



FirstChristianNews

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH HOLLYWOOD
A CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

REV. RANDY SPLETH, INTERIM PASTOR

JENNIFER LE'AU, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

LUIS OLIART, INTERIM YOUTH DIRECTOR

ALFREDO GOMEZ & LOYDI RIVAS GOMEZ, PASTORS, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION

Volume LXIV No. 57

July 13, 2022



First Christian Church of North Hollywood Selects Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall As New Senior Pastor

With joy in our hearts, and being led by the Holy Spirit, we announce that the congregation of First Christian Church of North Hollywood, on July 10, 2022, chose a new Senior Pastor, The Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall. This was after eleven months of intensive work on the part of the Pulpit Committee, under care from the Disciples Pacific Southwest Region. The Committee reviewed many candidates, and

had over 50 meetings, reading hundreds of pages of materials, and completed its task, even with COVID limitations. The Committee spent several hours in a first interview with the candidate which culminated with him coming to see us and the church for several days before making a decision. He has the unanimous approval of the Pulpit Committee, the unanimous approval of the Board and the unanimous approval of the congregation. His pastorate with First Christian Church of North Hollywood will begin on September 11th, Celebration Sunday. Please come to welcome him on that date.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 —

New Senior Pastor — Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall

The following are highlights from Pastor Jonathan's Ministerial Profile.

Education:

Pastor Jonathan obtained

- A B.A. in Religion and Sociology/ Anthropology from Transylvania University, Lexington, KY, in May 2006;
- A Master's of Divinity from Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO, in May 2009;
- A Certificate of Ecumenical Studies at Bossey Ecumenical Institute, Geneva, Switzerland, in February 2010; and
- A Doctorate of Ministry in Spiritual Formation from Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA, in May 2014.
- While at Claremont and knowing the importance of administration in Senior Pastor positions, he took the maximum number of courses he could at The Peter F. Drucker and Masatoshi Ito Graduate School of Management.
- He has studied French, Arabic, and Spanish.
- He was ordained in the Alabama/NW Florida Region July 11th, 2010.
- He has had additional significant training in the following areas:
 1. Health Ministry giving him "the ability to sit with individuals and families through any situation. I am able to walk into any emergency to offer pastoral care."
 2. The Art of Church Planting and Redevelopment
 3. Excellence in Ministry by the Pension Fund to "help clergy reduce financial pressures that impede our pastors' ability to serve effectively."
 4. Church Administration

Spiritual Discernment and Leadership Gifts:

- His spiritual formation was strongly developed through summer church camps.
- He loves being around people.
- He and his family are minimalists "(as much as we can be with two young kids)."
- He is a 4th-generation Disciple and has been "involved with numerous ecumenical endeavors."
- He is "not afraid to go into a difficult context" and to "see what is possible and how the past is prologue."
- His "leadership strengths and methods focus on articulating our identity and vision casting" through "a shared ministry" with the congregation.
- He works "best with a staff that values creativity, teamwork, and including older church members."

Areas of Ministerial Practice:

Of 16 core ministry competencies, each candidate was to select four and write about them. Pastor Jonathan selected and wrote about these:

1. Church Administration and Planning which is "the groundwork for everything else to flourish" by having "everyone on the same page working in the same direction."
2. Pastoral Care where he writes, "Knowing people's stories helps me know what we need to do in the church (for example, classes or sermon topics)."
3. Proclamation of the Word where he says, "It is one of my life's greatest honors to help the Word take on flesh... During my sermons, I seek to connect what is happening in our lives, our communities, and the world with God's story."
4. Stewardship: "I love to help individuals and communities connect their resources to where they

feel God is leading them... I have experience in my current context of significantly raising our general endowment while also creating new ones that align with the particular passions of the congregation."

Ministerial & Vocational Service Highlights:

- Senior Pastor twice:
 1. FCC Ventura, CA, July 2010 to November 2017
 2. Currently Senior Pastor of FCC Colorado Springs, CO, from November 2017 to present.
- Chaplaincy
- Self-Employed in "Make It Yours Weddings and Ceremonies"
- Minister of Children and Youth
- Youth Pastor
- Adviser, Boy Scout Troop #103, Ventura, Ventura Crew #2103, Cub Scouts #3176
- Author, Chalice Press, *Dear Son: Raising Faithful, Just and Compassionate Men* with Beau Underwood. (at www.smileamazon.com.) Two copies are now available in the church library.

References:

The Pulpit Committee conducted four confidential telephone reference checks and found no negatives. Among the comments were these:

- Successfully manages large church budgets
- Smart and patient as well as very kind and patient
- Very kind and loves children, meeting them on their level
- Super likeable, relatable, and a great listener
- Not distracted, completely focused on what the person is about, "one of the best listeners that you'll ever run into"
- Connects with and brings older and younger generations together

- Adapts and has fun with diving into new technology
- Spiritual knowledge
- Devoted love and passion for Jesus
- Stuck his neck out for diversity and inclusion
- Loves spreadsheets and Zoom meetings
- "He knows he has to move on to achieve his potential, but it is sad to see him leave."
- Gives people their roles and jobs without micromangement
- Always thinking about the future
- Ironman competition keeps him healthy, fueled, outside of church, physicality of swimming, running, etc.
- Outgoing personality and a ball of energy
- Meets conflict head-on
- Seeks help
- Does not act as boss, but facilitates
- "Having known Pastor Bob and Peggy, [the referent] believes Jonathan is the best candidate for FCCNH." The referent said, "It takes a Giant to replace a Giant."
- "If I were you, I would go after him with everything you have... No shortcomings at all."

It is our distinct pleasure to bring you a video sent to you from. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=WFQgv9RjNSA

The motion, which was passed unanimously on July 10, 2022 by the congregation was:

Resolved that FCCNH endorse the work of the Pulpit Committee and approve the Board's unanimous decision to extend a call to Jonathan Hall as Senior Pastor beginning September 11, 2022.

We are blessed, and we rejoice in the knowledge that Pastor Jonathan is our new Senior Pastor!

20th REPORT FROM THE pulpit committee



On Sunday, 10 July 2022, history was made at FCCNH. The congregation unanimously approved the selection of the Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall as our next Senior Pastor beginning 11 September 2022. You have read about his qualities in previous newsletter reports (without his name due to confidentiality requirements before he had notified his current congregation), so this will be a brief report with 5 photos and two video links (found on the opposite page):

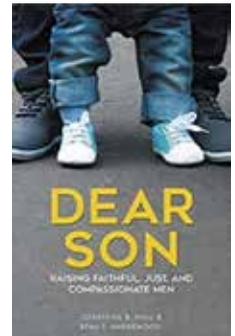


AT RIGHT:
The Halls – Malachi
6, Jonathan, Zion
3–no, “going on 4,”
and Annie



AT LEFT:
Annie, Aubie (one of their two cats), and the boys

AT RIGHT:
His recent book from Chalice Press (available on www.smileamazon.com where FCCNH receives a small percentage of the sale). Highly recommended reading on Kindle or in paperback, and two copies are now in the FCCNH library.



CONTINUED —

20th REPORT FROM THE
pulpit committee
 — CONTINUED —

PICTURED AT RIGHT:
 Daddy and his two sons (see the book, too)
 All the letters are signed "Daddy."



During the meeting, we shared this 6:06 minute video to FCCNH from Pastor Jonathan. Enjoy:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=WFQgv9RjNSA

Here is one of his sermons in FCC Colorado Springs (starting at 28:45—be patient with uploading):

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WY8cCIGLjADUC-yydxOPxFKGeHSR3cjG/view>

Finally, just after the unanimous vote was announced, at 11:57 a.m. I texted Pastor Jonathan this message:

White smoke unanimous vote welcome aboard Pastor.

He texted back the image and message pictured at right:

Unfortunately, I did not have my stronger reading glasses on and didn't catch the English translation so I could share it with the congregation: "Here I am." These two links will give depth to our understanding of that Hebrew word: Written definition of hineni:

<https://bjep.org/hineni-i-am-ready-and-i-am-prepared/>

Video definition of hineni: www.youtube.com/watch?v=n3F3kzMWv6Y

Finally, we have checked off 9 of the 10 items on our list (see page 6) and will have information on the formal installation of our new Senior Pastor for you in due time.

As always, we on the Pulpit Committee thank you for your prayerful support. Truly, as Doris Akers wrote, "There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place."



Yours in Christ's love,
 Richard Follett, Pulpit Committee Chair

SUNDAY, JULY 17th • 10:00am Worship:
 "Sam Questions" • Pastor Randy Spleth, preaching

Unable to join us in person this Sunday?
 Tune in to the livestream on YouTube at:

www.youtube.com/c/FIRSTCHRISTIANCHURCHOFNORTHOLLYWOOD



FCC NORTH HOLLYWOOD

Pulpit Committee Progress

- 1 FCCNH members and friends commit ourselves to prayerful guidance under the Holy Spirit for the Search Process.
- 2 Board selects a slate of members of the Pulpit Committee with approval by the Congregation.
- 3 Pulpit Committee meets with the Regional Minister to discuss the search process.
- 4 Pulpit Committee surveys the congregation and completes a congregational Profile.
- 5 Pulpit Committee does independent research and receives profiles of potential candidates.
- 6 Pulpit Committee creates a list of candidates to interview.
- 7 Pulpit Committee interviews candidates.
- 8 Pulpit Committee recommends one candidate to the church Board.
- 9 Congregation votes on the recommended candidate.
- 10 FCCNH joins with Regional Minister to welcome our new Senior Pastor.

Tai Chi

breathing techniques
simple stretching exercises
meditation to reduce stress

Guided Tai Chi Classes
Tues. 9:30 am & Thurs. 4:00 pm
in the Youth Hut

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



W2W
WOMEN to WOMEN

7:30pm FRIDAYS
via ZOOM

NEWCOMERS WELCOME

email for Zoom info

W2W.FCCNH@gmail.com



TOP LEFT: Sunday morning FCCNH congregational history lesson. We reviewed the general 100-year history of our congregation, legacy, and had dialog about the upcoming congregational meeting to approve our new pastor. **OTHER PHOTOS:** Summer adventure 1 with a 5-mile bike ride and an ice cream celebration at the finish line. We had some new families join the fun.

YOUTH PROGRAM • EXTENDED HOURS

SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:30AM-11:00AM • Middle & High School

SUNDAY EVENINGS

5:30PM-7:30PM • High School



greatervalleyglencouncil.org

In conjunction with

Valley Glen
Neighborhood

— AND —

Los Angeles District 2
Council Member Paul Krekorian

Food Drive

Sunday, July 24 • 3PM-5PM

at the Valley Glen Park (on Ethel between Oxnard and Erwin)



Proceeds go to the North Hollywood
Interfaith Food Pantry (nhifp.org)

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- CANNED SOUP (NOT CONDENSED)
- CANNED FRUIT
- CANNED VEGETABLES
- CANNED PROTEIN
- CANNED TOMATO PRODUCTS
- PEANUT BUTTER (NO FAMILY SIZE PLEASE)
- DIAPERS (ALL SIZES)
- PET FOOD
- HYGIENE PRODUCTS (TRAVEL SIZE PREFERRED)

***NO BEANS (a large donation was recently made) | *Please NO GLASS CONTAINERS**



MEN'S GROUP MEETING NEWCOMERS WELCOME

meets online weekly at

7PM WEDNESDAYS

Interested in joining?

For Zoom info Email: menoncorner@gmail.com



MEN ON THE CORNER SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE FOR THE MONTH OF JULY
He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young. – ISAIAH 40:11



**ICE CREAM SUNDAES
ON SUNDAY!**

The Elders invite you
to join us for a

**MEET & GREET
SUNDAY, JULY 17**

Following worship
this Sunday, enjoy
vanilla ice cream or
a lactose-free alternative
and build your own sundae
with **10 delicious toppings.**

Come join the fun!



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:

7/31	8/7	8/14	8/21	8/28	9/4
9/18	9/25	10/2	10/9	10/16	10/23

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.

2022 FCCNH SUMMER CAMPS

A few spaces are still available for the following camps:

Cooking Camp II • Grades 3 - 7

7.18.22 – 7.22.22 • 9:30am-12:30pm • \$195

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!

Photography Camp • Grades 3 - 12

7.25.22 – 7.29.22 • 9am - 12:30pm • \$195

Photography Camp is a half-day adventure between 9am-12:30pm. Additionally campers can enroll in Advanced Photography from 12:30-3:00pm (see below). 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. **Advanced Photography 12:30 - 3:00pm • \$85**

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.

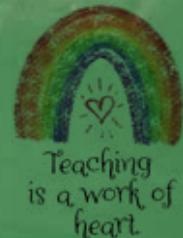


Christian Nursery School

FALL registration now OPEN!

for Ages 2 - 5 • Full or Half Day

for more information email Amanda@fccnh.org



BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 10, 2022_____

10:00am Worship	138
Sunday School	12
Youth Morning	9
Youth Evening	4
Thursday Youth	6

10:00 AM Worship Offering \$2,775.38

CREDIT CARD OFFERING NOT AVAILABLE AT
TIME OF PRINT BUT WILL BE INCLUDED IN
NEXT WEEK'S BY WAY OF REPORT.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Randy Spleth
INTERIM PASTOR

Alfredo Gomez
PASTOR, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION

Jennifer Le'au
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Luis Oliart
INTERIM YOUTH DIRECTOR

Tyana Parr
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S/YOUTH CHOIRS

David Rigsby
MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST

Christine Karasseferian
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Chris Carson
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

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

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

WAYS TO DONATE

1  Paypal@fccnh.org

2  @fccnh.org

3  First Christian Church
of North Hollywood

4 On our website at: www.fccnh.org



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(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.



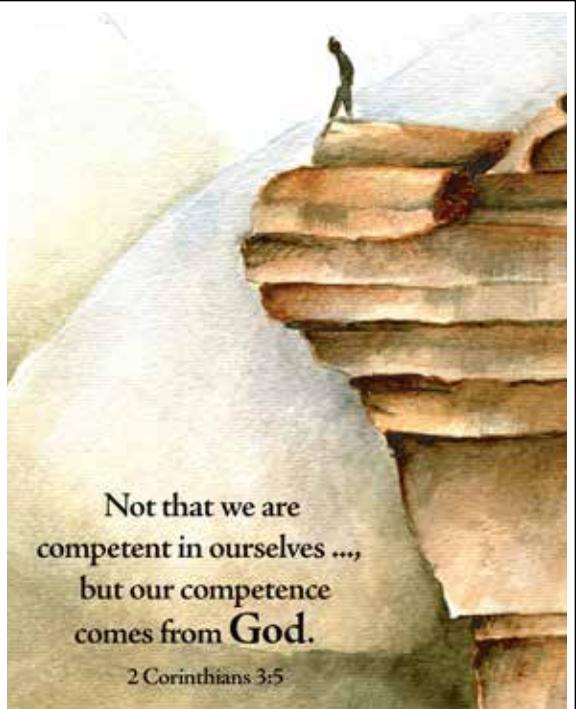
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First Christian Church of North Hollywood
818/763-8218 • FAX 818/763-8457
Website: www.fcnh.org
email: fcnh@earthlink.net

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
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Not that we are
competent in ourselves ...,
but our competence
comes from **God**.

2 Corinthians 3:5