I think about the surprises, disappointments, and successes. I take a moment to see how the cabinet that used to be full of thick, bursting folders is now barren, yet fertile with possibilities.

I take time to pray over those empty folders as they will hold what I deem to be important enough to keep. As I think about our congregation, I think about how we will turn 100 years young this year! I wonder how we will mark this time with celebrations, remembrances, service opportunities, fellowship, and more. I am not one to think that everything is preordained. For me, as the saying goes, we don't know what the future holds, but we know Who holds it. I would add that we know Who holds us through it all - whatever may come.

I wonder what the future holds for you. How do you feel about those empty file folders? How do you feel about turning over the old ones? Do you know Who holds the future and us through it all?

I believe that we can have a huge impact on what goes into those folders as vital enough to keep. Most importantly, I want to do it with you. I want to be with you as we seek to make 2024 meaningful, not just

for ourselves, but for our neighbors who desperately need Good News amid the world that seems to be full of bad news that could fill up libraries of those folders.

As I think about this new year, I hope that we can embody the spiritual, "Balm in Gilead." I believe that there is still a balm in Gilead, as well as in each of our lives. We are called to embody that balm. I hope that our folders are full of stories of how we helped to heal the world!

Together,

Pastor Jonathan

Senior Pastor

100
FCCNH
 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

SAVE the DATE FCCNH TURNS 100!

During the weekend of Sunday, September 8, we will celebrate our church's 100th anniversary. We are still working on the details of that weekend, but we hope that you will keep your calendar clear for this sacred time! - Pastor Jonathan



10AM SUNDAY
JANUARY 7, 2024

Will You Choose to Reach Out?

TEXT: MARK 1:40-45

Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall, Senior Pastor

What makes you extremely upset? This is our story from Mark 1:40-45. Jesus is extremely upset/angry. Some versions of the Bible read it as "Jesus had pity..." or "Jesus felt sorry...". However, those versions fail to connect with the emotion of Jesus in our story this week.

The issue after experiencing being upset or angry is whether you will do anything about it. In our story, Jesus "chooses" to do something about it. We hope to see you this Sunday as we dig into a story for those of us who are wondering if we can make a difference. Pastor Jonathan's sermon is entitled "Will You Choose to Reach Out?"

JOIN US IN PERSON OR WATCH SERVICES ON [YOUTUBE](#) OR [FACEBOOK](#). Check out recent service streams and more at www.fccnh.org.



Mark those calendars, families - Our FCCNH Summer Camps for 2024 are back to give your kids fun and educational activities right here on campus

JUNE 10 - JUNE 14

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

JUNE 17 - JUNE 21

MUSICAL THEATRE

JUNE 24 - JUNE 28

MARTIAL ARTS

JULY 1 - JULY 5

COOKING

JULY 8 - JULY 12

ART

JULY 15 - JULY 19

PHOTOGRAPHY

Don't forget Loch Leven Camps too! Located at the beautiful Loch Leven facility in the San Bernardino mountains.

JUNE 23 - JUNE 28

CYF CAMP (GRADES 9-12)

JULY 7 - JULY 12

CHI RO (GRADES 6-8)

JULY 21 - JULY 24

WEE CAMP

(AGES 3 - KINDERGARTEN, WITH A PARENT)

JULY 21 - JULY 24

MINI CAMP (GRADES 1-3)

JULY 21 - JULY 26

JUNIOR CAMP (GRADES 4-5)

Email camps@fccnh.org to be notified when registration opens, or for any questions!



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH TURNS 100 YEARS OLD ON JULY 27, 2024

Our church is nearly 100 years old! With God's blessings we're making plans for a year full of events and special memories to propel us into celebration.

We're excited to unearth FCCNH's archives in boxes and boxes filled with memories and traditions and moments we've shared together as a community. Now it's time to take these memories and shape them into celebratory ideas for a 100th Anniversary Master Plan that will include festivities as well as beloved events to honor our centennial year. Since we are a family, we would like your ideas too, so we've devised a method to include our church family in the planning process!

On Sunday, January 7th, we'll place two anniversary suggestion boxes for your ideas to be included: one box will be located in the Narthex, the other in the Social Hall at Meet & Greet. Please offer your creative suggestions for events and

church services that you'd like to see. Online, you may send them to glenda@fccnh.org.

Think about church events that made an impact on you and your family over the years. What FCCNH gatherings did you enjoy and what kind of celebrations would you like to see included again as we celebrate moving into the next 100 years? As we map out these ideas, we will continue to send updates on the 100th anniversary plans in the FCCNH newsletter in the months ahead. Lastly, YOU are the most creative and loving community, so for now keep your eyes out for the 100th year anniversary boxes. We look forward to reading what you have to say!

Thank you in advance for participating. 2024 will be a magical year at FCCNH and we have much to look forward to and be thankful for.

With Love and Blessings,
Your 100th Year Anniversary Team

APPLY TO BE A 2024 PEACE INTERN APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY JANUARY 31!

Each year Disciples Peace Fellow selects three young adults (21-years-old or older) to serve as Peace Interns. This is a 12-week, paid internship (\$3,000 summer stipend) that will allow you to serve as an advocate for peace and justice in many different ways and in several different formats. The 2024 DPF Peace Internship will be a hybrid model again this summer. That means that Peace Interns will serve at in-person Disciples of Christ Church Camps AND they will have remote work weeks where they work on specific projects with Disciples Justice Ministries groups (like AllianceQ, Reconciliation Ministries, Green Chalice, and more) or interfaith/ecumenical peace partners (like the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the InterReligious Task Force on Central America, and Blessed Tomorrow). If you are interested, please go to <https://www.disciplespeace.org/apply> or talk to Pastor Jonathan or Ben Bohren.



INGATHERING SUNDAY IS JANUARY 21



The North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry serves roughly 5,000 people each month and this month we are especially in need of complete canned meals (ravioli, chili, etc.). Our next Ingathering Sunday is **January 21st**. Please bring your donations to the Narthex or the Church office.

NEW NHIFP WISHLIST

Click here or go to the link below to check out the Pantry's new Amazon Wishlist -- an easy way to donate to NHIFP and be sure the donation is exactly what's needed.

<https://tinyurl.com/yn54xrf3>

Meet & Greet



HOST A MEET & GREET

Interested in volunteering to host a Meet & Greet after one of the upcoming Sunday morning services? It isn't complicated and doesn't need to be anything fancy. If your family or club or group would consider hosting one of the open dates contact Alberto at asigala480@gmail.com or 310-569-9908 to add your name to the list or answer your questions.



FLOWER DEDICATIONS

To order flowers to decorate the chancel on an upcoming Sunday, please fill out the following form and place in the offering box or drop at the church office with your check for \$40.

Today's Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Available dates:

1/7	1/14	1/21	1/28	2/4	2/11	2/18
2/25	3/3	3/10	3/17	3/24	3/31	4/7

Floral Dedication:

(Please check one of the following and write the specifics of your dedication in the space provided below)

- In Honor of ...
- In Celebration of ...
- In Memory of ...

Check enclosed for arrangement (\$40)
Arrangements are supplied by Floral Crush Studio.
Checks should be made payable to FCCNH.

A LOOK AT THE 10AM NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE



ABOVE FROM LEFT:
Acolyte, Anton Sherbakov.
Pastor Jonathan with Lael Robinson on Lael's last Sunday before moving to Durango, Colorado.

New member Amelia Squires with her daughter, Maya, and Pastor Jonathan.

AT RIGHT:
Pastor Jonathan presented a Chalice Hymnal to Lael Robinson so she could sing along with online services.

Pictured are Brett Elliott, Pastor Jonathan, Lael Robinson, Glenda Morgan Brown and Richard Follett!



photos by Byron Armantrout



Offering Meditation

from RICHARD FOLLETT, Elder
on 31 December 2023

Happy New Year, church!

Out of the mouths of babes comes great wisdom, and the children mentioned this morning that we make New Year's resolutions. One of the resolutions that I would invite you to make is to join those of us who are tithing members of this church—not everybody is (there's no guilt if you're not)—and consider tithing in 2024 as a resolution. The people who built this church, built this congregation, gave of their wealth, gave of their money, gave of their time, gave of their skills to create what we now have and what we now use. I would invite you to join us.

I happen to be born into a tithing family. My Dad was the church treasurer so he knew who gave how much, and when I got a dollar, 10% (10¢)

went into the offering plate. That's just how I was raised. I found that that's possible to do if I write the tithe check first and everything else falls in order. So, the strike is over, I tithed on a teacher's salary, I tithe now on a pension, and I think now that you could try it, too. Try it at least for the month of January and see how it works. That's the Biblical request.

If it's too difficult for you, again, no guilt in our church at all, but remember the people who built this sanctuary, who built this church. Over the next year we're going to celebrate our 100th anniversary and hear a lot of their stories, the stories of those dedicated people who reached into their pockets and gave.

Consider it next week.



MEN'S GROUP MEETING

meets online weekly at

7PM WEDNESDAYS

Interested in joining?

For Zoom info Email: menoncorner@gmail.com

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? —ISAIAH 43:18-19





Celebrating One Hundred Years:

SUNDAY SCHOOL IN A CHANGING WORLD



By the close of World War II, the San Fernando Valley was no longer a sleepy farming community. The movie industry, aircraft manufacturing, and smaller businesses were seriously changing both the landscape and the population. Between 1945 and 1950, the Valley population exploded from about 230,000 in 1945 to 403,000 in 1950. The rapid increase in growing families challenged community institutions like churches and schools to keep up.

On the corner of Moorpark and Bakman, FCCNH struggled to manage its limited space while effectively providing for the spiritual and social needs of a growing membership. The church's 1949 Yearbook listed a total of 558 active members, of whom 164 were new. Adding to the challenges, all facets of the church were necessarily immersed in planning for a March 1950 move to the new, 19,000-square-foot campus half a mile away. Nevertheless, the primary focus had to remain on meeting present needs.

That challenge was especially apparent where children were concerned. FCCNH has always prioritized the young people in our midst. That is the reason why the first buildings added to the Moorpark and Bakman campus were designated for use as Sunday School classrooms. The Superintendent's 1949 Yearbook report lists a "Children's Church enrollment of 566 children in six departments through high school." New enrollments for the year totaled 204. Weekly attendance averaged 244. It took more than 40 teachers, advisors, and assistants to manage a thriving program for young people that included worship, study and fellowship while building awareness of, and outreach toward, the world around them. The junior high (Chi Rho) and high school (CYF) groups also enjoyed midweek and outside activities in addition to social gatherings at private homes. The world was a very different place in 1949. Television, computers, cell phones, and social networks were not yet a ubiquitous, diverting presence in daily life. Stores were often closed on Sunday and there were no weekend sports leagues. Churches like our own more directly filled a need for in-person connections as well as a spiritual presence.

We approach our 100th anniversary facing new challenges of re-entering and re-engaging with a more fragile, fractured, post-COVID world. As with earlier generations, a major part of the solution to those challenges very likely rests in nurturing the minds, energy, and hearts of our young people.

– The 100th Anniversary Team

**WINTER CAMP****February 16-19, 2024**

Chi Rho & CYF (Grades 6-12)

With this year's theme "Virtual Faith IRL" campers will learn how to activate their own faith in their everyday lives through games, meaningful worship, and group activities. The camp ministry team is working hard to create a program that will explore Disciples faith practices and equip young people with tools to strengthen their

faith in Jesus Christ.

Check in on Friday, February 16 at 7 pm. Check out on Monday, February 19 at 11 am.

Scholarships are available--please check with Pastor Tau if you need assistance. Registration fee is \$300.

COUPON CODES • Please remember that the coupon codes are CASE SENSITIVE and do not include spaces.

- If 100% will be paid by the congregation, please use FULLSCHOLARSHIP2024.
- If 50% will be paid by the congregation, please use CHURCHPAY2024.

Using these codes will allow Camping Ministries to track payments and dues.



Six Month Leadership Training for High School Youth

- Learn to lead in your local Church
- Develop skills for leading in the world
- Build relationships with mentors
- Connect with young leaders across the country



www.YouthLeadershipSymposium.com

MLK Jr. Celebration

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024
4:00 - 6:00 PM PT
DISCIPLES MINISTRY CENTER
IN FULLERTON, CA

—
IN PERSON AND
STREAMING LIVE



with special guest Justin J. Pearson,
District 86 State Representative
Tennessee General Assembly

"FORWARD TOGETHER, NOT ONE STEP BACK"



TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

10am • via Zoom

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

If you're interested in joining the Tuesday morning study with Ed Esau, please contact the church office at 818.763.8218 to be added to the weekly email with topic and Zoom connect info.

Tai Chi

breathing techniques • simple stretching exercises • meditation to reduce stress

Guided Tai Chi Classes

Tuesday mornings at 9:30am • Thursday afternoons at 3:30pm in the Youth Hut
CLASSES GUIDED BY BYRON ARMANTROUT • FREWILL DONATION OF \$10 PER SESSION



W2W

WOMEN *to* WOMEN

ZOOM MEETING • 7:30pm FRI

NEWCOMERS WELCOME

email for Zoom info W2W.FCCNH@gmail.com

BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

Sunday Worship 10am 108
 Sunday School 18

Sunday Worship Donations \$7,503.00
 Sunday School \$4.00

SUNDAY GENERAL OFFERING \$7,507.00

Ralphs e-Scrip Donations \$107.30

CREDIT CARD OFFERING 12/25/23 - 12/31/23

GENERAL OFFERING \$2,887.00

Human Needs \$125.00
 In Memory of Pastor Bob \$250.00
 Food Pantry \$425.00

CUMULATIVE GIVING \$10,394.00

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall
 SENIOR PASTOR
 Alfredo Gomez
 PASTOR, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION
 Jennifer Le'au
 DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
 Taulau Tupua
 ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR YOUTH AND MISSION
 Tyana Parr
 DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S/YOUTH CHOIRS
 David Rigsby
 MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST
 Christine Karasseferian
 DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
 Gabriela Dorantes
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
 Glenda Morgan Brown
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
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 Trudie Kirkland
 EVENT PLANNER
 Elmer Maldonado
 BUILDING & GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT
 Miriam Mancilla
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 Amanda Sigala
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT OF CHRISTIAN NURSERY SCHOOL
 Greg Kirkland
 MEDIA DIRECTOR

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Ne'e Le'au, Karl Wm. Klein
 VIDEO STREAMING
 Jacob Beam, Craig Brooks
 SOUND TECHNICIANS
 Luis Oliart
 SECURITY

IN MEMORIAM

Robert M. Bock
 SENIOR PASTOR
 Earle Immel
 MINISTER OF MUSIC EMERITUS
 Merle E. Fish, Jr.
 MINISTER EMERITUS



ISAIAH 55:1

WAYS YOU CAN DONATE TO FCCNH

Paypal@fccnh.org

Venmo@fccnh.org

Zelle to
offering@fccnh.org

On our website
www.fccnh.org or
 scan the code at right





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THINK GREEN! PLEASE RECYCLE!

NOTE: If you would like to receive this newsletter via Email, which saves on printing/mailling costs and is better for the environment, please contact us. Annual subscription cost for first class mail version is \$24.



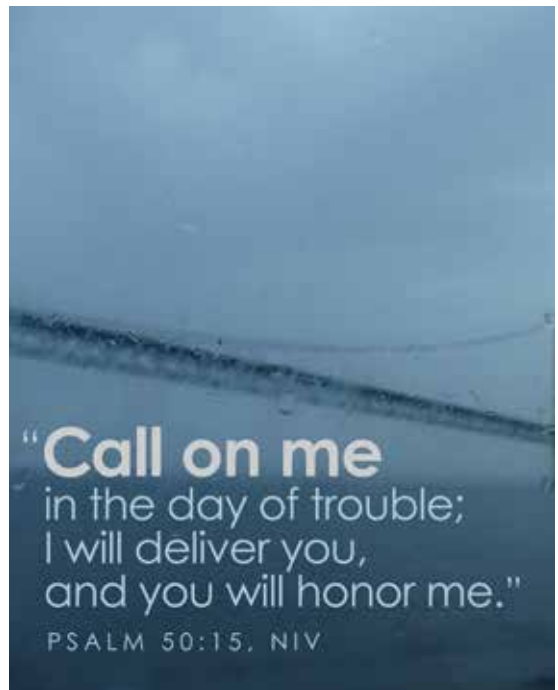
First Christian News

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EMERITUS

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Billie Kline	Lillian Carlson
Heather Kenney	Margaret Defibaugh
Cathy Melendez	Fern Donald
Chuck Mont	Jean Johnson
Wanda Kanoy	Helen Scarna
Kay Smith	Betty Van Zanten
Shirley McClure	Deborah Wheeler
Virginia Stebbins	Cindy Kaller



Call on me
in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you,
and you will honor me."

PSALM 50:15, NIV