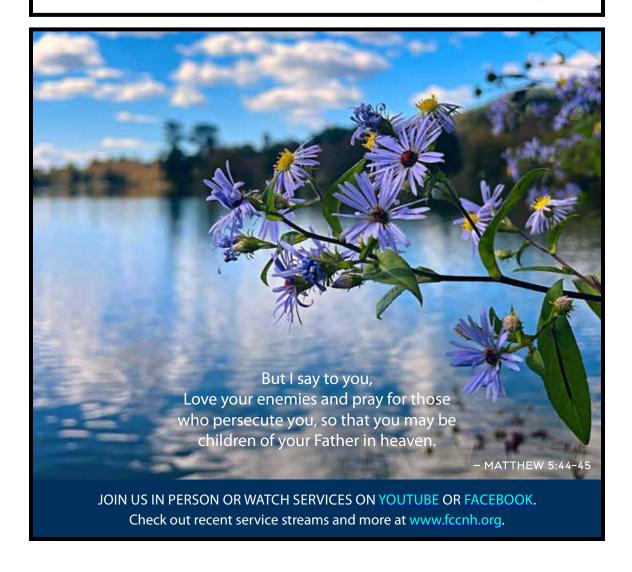


FirstChristianNews

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

March 13, 2024





As I shared in my sermon on Sunday, it isn't easy to have multiple priorities. Technically, it is impossible to have more than one priority. Yet, Jesus invites us to have two priorities that are "two sides of the same coin" as the saying goes - love God and love our neighbors. They cannot be separated.

I shared that my number one team is the Dodgers. Second, I love the Cardinals. Third, I enjoy cheering for the Braves since I grew up in the '90s and almost everyone cheered for the Braves in the South. The Cardinals "bought" my love when I was in seminary in St. Louis. They offer all pastors within 100 miles something called a pastor's pass. This pass would be the equivalent of two blank tickets. We could sit in any open seat!

The history behind this generous gift was that the pastors in the 1950s did not want the Busch Family (owners of multiple lines of beer, including Budweiser) to sell their beer in their Busch Stadium. The pastors threatened to boycott and energize their congregations to do the same. In the end, thanks to their "strong stand of faith," the pastors gave in to the offer of free pastor's passes. Hence,

this is where I have multiple priorities when I watch baseball games.

Many know what it is like to struggle through a to-do list. It isn't easy to prioritize them sometimes. We can feel pulled in a million directions. Then, it gets more complicated when we add priorities concerning work, school, family, etc.

God's beloved, if you are feeling overwhelmed with life at the moment, what if you started with loving God and your neighbors? How might this rubric for your day clarify what needs to be done first?

The scribe in our story wondered - What is the most important part of a life of faith? It is simple, yet difficult! To echo the words of Jesus, we won't be far off from the Kin-dom of God if we can make loving God and our neighbors a priority!

Together,

Pashe Joth

Senior Pastor





"Responding When Things Become Unraveled"

TEXT: MARK 13:1-8, 24-37

Some of the unrelenting, constant events in human history are wars, rumors of wars, earth-quakes, and famines. According to our text for this Sunday (Mark 13:1-8, 24-37), these are the beginning of the birth pangs. The idea of birth pangs is that something difficult leads to something meaningful. Yet, we have been living through these constant unraveling events since Genesis. What might Jesus be inviting us to do when all seems to be unraveling? This will be our topic on Sunday, March 17, as Pastor Jonathan preaches his sermon entitled "Responding When Things Become Unraveled."

Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall SENIOR PASTOR

Unable to join us in person?
Watch the livestream at
YOUTUBE or on FACEBOOK



During our upcoming congregational meeting, we will be voting on the following items:

- I. 2024 Plan for Ministry and Mission (AKA the budget)
- II. Nominations for new church leadership
- III. Creation of guidelines for an endowment at our church (four documents correspond with this act)
 - 1. FCCNH Gifts Policy and Gifts Commission,
 - 2. FCCNH Endowment Bylaws,
 - 3. FCCNH Endowment Investment Policy, and
 - 4. FCCNH Endowment Structure

IV. Amending our by-laws to include permanent Pastoral Relations Committees for all pastors on staff

All members of our church are invited to be part of the governing process of our church. After the meeting, we will have a special Meet & Greet with music by Larry Brown's Banna Beag Mall Band in honor of Saint Patrick's Day! Copies of these documents can be found in our narthex, in the copier room, and via this link -

http://tinyurl.com/FCCNH2024.

Additionally, minutes from our previous board meeting can be found in the narthex, in the copier room, and via this link -

http://tinyurl.com/FCCNHMinutes1-24.

GOOD FRIDAY labyrinth walk MARCH 29 · 12pm - 7pm

The labyrinth is a walking meditation, a path of prayer and an archetypal blueprint where psyche meets Spirit. It has only one path that leads from the outer edge in a circuitous way to the center. There are no tricks to it and no dead ends. Unlike a maze where you lose your way, the labyrinth is a spiritual tool that can help you find your way. On Good Friday our labyrinth will be set up in the Social Hall for all who wish to take this meditative walk from 12pm to 7pm.





GOOD FRIDAY service of tenebrae

MARCH 29 • 7:00 pm

A Service of Tenebrae, or "Shadows," is based on a twelfth-century late night/early morning service and is an extended meditation on the passion of Christ.





Palm Sunday Floral Procession

MARCH 24, 2024 • 10:00am SERVICE

featuring

The Children of our Sunday School & Youth Groups



All children go into the service as usual, with the exception of toddlers and babies. Dress to make your grandmother proud!

Parents: Please place a piece of tape on your child's flower or bouquet and label it with your child's name. There will be baskets in the Narthex to collect the flowers so the children won't need to hold them during the first part of the service.



Easter Breakfast SponsorshipsCrafted and Served by Our Youth



We Need You! Sponsor Ingredients

Easter Breakfast has traditionally been a nice fundraiser for our youth! This money has helped them do many trips and activities. One amazing way to help the breakfast be an even bigger success is to sponsor ingredients. We have a wholesale card so we will go buy the items, but if we could get donations of money to cover those items then the breakfast will be pure profit! If you sponsor \$30 in ingredients you get 2 complementary breakfasts! \$15 gets you 1! Plus we will throw in the warm glow of helping our youth for free! (No tickets to bother with, we will keep a list!)

OPPORTUNITIES:

- ☐ Eggs 8 @ \$20 each
- Blueberries 3@\$15 each ©
- ☐ Sausage 8 @ \$20 each
- ☐ Turkey Sausage 2 @ \$10
- Milk 4 @ \$10 each
- Tortillas 21@\$10 each
- ☐ Spices|Veggies Chilis 6@\$10 ea
- Syrup 3 @ \$10 each
 - Strawberries 4 @ \$10
 - Flour & Sugar 2 @ 20 🙂
 - Nuts 2 @ \$10 ©

- ☐ Bananas 4 @ \$20
- ☐ Orange Juice 4 @ \$20
- ☐ Whipping Cream 2 @ \$20
- ☐ Butter 3 @ \$20
- ☐ Cheese 3 @ \$20
- ☐ Salsa 2 @ \$10

TALK TO THE OFFICE OR MATT HUNT TO CLAIM YOUR SPONSORSHIP! SUPPORT OUR YOUTH!



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 THIS 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 \$





If you stand at the doorway of our Chapel, taking in the room's redwood walls and intimate feeling, you will have an idea of what the little Sanctuary of our church on the corner of Moorpark and Bakman was like. Those pews accommodated 90 people. Our present Chapel was deliberately designed in size and shape to recall the room that had played such a cherished part in making the First Christian Church of North Hollywood what it was back then. Seventy-four years later, even design modifications and the addition of a stained-glass window have not erased the importance of that chapter in our continuing story.

Imagine, now, what it was like on Dedication Day, March 12, 1950, for the congregants entering their new Sanctuary on Colfax and Moorpark for the first time. The 19,000 square foot plant was almost unimaginable. The Sanctuary alone comprised an entire wing. Connecting it with the two-story Church School/Social Hall wing were the Chapel, church offices, an upstairs Youth Room (now the Pastor's Study) and a Women's Parlor (now the Bride's Room).

Dedication Day was a resounding success. Afterward, the Women's Council estimated that some 1,600 people had attended the three services. The Recreation Committee said that between 550 and 600 people attended the reception in the Social Hall. The Deacons were kept busy all day conducting tours.

It was still a work in progress. The parking lot and alley were unpaved. There were no sidewalks or curbs. Inside, the ground floor had only concrete flooring. For months, the Church School Superintendent requested asphalt tile to remedy that situation, along with the need for Celotex to help muffle the noise between class-rooms. Youngsters using both the upstairs Youth Room and Women's Parlor could not hear over the sound of the organ pipes next door.

The total cost at opening was about \$215,000. The Board of Church Extension carried a \$75,000 loan. That and another \$5,000 loan comprised our basic indebtedness. Money was tight, but much of the labor needed for projects came from the sweat equity of the members. The Men's Group, for example, spent nearly a year installing the needed ground floor asphalt tile.

It was also apparent that some Rules of the Road on facilities use were needed. The Women's Council started that off by asking if dancing and card playing would be permitted. Questions concerning the "who can," "how," and "when" of using different rooms (particularly the kitchen) quickly led to the establishment of a Policy Committee.

Through it all, the congregation grew in number and as a church family in their new surroundings. At the heart of everything was the pledge they had made together on Dedication Day:

To a deepening of our Spiritual Life, a greatening of our faith, and a deeper stewardship of time, talent, and treasure, we dedicate this Church according to the purposes of Jesus, our Christ, and God, our Father.



Acolyte, Carter Williamson and Pastor Jonathan.

photo by Byron Armantrout

MARCH 24 • PALM SUNDAY **CWF BAKE SALE** Following the 10am service on PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24th, the Ladies of CWF will have their semi-annual Bake Sale & Jewelry Boutique in the Social Hall. The ladies are busy gathering their most delicious recipes and preparing to tempt your taste buds and help you find the perfect Mother's Day gift. Bring your love of sweets and a little extra cash on Palm Sunday, enjoy the baked goods and support the missions of Christian Women's Fellowship. We also welcome bakers who would like to donate their baked goods to CWF for sale.



A LOOK AT THE RECENT ELDER RETREAT















HUMAN NEEDS WARM CLOTHING & BLANKETS

The need for warm clothing and blankets continues 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

 p

 jeans

men/women underwear

□ socks

sweatshirts/pants

□ gloves

□ rain ponchos

blankets

and we're still collecting

hygiene products

Due to hygiene issues, please donate only new socks/underwear. Donations can be dropped off at the church office during normal business hours.

Thank you!



our Sunday morning services, please

contact Alberto Sigala for more info at

asigala480@gmail.com or 310-569-9908.



Ingathering Sunday IS MARCH 17th

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, March 17th.

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.



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 SAGAFTRA, 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.

06/17/24-06/21/24 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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06/24/24-06/28/24 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."

07/01/24 - 07/05/24 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.

07/01/24 - 07/05/24 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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07/08/24-07/12/24 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.

07/15/24-07/19/24 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.

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

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





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!



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, MARCH 10, 2024

Sunday Worship 10am 131 Youth Sunday AM 10

Sunday School 34

Sunday Worship Donations \$5,203.00

Sunday School \$13.00

Youth Breakfast Fund \$110.00

SUNDAY GENERAL OFFERING \$5,216.00

CREDIT CARD OFFERING 3/4/24 - 3/10/24

CC GENERAL OFFERING \$1,368.95

Youth Breakfast Fund \$35.00

CUMULATIVE GIVING \$6,584.95

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



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 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

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

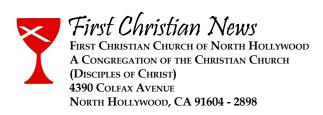
SENIOR PASTOR

Earle Immel

MINISTER OF MUSIC EMERITUS

Merle E. Fish, 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

First Christian Church of North Hollywood 818/763-8218 • FAX 818/763-8457

Website: www.fccnh.org email: fccnh@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

