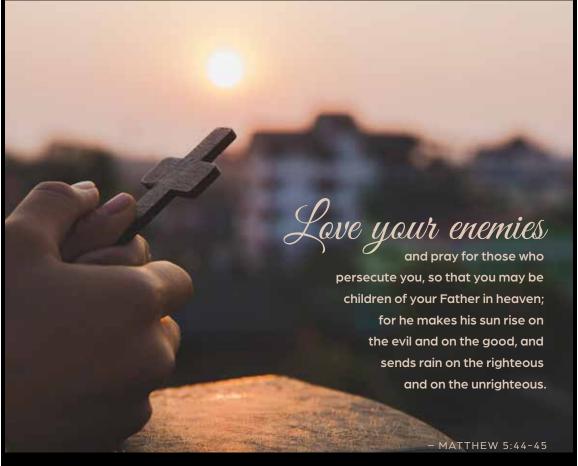


Volume LXV No. 52

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

May 1, 2024



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



On Sunday, we blessed and dedicated the funds that were raised thanks to our Christmas Tree Lot - Trees for Kids! Because of our volunteers and individuals such as you, we raised \$24,000! Throughout this ministry, we have raised over 1 million dollars for kids in our neighborhood and worldwide!

The funds were distributed to All People's Christian Center in Los Angeles which serves as a community resource and empowerment center; the Week of Compassion (our relief, refugee, and development ministry through our national church); Eastmont Community Center in Los Angeles which offers education, social services, and health and wellness services that promote personal development and self-sufficiency; our North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry; AMBUCS which creates mobility and independence for people with disabilities; the Tennyson Center for Children which partners with kids and families impacted by neglect, abuse, and trauma to find personalized paths to healing, camp scholarships; and Operation Santa (our ministry to give Christmas gifts to children). Whew! Can we talk about impact?

When I think about why my family volunteered for the tree lot, my mind goes to children who believe there may be no way forward, but we helped to make a way. I think about parents and families who want their kids to not know that their family is struggling to put food on the table, to have gifts under the Christmas tree, and/or want their kids to have an AmTryke (adaptive trikes) to ride in a park.

The story of our Trees for Kids ministry is about a small group of people who - with the help of God and each other - want to make their neighborhood and world better for children. This is the story of Christmas - a small group of people (Jesus, His disciples, and everyday people) who - with the help of God and each other - made their neighborhood and world a better place for all.

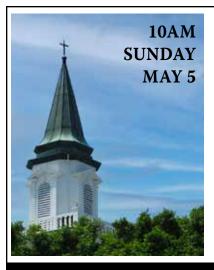
Many thanks to our volunteers and everyone who bought a tree from our tree lot. We will begin coordinating our efforts for this year's Christmas Tree Lot later this summer. I hope to see you at the lot - setting a tree, watering, bringing food for our volunteers, purchasing a tree, or any other way you can help make an impact!

Together,

astu Jakh

Senior Pastor





Where Is the Love? TEXT: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Pastor Taulau Tupua - ASSOCIATE PASTOR

The text from 1 Corinthians 13 is usually shared at weddings, vow renewals, or occasions where love is in the air. This love is often translated as a commitment between two people before God. What if the use of this scripture wasn't the author's original intent? Paul preached this love text to an audience who struggled with loving others. Has it been hard for you to love someone lately? What kind of challenges stop you from loving someone fully? Paul teaches us that despite our challenges with loving others, love will not let us down if we genuinely live in it together. Join us for worship on Sunday as Pastor Tau shares his message entitled "Where Is the Love?"

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

HELD OVER BY POPULAR DEMAND

David Rigsby will give FCCNH an additional week until September 22nd



David Rigsby announced his retirement recently and his last Sunday with us was to be September 15, 2024 but that's been extended by a week to September 22nd!

David will be very busy until September 22. 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.

Please join us in thanking David for his service and the gift of time for our church to find our next Music Director!

MUSIC DIRECTOR SEARCH TEAM UPDATE

Our search team began meeting on April 23 to establish our timeline, create our congregational survey (more details to follow!), work on the job description, and much more! The team is comprised of Julie Houlihan (Chair), Jon Butler, Gaye Coffman, DeOnzell Green, Deborah Dietrich, Tyana Parr, John Currin, and Pastor Jonathan (ex-officio). We invite you to keep this team in your prayers!





Nearly every Sunday morning, we are blessed with the sounds of the grand piano in our Sanctuary. For years, David Rigsby, John Dickson, and many other talented musicians have inspired and entertained us; moved and comforted us. The piano is part of our FCCNH story, both as a memorial and as an example of how our actions can reach beyond the walls of our church. A small plaque reads in part:

In Memory of KATHLEEN ANNE DEFIBAUGH "KATHY D" 11-5-50 – 5/24/86

"Kathy D" and her mother Margaret were fixtures in the church for most of Kathy's childhood. Her death in an automobile accident left Margaret bruised and broken-hearted, and our church family grappling to make sense of the loss. Gone was someone who, in too short a life, had been a youth leader, Church school teacher and Superintendent, a Deaconess, choir member, church baseball player, an Elder and friend to so many.

Her memorial service in a packed church was pure Kathy. Warmth and laughter punctuated shared stories. The choir sang from their hearts as if she were still in their midst. Who else but Kathy would have had the song, "Happy Trails to You, Until We Meet Again." Hearing it, you just knew Roy Rogers and Trigger had to be outside on the sidewalk.

Memorial contributions began coming in, including a sizeable one from her employer, A&M Records. An advisory committee headed by Lillian Stoddard helped Margaret decide that a grand piano for the Sanctuary would be a lovely way to honor both Kathy's love of music and what the church meant to her.

With Pastor Bob's newsletter stories updating us, the committee began working with David Haggerty, the owner of a local piano store. Pianos are expensive, and initially, we were far short of funds for the one the committee chose. Touched by Kathy's story and what she meant to the church, Mr. Haggerty dropped his price to a more reachable point. A poster in the Narthex featured the 88 keys of a piano and an invitation to buy a "note" for \$50. The keyboard quickly sold out, but we were still short of the goal. Embracing the spirit of the effort, Mr. Haggerty settled for the initial money plus whatever funds came from selling the keys.

Sunday, May 31, 1987, was a day filled with music, beginning with the morning service and, after a Social Hall brunch, the Piano Dedication Service. From rocking the house with "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," to Morgan Stoddard's gifted fingers and voice bringing many to tears with "What a Difference You've Made in My Life," it was a day to remember.

Recently recalling the experience, Lillian said, "We kept coming back to the piano. First of all, it was beautiful and would be so pretty in the Sanctuary. It was well built and, if taken care of, it would last a long time. The action was great, and the tone quality was angelic."

We who listen to the same piano today know that to be true.



Save-the-Date

Men's Retreat at Loch Leven
NOVEMBER 1-3

More information to be announced later.

Questions? Contact Ne'e at

menoncorner@gmail.com.



The ADVENT Theatre

The Advent Theatre will be holding auditions for GODSPELL 2012 on Tuesday, May 28 & Wednesday, May 29 at 7 pm in the Social Hall. There are plenty of roles to fill! Please prepare 16 bars of an upbeat Broadway tune (NOT from Godspell) and bring a headshot & resume. Callbacks will be Saturday, June 1 at 1:30 pm. Hope to see YOU there!



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.



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FCCNH YOUTH GROUPS EVENTS & PHOTOS









THIS PAGE TOP ROW: Members of the youth group took a trip out to the old zoo at Griffith Park and tried out some of the original animal habitats.

THIS PAGE MIDDLE ROW: Our beloved administrative assistants celebrate Administrative Assistants Day! Left to right—Gabriela, Glenda, and Amanda were so touched by the amazing generosity and beautiful arrangements made by Miriam with contributions from Pastor Jonathan.

OPPOSITE PAGE BOTTOM: Youth groups hang out in the Hut.

SAVE the DATE • SUNDAY, MAY 19th

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH • BLUE THEOLOGY



The **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP** will meetup with Harbor Christian Church at Blue Theology Site (see Pastor Tau for more details)

Harbor Christian Church is located at: 2401 Irvine Avenue • Newport Beach, CA 92660

Checkout their church at: https://www.harborchristianchurch.com/



FCCNH WEEKLY YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:30AM-11:00AM Middle & High School

SUNDAY MIDDAY 11:30AM-1:00PM

11:30AM-1:00PM High School

WEDNESDAYS

3:30PM-5:30PM Middle School PAGE 8 MAY 1, 2024 FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS

BE A VBS HERO ASSISTANT

VBS is looking for volunteer assistants for our *Hero Hotline* VBS Camp this summer. The camp runs from Monday, June 10th to Friday, June 14th. Camp hours are from 9am to 12pm and will include campers 3-years-old to 6th grade. All information and supplies will be provided.

No cape (or prior camp experience) required. For more information contact

Jen at ileau@fccnh.org.



Celebration of the Life of SUE MALOTTE

Celebration of life service for Sue Malotte is scheduled for Saturday, May 11, at 1:00 PM in the sanctuary. Reception to follow in the Social Hall.



TUESDAY MORNINGS 10am • via Zoom

If you're interested in joining the Tuesday morning Bible 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.



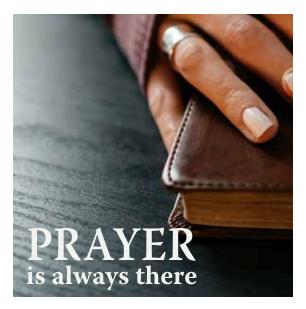
A LIVE OF SERVICE, LOVE, & SUPPORT

ANCHORS AWAY

RICHARD ISAIAS MELENDEZ

3/14/37 - 11/27/23
THE MELENDEZ FAMILY INVITES YOU
TO CELEBRATE A LIFE WELL LIVED.

SATURDAY • MAY 18th, 2024 1:00PM • in the SOCIAL HALL



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.







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.

Name(s):				
Daytime F	Phone: _			
Email:				
Available o	dates:			
5/5	5/19	5/26	6/2	6/9
6/16 Floral Ded		6/30	7/7	7/14
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Greater Things. Please join us! For more info, email MenOnCorner@gmail.com.



INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, STUDY GROUPS, FRIENDS

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.



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.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR:

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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. Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime
And departing, leave behind us

Footprints on the sames of time.

Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
"A Psalm of Life"



INGATHERING SUNDAY IS MAY 19th

The food pantry is in need of canned proteins (preferably tuna or chicken) and canned dog and cat food (no bagged food please, only cans).

Donations can be placed at the front of the church on

Sunday, May 19th.

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.

BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

Sunday Worship 10am	128
Youth Sunday AM	10
Youth Sunday High School	4
Youth Wednesday	5
Sunday School	33

Sunday Worship Donations \$6,176.19 Sunday School \$10.00

SUNDAY GENERAL OFFERING \$6,186.19

CREDIT CARD OFFERING 4/22/24 - 4/28/24

CC GENERAL OFFERING \$660.00

CUMULATIVE GIVING \$6,846.19

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

WAYS YOU CAN DONATE TO FCCNH

Paypal@fccnh.org · Venmo @fccnh

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



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Ionathan B. Hall

SENIOR PASTOR

Alfredo Gomez

PASTOR, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION

Iennifer 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

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Amanda Sigala

Administrative Assistant of Christian Nursery School

Greg Kirkland

Media Director

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Ne'e Le'au, Karl Wm. Klein

VIDEO STREAMING

Jacob Beam, Craig Brooks

Sound Technicians

Luis Oliart

SECURITY

IN MFMORIAM

Robert M. Bock

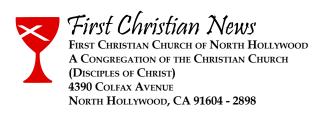
SENIOR PASTOR

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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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

