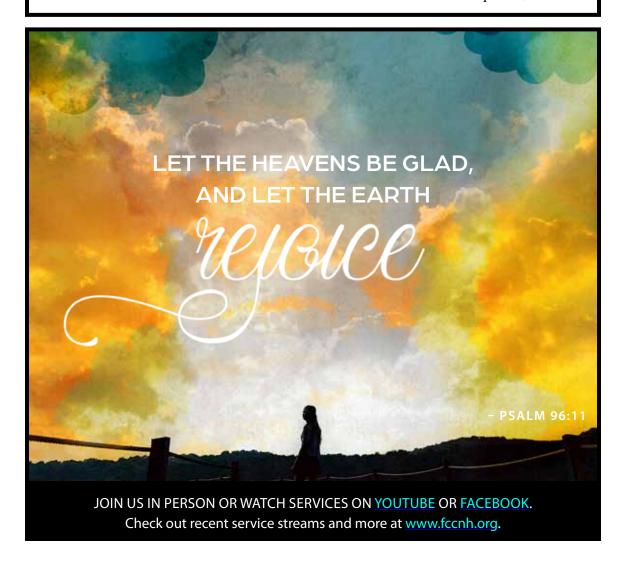


FirstChristianNews

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

April 10, 2024





I get asked several questions when talking to someone about our congregation. One of the most common is "Can I just come and be myself?"

Our congregation is a safe place for anyone to come and be themselves. For some of our neighbors, they have been hurt by a church in the past, so they are wondering if FCCNH is different. For others, it may be that they went to a church in the past, but constantly found themselves having to reteach their children about the Bible because their previous church had different values.

As we hosted *Young Sheldon* this past week, I was asked if FCCNH was a place where anyone can participate in worship and be themselves. I assured them that although they may be recognized, they can be themselves. They did not have to be a character they played on a show. People are hungering for a sense of community and connection "at a time such as this." Nobody should have to wear a mask at our church which should be a foretaste of the Kindom of God. People wear masks for various reasons - who they love, what they do for work, their personal history, etc. Jesus - likely overlooking a Greco-Roman theatre during his Sermon on the Mount - spoke about the danger of wearing masks while "performing" one's faith.

I firmly believe that FCCNH is the church that you had always hoped for but never knew existed! Thank you for helping to make it a reality for all of our neighbors!

Together,

Pashe Joth

Senior Pastor

WE WANT YOUR OPINION

Pastors Jonathan and Tau will preach multiple sermon series during the summer. They would love to hear your feedback on some of the topics they are considering. Please click here or go to https://tinyurl.com/FCCNHSeries to vote on what you find the most interesting.





We Need to See Each Other TEXT: Acts 3:1-10 Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall

We believe eye contact matters. This can be seen in a variety of ways. It is more difficult to turn down someone in sales if you have a visual connection with them. Some of us are significantly meaner to a telemarketer than we might be to someone right in front of us. Many of us will avoid eye contact with someone if we are trying to avoid them. We see that eye contact matters. As we look at Acts 3:1-10, there is an interesting focus on eye contact. Why did Peter and John "look intently" at the man? Why did they say to him, "Look at us?" Eye contact matters. As we journey through the acts of the early church, may we, during this time, find ways to see one another. Pastor Jonathan's message is entitled "We Need to See Each Other."

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



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



CHURCH KITCHEN NEEDS BOWLS AND SPOONS

If anyone has any earthenware bowls and/or stainless steel spoons and/or soup spoons that you are not using, the church kitchen would welcome your donations! We'd like to augment our supply as we are a little short on these items. Please call the office (818-763-8218) if you can help. Thank you!



We are a praying church. Meetings and gatherings generally begin and end with prayer. Each Sunday, in one of the more singular moments of our service, we say the Lord's Prayer aloud together. Praying for our church family is important to us.

Before texting and the internet, newsletters were the social media of their day. Our newsletters dating back to 1954 described church events and plans. More importantly, they brought news about happenings in the church family. Comings and goings, births, illnesses, and passings were noted.

Prayer needs were a regular part of each newsletter. Columns titled "In Our Thoughts and Prayers," told about illnesses and recoveries. People in the military appeared in "Remembering Those Serving Our Country." In "Our Deepest Sympathy" we learned about those we had lost.

The 1949 church yearbook described several prayer groups. To allow working people to attend, one met Wednesdays from 6 to 7 a.m. in members' homes. Those wanting coffee had to come before 6. The church office provided confidential prayer requests. Our present Monday morning prayer group grew out of that gathering. Concerns from many sources are confidentially lifted aloud in the Chapel. Members incorporate them each day into their prayer disciplines.

In 1952, the church family learned the power in corporate prayer when one of our members, Phyllis Wilkinson, contracted polio. She spent a year and a half in an iron lung at Rancho Los Amigos, away from her husband and children. Rev. Fish regularly brought her news of the church family praying for her. She returned home in 1954 with a portable respirator. Using the one hand she could move, Phyllis typed a note for the newsletter: "... [Rev. Fish] also told me about you, who were praying for me every day. I want you to know how much it helped when I was so sick in the iron lung and so terribly frightened. There were times when I was hardly conscious enough to pray for myself, but found myself saying, 'Please God, send an answer to one of the prayers from Church.' You carried me through with prayers when I couldn't possibly have done so myself. I'm so grateful to all of you...."

Phyllis returned to church, her wheelchair resting in the pulpit side aisle with the wall plug powering her respirator. After her husband died, church members took turns driving her in her specialized van. She later became an Elder and wrote meditations that were available for Elders who had to unexpectedly step in and speak. When she died in 1992, many said gratitude prayers for the lessons learned by her presence.

We hear often that "Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."**

Indeed, collective prayer is an integral part of our church family. Equally important and abundant, however, are the prayers we say alone for someone in need, or the working prayers we say to hold loved ones close as we go about our days. Whether we pray alone or in concert, God is with us, and in us.

^{**}Matthew 18:20 New International Version

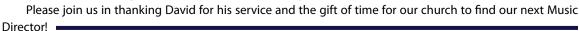
David Rigsby Announces His Retirement

David Rigsby announced his retirement on recently during choir rehearsal. His last Sunday with us will be September 15, 2024. He will be moving to Savannah, GA.

Of course, we thank God for David sharing his gifts at our church since January 1, 2006! We are grateful that he has given us six months to do the difficult work of finding a new Music Director. After Easter, we will be forming a search committee. Their first step will be to put together a questionnaire for our congregation to help us discern the desired gifts of our next Music Director. After receiving this information, we will formalize the position's details, share the job listing widely, and begin to receive applications.

David will be very busy until September 15. He will be retiring from his school at the end of the school year. David will be helping to lead Godspell at our church in August.

Finally, he will be an integral part of our 100th Anniversary on September 8.





Ingathering Sunday IS APRIL 21st

The food pantry is in need of single-serve snacks (like chips, cookies, dried fruit). As always, donations can be placed at the front of the church on Sunday, April 21st.

To learn more about the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry and the great work they do go to www.nhifp.org. While you're there click on the newsletter to sign up and get monthly updates.





WE'VE LOST A FRIEND

Sue Malotte passed away on March 21 in her home; Sue was 100 years young. Her celebration of life is scheduled for Saturday, May 11, at 1:00 PM. We will publish more details as they become available.



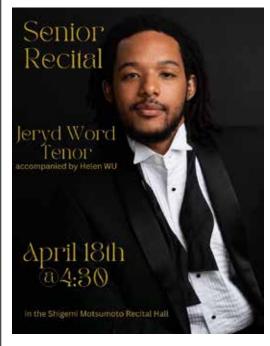
To order flowers to decorate the chancel on an upcoming Sunday, please fill out the following form and place in the offering box or drop at the church office with your check for \$40.

Today's Date: _____

Daytime F	hone: _			
Email:				
Available o	lates:			
4/14	4/21	4/28	5/5	5/12
5/19	5/26	6/2	6/9	6/16
below)	_ ∐In Hon	or of	·	ace provided
		bration o	f	
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Studio. Checks should be made payable to

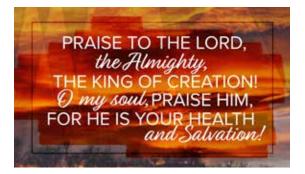
FCCNH.



SAVE the DATE

Jeryd Word, one of the tenors in our Chancel Choir, will be singing his senior recital at CSUN on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 4:30pm. The recital will be held at Shigemi Motsumoto Recital Hall (formerly known as Cypress Recital Hall.) Jeryd is a fantastic singer studying opera at CSUN.

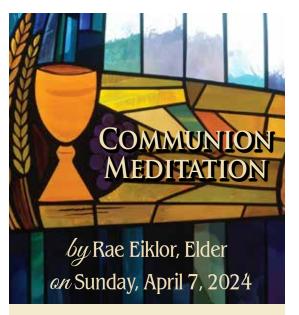






Tupua as they prepare for the 10am service.

photo by Byron Armantrout



Can you imagine a time without photography??

During the mid-1800s when photography became popular, some painters saw it as a threat to their livelihood as it could produce realistic images more quickly and accurately than traditional painting. Artists were afraid that painting would become a lost art.

However, others embraced photography as a new tool for artistic expression. Over time, the relationship between painting and photography evolved, with both mediums influencing and inspiring each other. Painting never went away and it did change artists. Details and emotions that the camera could not catch made artists more creative! As current technology changes, let's try not to be afraid. We can be better and more creative! God wants us to have faith that there is always change and He will always be available to guide us.

As always, there are many ways to reach us with your prayer needs.

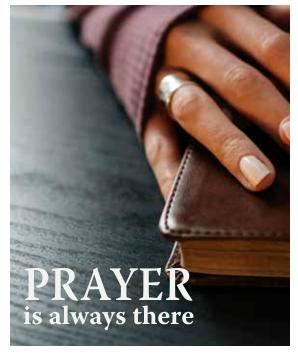
On Sundays, there are cards in the morning bulletins. You can write your prayers on the back and put them in the offering plates as they are passed. You may also slide your prayer cards through the slot in the Prayer Cabinet near the drinking fountain outside the Chapel doors.

During the week, your prayers can reach us in several ways:

- Via email on the church website: www.fccnh.org/worship/prayer-requests
- Via phone call to the church office: 818-763-8218 If you are at the church, prayer cards are available at the Prayer Cabinet outside the Chapel. Fill one out and put it in the cabinet slot, or drop it off in the church office.

Prayers received during the week in one of these ways will be emailed out to Prayer Group members. Unless urgent, prayers received on Saturday or Sunday will be compiled for the list given to members on Monday mornings.

The sole purpose of the Prayer Group has always been to pray for those in need. Prayers are lifted



aloud in the Chapel on Monday mornings, and then become part of the daily prayer discipline of our members. As always, all prayers that come to us are kept strictly confidential and are not shared elsewhere.



LOCH LEVEN SUMMER CAMP

SUMMER 20

June 23-28 CYF Camp

(Entering Grades 9-12, & Recent Graduates)

July 21-26 Jubilee Camp July 21-24 Wee Camp

(Ages 3-Kinder: Child attends with parent/guardian)

July 7-12 Chi Rho Camp

LOCH LEVEN

(Entering Grades 6-8)

July 21-24 Mini Camp

(Entering Grades 1-3) (Entering Grades 4-5)

July 21-26 Junior Camp









REGISTRATION OPEN NOW AT www.lochleven.org



Interested in joining? For Zoom info Email: menoncorner@gmail.com

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. . — ACTS 4:33





breathing techniques simple stretching exercises meditation to reduce stress

Guided Tai Chi Classes

Tuesdays at 9:30am and
Thursday at 3:30pm

Classes guided by Byron Armantrout. Freewill donation of \$10 per session.



Our Sunday morning Meet & Greets are a great way to become more involved with the church and other members—it isn't complicated and the church will reimburse your expenses up to \$150. If you, your group or family are interested in hosting a Meet & Greet after one of our Sunday morning services, please contact Matt Hunt at matthewhunt@gmail.com.

WORLD EARTH DAY APRIL 22



LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO SAVE OUR PLANET



ONLINE REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW

JUNE 10 - JUNE 14 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

At Hero Hotline, kids are invited to learn from the heroes of the Bible! Our team of heroes will spring into action and explore the ultimate Hero Handbook - the Bible - to discover how all Heroes can follow the examples set by a cast of supporting Bible Heroes in stories from the Old and New Testaments, who work together to bring peace, build each other up, and share the great story of God's love for us.

As kids (called Heroes) experience these stories through music, drama and storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks, they'll learn that Heroes are called to Follow Jesus, Help Others, Work Together, Listen to God, and Show Grace! And, best of all, they'll be invited to answer this call at VBS, at church, at home, and in every area of their lives.

VBS is open to children who are ages 3+ and potty trained to 6th grade, and runs Monday, June 10th - Friday, June 14th from 9a-12pm. Aftercare from 12-3pm is available.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR:

Jennifer Le'au has been the director of Children's Ministries at First Christian Church of North Hollywood for the last 8 years. As a teenager, she began teaching music, dance and acting classes as well as helping create and teach Broadway-style shows for summer camps. For over 35 years, she has brought her love of the stage to thousands of kids of all ages and talent levels. Jennifer has also choreographed for many popular TV shows on the Disney Channel and Nickelodeon. A member of SAG-AFTRA, she has a lot of professional work under her belt. She is the proud mother of two adult children. Her daughter Bird, who will be a senior this fall at NYU. will be her assistant.

VBS, Full Week June 10th - 14th • \$120 VBS, Partial Week June 12th - June 14th • \$90

JUNE 17 - JUNE 21 MUSICAL THEATRE

This camp is a place to discover talents, build confidence, and find inspiration. Dance, music, and drama techniques will be introduced, developed, and applied to an original Broadway-style show called "Sweet Dreams"; where dreams are made of junk food cravings, with songs like "Pizza Love", "Gummy Bear", and "Hot Chocolate". This is an intense, exciting and unique experience full of fun and high energy!

Come join us as we sing, dance, and act our hearts out on stage! This camp combines the joy of music, the excitement of dance, and the imagination into a special musical theatre experience for young performers. We will have a performance Friday night June 21. This camp is open to students entering 3rd grade through 12th grade.

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Musical Theatre Camp, June 17th-21st • \$220

JUNE 24 - JUNE 28 MARTIAL ARTS CAMP

Martial Arts Camp includes athletic development, Taekwondo-based techniques & activities, self defense, board breaks, life skills and more. Not only will it be loads of fun, martial arts increases Self-Esteem and Confidence: When a child masters a new skill or move, it will boost their confidence and give them a sense of achievement. This camp is open to kids ages 6 and up and runs June 24-28th from 9a - 12:30pm. Aftercare is available from 12:30-3pm.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR:

Ms Willis is a 5th degree black belt, Owner and Chief instructor for Vortex Martial Arts, as well as Qualified Instructor with the NMAA, (National Martial Arts Alliance). She is also a competitor and 2023 Shimsan Sponsored Team Athlete. Ms Willis has been training for 24 years.

"Martial Arts is not just something I do, but who I am, and I love being able to share my passion with others through teaching."

Martial Arts Camp, June 24th - 28th • \$120

JULY 1 - JULY 5 COOKING CAMP

A week-long camp for younger kids that teaches how to select and prepare America's favorite comfort foods from scratch. Kiddos will learn basic cooking skills, kitchen safety, and so much more! Each day we will focus on different entrees from baking to savory foods! Cooking Camp (AM) is open to Grades 2-5 and runs July 1st - 5th from 9:30a-12:00pm. NO CAMP ON THURSDAY, JULY 4th.

For younger children, we have designated the morning slot from 9:30 AM to 12 noon. This timing is chosen because younger children often benefit from engaging in activities earlier in the day when they are most alert and energetic.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR:

Hello, I'm Chef Sandra; at my vibrant summer camp, children and teens dive into plant-based cooking, blending culinary skills with fun and creativity under the guidance of a trained chef and experienced teacher. My program is designed to inspire young minds to explore the flavors and nutritional benefits of plant-based foods, all within a lively and supportive camp environment. With a

strong background in culinary arts and education, I bring expertise and passion to every lesson, aiming to cultivate a new generation of health-conscious and environmentally aware cooks.

Cooking Camp w/Cookin' Kiddos, 1 - 5 • \$140

JULY 1 - JULY 5 COOKING CAMP

A week-long camp for older kids that teaches how to select and prepare America's favorite comfort foods from scratch. Kiddos will learn basic cooking skills, kitchen safety, and so much more! Each day we will focus on different entrees from baking to savory foods! Cooking Camp (PM) is open to Grades 6+ and runs July 1st - 5th from 1-3:30pm. There will be NO camp on Thursday, July 4th.

Older children, specifically those in the higher grades of middle and high school, are scheduled for the afternoon session from 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM, allowing for a more focused and mature learning environment conducive to the interests and developmental stages of older students.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR:

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JULY 08 - JULY 12 ART CAMP

Sign your kids up for a creative endeavor this summer. Each day for a week, your son or daughter will have classes in painting, drawing, sculpture and photography. At the end of the week, an art show will display the kids' masterpieces. We are looking forward to having fun this summer. This camp is open to artists in grades 2-12 and runs July 8th - 12th from 9am - 3pm.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR:

An artist, with a Bachelors degree in Medical Illustration followed by an MFA in painting and drawing, Cheryl Goettemoeller has been directing and teaching art camp for about 10 years at FCCNH. Cheryl has illustrated medical/biological books along with a few children's books over her 25-year career. Every year she looks forward to encouraging artistic development and vision in art camp attendees.

Art Camp Art Camp, July 8 - 12 •\$245

JULY 15 - JULY 19 PHOTOGRAPHY CAMP

Photography Camp is a half-day adventure between 9am-12:30pm. Additionally, campers can enroll in Advanced Photography from 12:30-3pm. All campers have the opportunity to learn the basics of digital photography through daily demonstrations and hands-on sessions in camera operation, composition, lighting, and seeing with an artistic eye, photographing the church campus indoors and out. Also, there will be a stop-motion workshop for those with phones. Campers should plan on bringing their own camera if they have access to one so they can learn its functionality. If not, we have cameras

to share. SD memory cards are provided. Snacks are provided (Plan on packing a lunch IF you are in the advanced camp portion that stays later). Camp concludes with a gallery showing on Friday at 12:00pm. This camp is open to Grades 3–12. Aftercare is not available for this camp.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR:

Scott Lewis has a passion for photography that spans over 40 years. He has worked as a corporate photographer and in the film industry, and has shown in galleries in the LA area. He works year round with other creatives to help advance vision and skills. As a teacher his hope is to help bring out an individual's creative potential, sharpening skills, and encouraging the freedom to express.

Photography Camp, July 15-19 • \$175

DON'T WAIT TO REGISTER AS SPACE IS LIMITED AND SOME OF OUR CAMPS TEND TO FILL UP OUICKLY.



More info and secure registration may be accessed with the QR code above or by emailing Camp Director, Kristina Frost at camps@fccnh.org.

WHERE TO FIND FCCNH MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from our most recent board meeting (March 12) and our congregational meeting (March 17) can be found in the narthex, copier room, and via the following links - https://tinyurl.com/FCCNHMinutes3-24 & https://tinyurl.com/FCCNHAnnual2024.



TUESDAY MORNINGS 10am • via Zoom

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.

BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

Sunday Worship 10am	129
Youth Sunday AM	7
Youth Sunday High School	2
Youth Wednesday	16
Sunday School	25

Sunday Worship Donations \$6,543.00 Sunday School \$12.00

SUNDAY GENERAL OFFERING \$6,555.00

CREDIT CARD OFFERING 4/1/24 - 4/7/24 CC GENERAL OFFERING \$3,028.30

CUMULATIVE GIVING \$9,583.30



WAYS YOU CAN DONATE TO FCCNH

Paypal@fccnh.org · Venmo@fccnh.org

Zelle to offering@fccnh.org
Tithe.ly (First Christian Church of North Hollywood)
On our website www.fccnh.org or scan the code at right



CHURCH STAFF

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SENIOR PASTOR

Alfredo Gomez

PASTOR, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION

Jennifer Le'au

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Taulau Tupua

Associate Pastor for Youth and Mission

Tvana 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

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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

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VIDEO STREAMING

Jacob Beam, Craig Brooks

Sound Technicians

Luis Oliart

SECURITY

IN MEMORIAM

Robert M. Bock

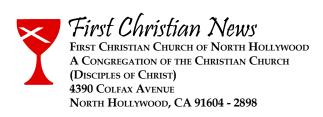
SENIOR PASTOR

Earle Immel

MINISTER OF MUSIC EMERITUS

Merle E. Fish, Ir.

MINISTER EMERITUS





THINK GREEN! PLEASE RECYCLE!

NOTE: If you would like to receive this newsletter via Email, which saves on printing/mailing 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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