



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

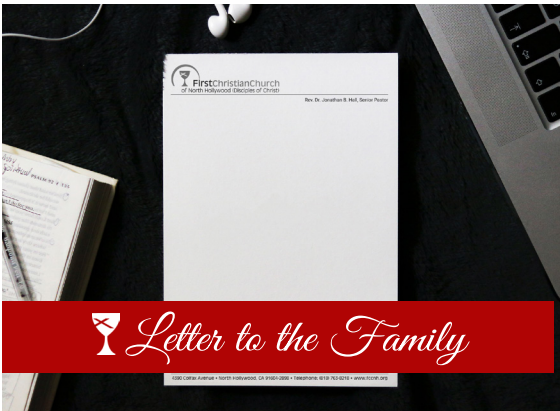
Volume LXV No. 41

February 14, 2024



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

Today - Valentine's Day - is the beginning of our Lenten journey. We embark on this journey as we remember Ash Wednesday.

The Apostle Paul writes to a ragtag group of Jesus-followers in Corinth (I lovingly call it ancient New Orleans due to its geography, mix of cultures, wild stories, etc.). He loved these individuals. He appreciated their quirks. He wrote them letters - often. Most scholars think that 1 and 2 Corinthians represent numerous letters that were merged. Additionally, there were like-

ly other letters to this group that are missing. After all, he started this church. He knew them well.

In his most famous words to this group, he explains love in a meaningful way. He shares in the thirteenth chapter that "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends... Faith, hope, and love endure, but the greatest of these is love."

My hope and prayer is that you can choose one of these descriptions of love to embody during Lent. For example, what if you were intentional about being kind? What if you didn't keep a record of wrongs? Therefore, it is fitting that Valentine's Day falls on Ash Wednesday! May you embody love today, tomorrow, and beyond!


Together,

Pastor Jeth

Senior Pastor

We have three events happening on Ash Wednesday, February 14. From 12pm – 1pm there will be a "Grounds & Ashes" drive-thru in the parking lot to receive ashes (and a cup of coffee or tea if you like). We also have an All-Church Potluck Simple Supper of soup & bread at 5:45pm in the Social Hall. We ask everyone attending to please bring a soup to serve 4 people; bread will be provided. The supper is followed by an Ash Wednesday service including the imposition of ashes. If you wish to skip the supper, the service is scheduled to start in the Social Hall at 6:30 pm. ****Please RSVP to Glenda at 818.763.8218 or glenda@fccnh.org.**





This Sunday (February 18) there will be a Special Week of Compassion Offering

Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of DOC. They work with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, with a vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.



**10AM • SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 18**

The First Step is the Most Difficult
Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall, Senior Pastor

On Sunday, we will look at a well-known story about a rich, young ruler. Many of us think that we know the details of the story. We may assume that we know why he cried. However, if we change an assumption or two, the story has a profoundly different meaning for us here and now. We hope to see you on Sunday as Pastor Jonathan shares his message entitled "The First Step is the Most Difficult." Our text is Mark 10:17-31.

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




INGATHERING SUNDAY
is **FEBRUARY 18**

DID YOU KNOW
the Interfaith Food Pantry also helps to feed man's (and woman's) best friends?


For this month's Ingathering Sunday (February 18th) we're asking for canned dog and cat food (no bagged food please, only cans). And for our furry friends' owners we need single-serve snacks – chips, crackers, dried fruit, etc.

NHIFP
north hollywood interfaith food pantry



PRESIDENTS DAY

The church office will be closed on Monday, February 19, in observance of Presidents' Day





Celebrating One Hundred Years: OUR ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENTEN TRADITIONS

The Lenten season can be a confusing Sunday School lesson. The dates vary widely, with Ash Wednesday coming as early as February 4 and Easter falling on any Sunday between March 22 and April 25. Youngsters born into many mainline Protestant churches in the 1940s and 1950s grew up thinking Ash Wednesday and the six weeks of Lent were more for Roman Catholics. Having Catholic playmates appear one day with gray smudges on their foreheads without having nearby adults reach for handkerchiefs to clean them off was more a curiosity than anything else. Hearing that a friend gave up vegetables for Lent seemed, to young minds, more like a treat than a sacrifice. Candy was a different story.

FCCNH Yearbooks dating from the 1950s and 1960s emphasize Palm Sunday processions, Easter baptisms and multiple services. Ash Wednesday and Lent are not mentioned. As the Ecumenical movement broke down barriers, however, the importance of Ash Wednesday and Lent became more apparent. They represent the days when Jesus withdrew alone to the desert to fast, reflect on His life and strengthen spiritually before beginning His public ministry. We have been encouraged to use the time to reflect on and bring about change in our own lives.

Still a mystery, however, is exactly when we began offering the imposition of ashes. Newsletters from the 1990s mention Ash Wednesday gatherings for “meager meals,” “hearty soup and bread,” or “simple potlucks,” followed by a service of “reflection and resolve” or “meditation and worship.” Presently, 2000 is the earliest known mention of “the dispensing of ashes.” They appear only intermittently in subsequent years.

The Ash Wednesday service on February 26, 2020 included both anointing and the imposition of ashes. Less than a month later, COVID caused the suspension of all in-person church services. In time for Ash Wednesday on February 17, 2021, however, the Worship Council had innovatively developed a drive-through protocol in line with city health regulations that enabled receiving both Communion and the dispensing of ashes while in our cars.

Since arriving at FCCNH, Pastor Jonathan has expanded on the concept of a drive-through imposition of ashes while also honoring the more traditional Simple Supper and worship service that includes receiving ashes more conventionally. Please see your February 7 newsletter for more information.

– The 100th Anniversary Team

important things are happening
AROUND OUR CAMPUS

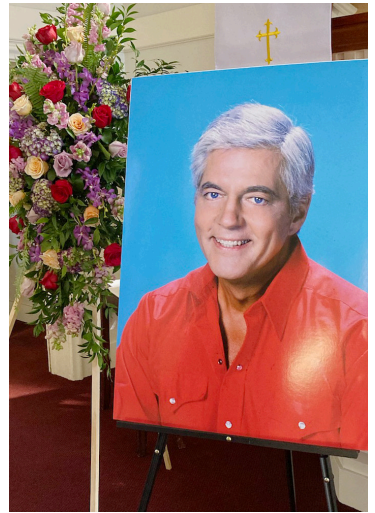
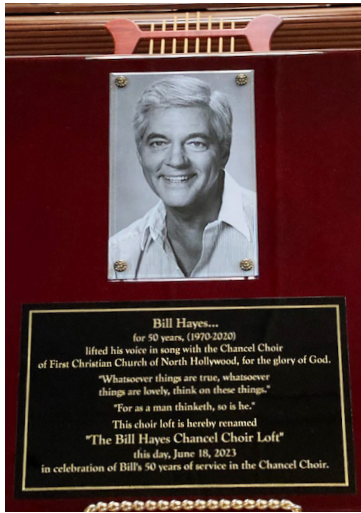


PHOTOS ABOVE: First Christian Church of North Hollywood hosted the deployment site with District #4 Councilwoman Nithya Raman's office. This was Luis Oliart's 10th anniversary as Studio City deployment site captain. Maintaining relationships with Homeless resources helps Luis with his Outreach & Security ministry for your church.

PHOTO BELOW: Luis Oliart's 17th annual concert for the kids took place on February 8th, 2024. This concert has been the carryover of our music camp. Luis was a teacher at the camps for 10 years. 20 families from our local community participated. *photos by Luis Oliart*



A LOOK AT THE WEEKEND




CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

The first five photos show the sanctuary beautifully decorated and filled for the Bill Hayes memorial on Saturday, February 10th — including Bill & Susan's grandson, Sam Huff, with his guitar.

The bottom left photo is Amelia Squires, holding adorable baby Maya, who was dedicated on Sunday.

photos by Byron Armantrout



MEET US ONLINE
for our **VIRTUAL**
BIBLE STUDY

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.



SAVE *the* DATE
FEBRUARY 25 LUNCHEON

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend a luncheon at 11:30am on February 25th hosted by the Stewardship Committee. Lunch will include turkey pot pie, delicious sides, and cake! All are welcome but we ask that you RSVP with Glenda (818.763.8218 or via email Glenda@fccnh.org) to make sure we have plenty of food.



MEET & GREET VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR

MARCH 3
APRIL 7 • APRIL 14

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 Alberto Sigala for more info at asigala480@gmail.com or 310-569-9908.



SAVE-THE-DATE • MARCH 17
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The annual Congregational Meeting has been scheduled for March 17, immediately following the 10:00am worship service.



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:

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

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.



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 - K, 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!



HUMAN NEEDS WARM CLOTHING & BLANKETS

The need for warm clothing and blankets is increasing as winter weather is here. The Human Needs Committee regularly distributes your donations at our *Lunch in the Park* events to those in need. Please take a look at the list below and consider donating one or more of these much-needed items:

- ☐ jackets
- ☐ sleeping bags
- ☐ jeans
- ☐ blankets
- ☐ socks
- ☐ sweatshirts/pants
- ☐ gloves
- ☐ rain ponchos
- ☐ tents
- ☐ and we're still collecting hygiene products

Donations can be dropped off at the church office during normal business hours. *Thank you!*



TIME TO ORDER *Easter Lilies*

DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, MARCH 17th
Thank you for your cooperation.

In celebration of Easter, we will once again place lilies on the chancel for Easter Sunday, March 31st. The cost of the lilies is **\$15** each. If you would care to give a lily, either as a gift or as a memorial, please complete this form and place it in the offering plate with your check marked "Lilies" or send the completed form with payment to the church office. **The last day for orders is Sunday, March 17th.** We will print all dedications received by that date in the Easter Sunday bulletins. Lily plants provided by *Floral Crush Studio*.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Your Name(s) _____

Email _____

Phone # _____

GIVEN IN

Memory of Honor of Celebration of

Total number of plants _____

Check enclosed in the amount of \$ _____



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



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:

<https://www.fccnh.org/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. 🌿

Tai Chi

breathing techniques • simple stretching exercises • meditation to reduce stress

Guided Tai Chi Classes

Tuesdays at 9:30am • Thursday at 3:30pm in the Youth Hut

CLASSES GUIDED BY BYRON ARMANTROUT • FREWILL DONATION OF \$10 PER SESSION



MEN'S GROUP MEETING

meets online weekly at

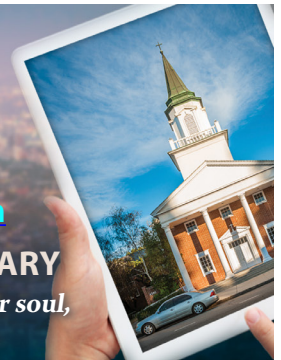
7PM WEDNESDAYS

Interested in joining?

For Zoom info Email: menoncorner@gmail.com

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

...you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. —MARK 12:30



BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Sunday Worship 10am	123
Sunday Morning Youth	16
Wednesday Youth	17
Sunday School	30

Sunday Worship Donations	\$2,410.00
Sunday School	\$10.25

SUNDAY GENERAL OFFERING \$2,420.25

CREDIT CARD OFFERING 2/5/24 - 2/11/24

CC GENERAL OFFERING \$1,965.00

CUMULATIVE GIVING \$4,385.25

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



ISAIAH 55:1

WAYS YOU CAN DONATE TO FCCNH

Paypal@fccnh.org

Venmo@fccnh.org

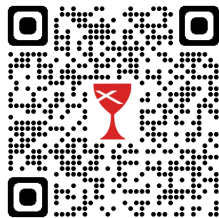
Zelle to

offering@fccnh.org

On our website

www.fccnh.org or

scan the code at right





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

this is love:

NOT THAT WE LOVED GOD
BUT THAT HE LOVED US &
SENT HIS SON AS

AN ATONING SACRIFICE FOR OUR SINS

1 John 4:10, NIV