



FirstChristianNews

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH HOLLYWOOD
A CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
REV. DR. JONATHAN B. HALL, SENIOR PASTOR
JENNIFER LE'AU, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
TAULAU TUPUA, ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR YOUTH AND MISSION
ALFREDO GOMEZ & LOYDI RIVAS GOMEZ, PASTORS, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION

Volume LXV No. 31

December 6, 2023

While you have the light,
believe in the light,
so that you may become
children of light.

– JOHN 12:36

JOIN US IN PERSON OR CATCH THE 10AM LIVESTREAM ON [YOUTUBE](#) OR [FACEBOOK](#).

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



I am very excited about the Christmas Pageant this Sunday!

Of course, I look forward to seeing our children and youth participate in this special event. It is uplifting to see their faces. I love to hear their singing and narration. It has been a hallmark of our church during this time of year!

However, during these important moments, I also find myself looking at others. I love to see Jen and Ty as they lead the children and youth. I cherish the moments when I get to see delighted friends, parents, grandparents, and other family members who are proud of their loved ones as they are in the pageant. I love to take the entire moment in as if I am drinking a favorite tea - nice and slowly.

I think about what was happening around the birth stories of Jesus, too. As everyone may have been - rightfully so - focused on a precious baby, I find myself wanting to look elsewhere, too. For example, what was Joseph and Mary's extended family thinking and doing? As some of you know, I love to put together nativity scenes. Yet, I am also mindful that there is no mention of animals in the Bible around the birth of Jesus. Still, I wonder what the animals were

doing and thinking when the first cries of baby Jesus could be heard the next stable over.

My eyes tend to go elsewhere during this time of year. As I check out of line at the store, all eyes are usually on the customer service representative. All of the other staff and customers want them to go as fast as possible. My eyes tend to go to watching how people interact with one another as they are in line. As we wait in line to see Santa, I watch how kids rehearse their wish list of presents.

Our attention can be fixed on many things during this time of year. I hope that you will spend a moment to take in the sights and smells of what is happening around you. We can - too easily - miss these sacred moments.

Together,

Pastor Jeth
Senior Pastor





**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
SEMI-ANNUAL FUNDRAISER**

CWF Bake Sale & Jewelry Boutique
Sunday, December 10 • in the Social Hall
following the 10 AM service

The ladies of CWF are gathering our most delicious recipes and beautiful jewelry to make your day. Bring your love of sweets and your Christmas shopping list to support our missions.

**FCCNH CHANCEL CHOIR
CHRISTMAS CONCERT**



Dona Nobis Pacem:
**A Concert for
Christmas Peace**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9
2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
in the SANCTUARY

Freewill donations will be gratefully
accepted at both concerts

10AM • DECEMBER 10
2nd SUNDAY of ADVENT

join us for the
2023 CHILDREN'S
Christmas Pageant



Unable to join us in person? Watch the
livestream at [YOUTUBE](#) or on [FACEBOOK](#)

A LOOK AT THIS PAST SUNDAY – DECEMBER 3



FROM LEFT: Pastor Jonathan in the pulpit – his sermon on Sunday was entitled “We Make the Road by Walking” • Felicitia Prentice doing the reading for the lighting of the first advent candle • Dino Schofield, pictured with Pastor Tau, served as acolyte.

photos by Byron Armantrout

INGATHERING SUNDAY IS NEXT WEEK · DECEMBER 17



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 **December 17th**. 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/yn54xf3>

W2W
WOMEN to WOMEN
7:30pm FRIDAYS
NEWCOMERS WELCOME
 email for Zoom info
W2W.FCCNH@gmail.com



OPERATION
Santa Claus
2023

It's that time of year again when we roll up our sleeves for Operation Santa Claus, FCCNH's annual giveaway to underprivileged kids. Just like last year we will not be giving away toys in the Social Hall. Instead, we will give gift cards to the kids in every car that drives into our parking lot on the morning of **Saturday, December 16, starting at 7:30 a.m.** To that end, we're accepting donations of Target or Walmart cards in the amount of \$15 or \$20. If you'd like to donate cards (or a check made out to FCCNH with "Operation Santa Claus" written on the memo line), we would be most grateful. If you have any questions, please contact **Ken Wilson, 818-903-0850 or email him at kwmedia@earthlink.net.**

Meet & Greet



- 12/10 CWF Jewelry/Bake Sale
- 12/17 OPEN
- 12/24 OPEN
- 12/31 OPEN

ALL OF JANUARY IS OPEN

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.



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 DECEMBER
For today in the City of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Messiah, the Lord — LUKE 2:11





Once again you can order poinsettias to help decorate our sanctuary for Christmas! The cost of a plant is \$20, and they will be supplied by our awesome florist Katie Hartman at *Floral Crush Studio*.

If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia as a remembrance, the order deadline is **THIS SUNDAY, December 10**. We will print acknowledgements and dedications in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Sunday bulletins.

YourName(s): _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

Poinsettia Dedication(s):

(Please check one of the following and write the specifics of your dedication(s) below)

In ... Honor of Celebration of Memory of

No. of plants @ \$20 _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

If you would like to take your poinsettia home, they will be available following the Christmas Eve service. Plants remaining after Christmas will be taken to shut-ins of our church family. Anyone who would like to help with taking plants to shut-ins please contact the Elders.

**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.



Celebrating One Hundred Years:

OUR FIRST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



Seventy-five years ago, at the December 1, 1948 Church Board Meeting, the Christmas Pageant Planning Committee presented their report. With Church School attendance averaging 270 back in May 1948, it was an ambitious undertaking, to say the least:

The entire Church School is participating in a Christmas Pageant to be given Wednesday evening, December 22nd from seven to nine at the North Hollywood Women's Club. [Gifts wrapped in white tissue paper] for our Old People's Home will be requested as the only price of admission.

The program will consist of individual performances by the Beginners [3&4 years old], Primary I [Kindergarten, 1st grade], and Primary II [2nd & 3rd grades]. Members of the CYF [high school], Chi Rhos [junior high], and Juniors [4th, 5th, 6th grades] will be in a play titled, "There Was One Who Gave a Lamb," under the direction of Judith Webster, and a youth Christmas Choir, directed by Ida Gunnell. The Adult Choir will sing a few numbers from their Cantata and lead the audience in some community singing.

This will be the first opportunity the Church has had for many years to welcome, as a whole, all the parents of children enrolled in our Church School at one gathering and to extend them all a personal Merry Christmas. This will also be a splendid opportunity to visually demonstrate our need for more adequate facilities within our own church plant. We hope the Board will give this program their enthusiastic support by spreading the word and urging all to attend.

At the January 5, 1949 Board meeting, The Church School Superintendent's report pronounced the night a resounding success: Our first Annual Christmas Pageant was a big success with around 400 in attendance. Approximately 150 children participated. The cost was approximately \$85. For the most part this expenditure was for permanent props and costumes which will be stored for use at another time. Our Church White Gift collection was doubled by this event. Parent cooperation and enthusiasm was of immeasurable value.

– 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

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT • Cost is \$200 before January 1. Registration fee is \$300 after January 1. Scholarships are available--please check with Pastor Tau if you need assistance.

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.

SAVE the DATES

ALL YOUTH SLEEPOVER

Friday, December 15th - December 16th

OPERATION SANTA CLAUS

December 16th 7:30-9:30am @FCCNH

CHRISTMAS TREE LOT SALES

FRI 4-8PM | SAT & SUN 10A-8P @ FCCNH

DIAL-A-CAROL (DETAILS TBA)

Fundraiser offering a friendly call from a group of youth to sing a Christmas carol of your choice.

MARY & JOSEPH • LIVE NATIVITY

Sunday, Dec. 24th 5:00 - 5:30pm



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



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:

12/10	12/17	12/24	12/31	1/7	1/14
1/21	1/28	2/4	2/11	2/18	2/25

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.



We've Lost A Friend

Long-time FCCNH member Richard Melendez passed away on Nov. 27th. He and his wife, Cathy, moved to Illinois many years ago, but they continued to attend Christmas Eve services here when they were in town. Services will be held in Illinois; at this point, we are not aware of any local services, but we will let you know if that changes.



cutout
 wallet reminder
 this month
 the pantry is in need of:



meals in a can
 chili • ravioli • stews
 non-condensed soups



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!

Longest Night Service

7 pm wednesday
december 20

Take time to remember loved ones who are no longer here on the longest day of the year during this quiet candlelight service.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Morning Worship – 10:00 am

Live Nativity – 5:00 pm

Family Worship – 5:30 pm

Candlelight – 11:00 pm
w/Chancel Choir

BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

Sunday Worship 10am	178
Youth Sunday AM	14
Sunday School	48
Wednesday Youth Group	12

Sunday Worship Donations	\$8,223.11
Sunday School Donations	\$15.75

SUNDAY GENERAL OFFERING \$8,238.86

Operation Santa Claus	\$260.00
Thanksgiving HELM Fund	\$140.00

CREDIT CARD OFFERING 11/20/22 - 11/26/23

GENERAL OFFERING \$1,140.00

Thanksgiving HELM Fund	\$310.00
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CREDIT CARD OFFERING 11/27/23 - 12/3/23

GENERAL OFFERING \$5,212.00

Operation Santa Claus	\$20.00
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CUMULATIVE GIVING \$14,590.86

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
- Terri Burton
CHURCH PUBLICATIONS
- Trudie Kirkland
EVENT PLANNER
- Elmer Maldonado
BUILDING & GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT
- Miriam Mancilla
DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN NURSERY SCHOOL
- 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

WAYS YOU CAN DONATE TO FCCNH

Paypal@fccnh.org

Venmo@fccnh.org

[Tithe.ly](https://tithely.com) · Zelle to
offering@fccnh.org

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





First Christian News

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH HOLLYWOOD
A CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
4390 COLFAX AVENUE
NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CA 91604 - 2898



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

First Christian Church of North Hollywood
818/763-8218 • FAX 818/763-8457
Website: www.fcnh.org
email: fcnh@earthlink.net

PROOFREADING	Glenda Morgan Brown
ART DIRECTION	Terri Burton
PRODUCTION SERVICES	Byron Armantrout

EMERITUS

Robert M. Bock	Mary Ann Steuterman
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

