

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 20, 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>.



I love being part of a congregation where we listen and make room for one another during a congregational meeting. Yes, we have to have a yearly congregational meeting for tax purposes. However, I view it as much more than doing something that is legally required!

The beauty of the way we do church is that we live out the story of Pentecost where everyone is celebrating being filled with the Holy Spirit. We are not a congregation where one person makes the decision. We are part of the process of governing ourselves! During a difficult moment in our politics, FCCNH offers another way. The word "politics" comes from Latin and Greek. The word means how we relate to each other. Therefore, when we talk about politics, it means that this is how we organize our shared humanity together because we are all in this together. Politics is, thus, necessary for human thriving!

FCCNH thrives because we celebrate the Holy Spirit in each of us. Therefore, we listen to each other. We include a variety of individuals in the process. This beautiful experience of making room for one another at the table and the meeting is the heart of what it means to be a "movement for wholeness in a fragmented world!"

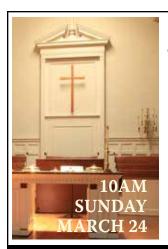
Thank you for being part of us. Thank you for being part of the process. Thank you for making room for others so that we can "be us", better!

Together,

Parter Joth

Senior Pastor





Walk This Way to Redemption TEXT: MARK 11:1-11• Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall, Senior Pastor

Each of the four accounts in the gospels notes something different for Palm Sunday. For example, John is the only gospel to note that palm branches were used. If it were not for John, we might be waving something different than palm branches! For this Sunday, we will look at how Matthew, Mark, and Luke note the direction from which way Jesus came. For this Sunday, March 24, Palm Sunday, we will look at why Jesus came in the direction that He did. This path had been taken before in scripture, but it always told a sad story. However, Jesus reclaims this route as one of redemption! Our text for Sunday is Mark 11:1-11 and Pastor Jonathan's message is entitled "Walk This Way To Redemption."

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CWF BAKE SALE

Christian Women's Fellowship & Semi-Annual Fundraiser

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

DIACONATE NEEDED

Former / current deacons are needed for the 6:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am for the Easter Services. Please contact Kevin Bailey (Kevin@lakesidegolfclub.com) to let him know when you are available.

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 from12pm 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.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

march 28 social hall 5:45pm meal & communion

We observe the night that Jesus celebrated the Passover. Come enjoy a potluck dinner with communion at each table. Please bring a soup for four; the church will provide bread and water.

Easter Breakfast

Crafted and Served by Our Youth



Hatch N.M. **Egg Scramble**

Aged North American Cheddar and Monterey Jack cheeses, Grilled Hatch New Mexico Chili Peppers, Smoked Roma Tomatoes,

Sweet Mayan Onions and fresh eggs.

Buttermilk Pancakes

Hot off the griddle **Buttermilk Pancakes** with Blueberry compote, Bananas Foster with Walnuts, or Strawberry and Cream toppings.



Served from 7am to 10:45am **Suggested Donation** of \$10-\$15 to sponsor our Youths' Activities **Appreciated but** not Required

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 complimentary 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 2 @ \$20 each Blueberries 3 @ \$15 each □ Sausage 8 @ \$20 each Turkey Sausage 2 1 @ \$10 Milk 4 @ \$10 each Tortillas -2 1 @ \$10 □ Spices | Veggies | Chilis 6 @ \$10ea Svrup 3 @ \$10 each -Strawberries 4 @ \$10 \$40 🗖 - Flour & Sugar 2 @ 20 \$40 🥶 Nuts 2 @ \$10 Bananas 4 @ \$20 □ Orange Juice 4 @ \$20 Butter 3 @ \$20 Cheese 3 @ \$20 □ Salsa 2 @ \$10 □ Whipping Cream 2 @ \$20

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

EASTER SUNDAY **baptisms**



If you are interested in being baptized at the 6:00 am Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday (March 31), please contact the church office at 818.763.8218.



Larry & Virginia Keene are celebrating the birth of a great-granddaughter. *Magdalena Liliana Merlan-Hermida* was born January 17, 2024. Congratulations to Larry and Virginia and welcome baby Magdalena!

David Rigsby Announces His Retirement

David Rigsby announced his retirement on Thursday night 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.

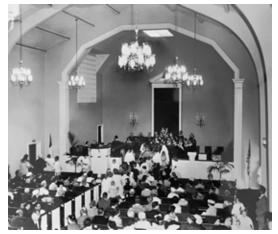
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David will be very busy until September 15. He will be retiring from his school at the end of the school year. David

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.

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





Palm Sunday Processional in the 1950s.

The Palm Sunday Processional is perhaps the most generational tradition we celebrate at our church home on the corner of Moorpark and Colfax. This Sunday, March 24, many young parents will watch their children carry flowers down the same aisle they themselves walked while growing up in our church family. Sitting next to them may be their own parents – now grandparents to the youngsters walking toward the Chancel steps. They, in turn, will remember Palm Sundays even farther back in that chain of our history.

The first processional appears to have taken place on March 18, 1951, just a year after we came to the new church. A brief report in the April 4th Official Board Minutes recalled the occasion. "Achievement: Palm Sunday processional (the foregoing successfully completed)." It was no easy feat. Church School enrollment for March 1951 was 409 pupils.

The 1959 Yearbook may reveal the first time a frame was used to form the flowered cross. That year, young children sat with their families until junior high schoolers ushered them out to the narthex. They began their processional down the center aisle under an arch formed by older boys holding palm fronds. At the Chancel steps, two girls in white robes helped the youngest place their flowers "in a large specially-constructed cross to form a most glorious flower memorial." Some of our members recall at least one year when the older boys carried the cross frame down the aisle to the Chancel steps, perhaps in remembrance of the cross Jesus would later carry.

Church School enrollments have fluctuated over the years, and Palm Sunday details have evolved. Confessions of Faith are a part of that evolution. In the very distant past, there was a short period when children made their Confessions of Faith in their Sunday School rooms. For years since, Pastor's Class members who have chosen to be baptized on Easter have gathered with their families and mentors at the front of the Sanctuary at the close of Palm Sunday. There, they have made their Confessions of Faith. Confessions of Faith may also be combined with the baptism experience.

Palm Sunday is a teachable moment in a complex Easter story. Young children may begin their walk down the aisle looking nervously around them until they see their parents' joyous, smiling faces. In that moment, they open out with answering joy. Youngsters who feel ready to open themselves out enough to declare their faith touch that same joy in an even deeper way. Easter week begins with joy. Despite the pain and sadness that follow, joy and openness return again on Easter morning.

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:

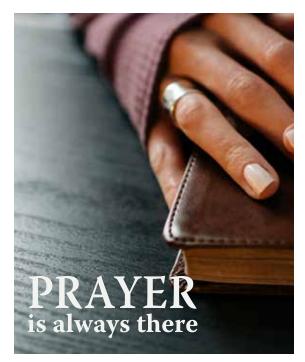
• Via email on the church website:

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.



FIRST CHRISTIAN NEWS



ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT: New member Sheriece Isaac with Pastor Jonathan. Acolyte, Austin Alexander, with Pastor Tau.

photos by Byron Armantrout





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
- g jeans g men/women underwear
- 🛚 socks
- □ rain ponchos
- □ gloves
 □ blankets
- and we're still collecting

^a sweatshirts/pants

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!*

MEET & GREET VOLUNTEER HOSTS NEEDED

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 <u>the church will</u> 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.



The History Search ladies of the 100th Anniversary Committee are working to fill some gaps in our historical records. If you or someone in your family have past Committee or Council notebooks, Congregational Board minutes, or other papers, and would like to make room in your own file cabinets or boxes, we would be happy to take custody of them. If possible, please bring them to the church office marked "History Search" or email Janet Bruce (grayladies@aol.com) or Barbara Wiles (barbwiles@verizon.net) and we will arrange to pick them up. Many thanks!!!



More information to be announced later. Questions? Contact Ne'e at <u>menoncorner@gmail.com</u>.

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!





Thursday at 3:30pm in the Youth Hut

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



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.

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.

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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.

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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.



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BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024

CUMULATIVE GIVING	\$19,246.00
Week of Compassion	\$100.00
Youth Breakfast Fund	\$295.00
CC GENERAL OFFERING	\$4,075.00
CREDIT CARD OFFERING 3/11/24 - 3/17/24	
SUNDAY GENERAL OFFERING	\$15,171.00
Youth Breakfast Fund	\$180.00
Sunday Worship Donations Sunday School	\$15,154.00 \$17.00
Sunday Worship 10am Youth Sunday AM Sunday School	128 14 33



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



CHURCH STAFF

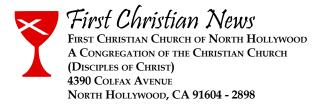
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VOLUNTEER STAFF

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





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.



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