



FirstChristianNews

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

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Volume LXII No. 30

January 24, 2018



I am He
that comforts you

ISAIAH 51:12

LETTER TO THE FAMILY



We live in an area populated by Live Oak trees. The Live Oak is the state tree of Georgia but has been planted in many different cities because of their magnificent appearance. Arborists say it is one of the most impressive trees grown in North America and can live hundreds of years. Live Oak wood is exceptionally strong. It is said that much of the wood used to build The USS Constitution, “Old Ironsides,” was from Live Oak trees.

In the Santa Clarita Valley our Live Oak trees are protected by law. Any limb over two inches in circumference cannot be trimmed without a permit and a visit by the city inspector. Only arborists with city endorsement are supposed to trim these beautiful trees.

We were talking to an oak specialist at our local nursery recently and learned that many of these trees are dying. It seems that the drought we have been experiencing recently has been detrimental to the Live Oaks, even though their roots go deep within the ground. Some trees, located in yards throughout the Valley, are dying because regular lawns have been replaced with artificial turf, thus depriving the trees of water and oxygen to the root system.

The point our friend at the nursery was making is that while Nature is resilient, she is also fragile and depends on the thoughtful care of the people who enjoy Nature’s gifts and beauty.

I share this because I have named 2018 “A Year of Gratitude.” One of the things those of us who live in Southern California are most grateful for is our lovely beaches, our magnificent mountains, our sunshine and our climate. And in gratitude we have an obligation

to care for these gifts that Nature provides us in the Southland.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has a nation-wide program called “Green Chalice.” It is a program in which local congregations pledge to live ecologically responsible lives and work with resilient Mother Nature to restore the balance God created. We are already doing most of the “requirements” of Green Chalice membership.

Because of an action of the Los Angeles City Council, the various companies who collect trash have been assigned geographic areas in which they may work. I don’t know too much about this decision except that it is controversial and owners of businesses have been appearing before the Council objecting to the ramifications of their decision.

The ramification for us, as a church family, is a new company with whom to deal. Our new partner in trash requires two collection bins, one for trash and one for re-cycling. This is a good thing ... except we have a small parking lot which is used to the max. We do not yet know where these two bins will be located. And the requirements are that they have easy access to the street. Trash trucks are monster vehicles.

You will notice new re-cycle bins around the church. We have re-cycled worship bulletins and paper used in our services of worship for many years. As of this month we ask those working in the kitchen, church school, Youth Hut, church office, etc., to be aware of the new re-cycle containers – and please – use them.

I also encourage you to attend the next three Monday night presentations entitled “Earth Care.” The programs will be in the Social Hall at 7:00 PM, the hour of our regular Monday night Bible study.

Next Monday, January 29th, we will be screening *Dr. Keeling’s Curve*. This is the story of atmospheric scientist David Keeling (1928-2005) whose pioneering work on CO₂ gave the world its first early warnings

about the dangers of human induced global warming. In the film Mike Farrell (who portrayed one of my favorite characters on MASH) portrays Dr. Keeling. Mr. Farrell will be with us to answer questions and share in our evening together.

On February 5th Deborah Streeter, co-director of “Blue Theology” will speak about the stewardship of our oceans. We have taken three mission trips to Pacific Grove where our youth have participated in Blue Theology under the guidance of our friend and fellow pastor, the Rev. Dan Paul.

And on February 12th Dr. Timothy Murphy will discuss “Creation Care.”

I invite you to share in all three of these informative programs.

I would like to close this little epistle with a sincere word of thanks. During our January Elder’s meeting in the Educational Annex we were aware of a lot of activity on the Annex roof. Then we saw bags and bags being handed down a ladder from roof to just outside the door.

Under the direction of Property Council chairman John Currin a work crew was cleaning all of the leaves off the Annex’s flat roof and out of the gutters. Working with John was Dino Schofield, Mike Eiklor and Neil Eiklor.

These four men worked at least four hours doing difficult, dirty work to assure we would have no leaks in the Annex roof in the next rain storm. On behalf of the entire church family I thank them for a difficult job – well done.

I look forward to seeing you in church Sunday.

Pergé!
Pastor Bob



REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

For those of you who know someone serving in the armed forces, as well as people serving in other capacities, we want to lift them up in prayer... please let us know when they come home!

Christopher A. Bernstein Joshua Bigbee
Chris Diaz

We also want to continue to pray for peace, for wisdom for the world’s leaders, and for the people of all war-torn areas of our world.



Join CWF (Christian Women’s Fellowship) for lunch

THIS SUNDAY
JANUARY 28 • 12:00 PM
IN THE ANNEX • \$5 PER PERSON

PROGRAM: *Exceptional Minds*
with guest speaker Ernie Merlan

PLEASE RSVP TO:
Sheryl Fitzpatrick 818.980.3747
or Sue Malotte 818.985.1631



Just A Thought...

The LORD said to Moses at Mount Sinai, “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘When you enter the land I am going to give you, the land itself must observe a Sabbath to the LORD. For six years sow your fields, and for six years prune your vineyards and gather their crops. But in the seventh year the land is to have a year of Sabbath rest, a Sabbath to the LORD. Do not sow your fields or prune your vineyards.’” (Leviticus 25:1-4)



Not too long ago, I happened upon a Ken Burns documentary about the American “Dust Bowl”. While this event is one I recall learning about in my history classes and from John Steinbeck – I love “The Grapes of Wrath!” – I learned a lot more about the causes of the huge dust storms that raced across the Central Plain states in the 1930’s. Those dust storms, also called “Black Blizzards” made their way east to New York City and Washington D.C., filling these city’s streets with top soil blown all the way from the heart lands of the United States.

The cause of this massive erosion of soil was from a combination of drought and of poor care of the soil itself. There are few sources of water appropriate for agriculture in many of these places, and after folks received land grants from the government to settle the

Great Plains, they found much harsher conditions than they expected. Cattle ranchers had already plundered the deep-rooted natural grasses that held the soil in place by allowing large herds to graze. Rapid mechanization of farm equipment allowed vast swaths of land to be quickly plowed and planted. And combined with drought conditions, the unanchored top soil was quickly blown away in huge clouds that blackened the sky.

The Dust Bowl affected about 100,000,000 acres of land and left many people impoverished as they were forced to leave their land, encumbered by indebtedness. From this experience much was learned about farming and the need to protect the land. Farming techniques changed and soil conservation became important.

It is interesting that ancient people like the Hebrews were aware of the need to protect the land. Mosaic Law emphasizes the need for people to have Sabbath rest – one day a week that is set aside for not working. And they recognized that the land too, needs to rest. Every seventh year was set aside as a Sabbatical year in which the land was to lay fallow to restore itself. The earth has the ability to heal or replenish what is taken from it, when we grant it ability to do so.

And when we abuse the land and its resources, it also has a way of simply doing what it does in response. And this is not always friendly to people or animals. Good stewardship of the land and water is essential for life to flourish. We are called to care for the earth as stewards of God’s creation.

Pastor Louise





JANUARY 29

7:00 PM in the Social Hall

The evening begins with a screening of *Dr. Keeling's Curve*, featuring Mike Farrell, and will be followed by a Q&A with Mr. Farrell about the film.

FEBRUARY 5

We will hear a speaker from "Blue Theology" about the need to understand stewardship of our oceans.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

A final discussion of "Creation Care" with Dr. Timothy Murphy.



UPCOMING
**MEMORIAL
SERVICES**

AT FCCNH



We celebrate the life of

Nancy Posner

ON

**Saturday, February 3rd
1:00 pm in the Sanctuary**

A reception to follow
in the Annex.



We celebrate the life of

Harriett Brandt

ON

**Saturday, February 10th
11:00 am in the Sanctuary**

Reception to follow
in the Social Hall.





YADA♥UNITE

February 16-19

“tearing down walls”

Our High School and Young Adult Leadership Conference is less than one month away! Are you wondering what it is all about? Check out our information site! You'll find an agenda for the weekend, information about our hotel, and much more. Share with your friends and register today!!!!

<https://pswryouthya.lpages.co/unite/#about>



FCCNH has an opening for an **audio operator** the 1st Sunday of every month for the 10:00 am worship service... we are also looking for suitable candidates to do **sound**, **slides**, and **lights** for the 5:30 pm SpiritSong service.

Interested parties should contact Greg Kirkland for details—Greg@fccnh.org.



INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY PICKUP SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 31

Art Dilhenn
Larry Gerber
Sarah Whalen
Ian Reed
Justin Barnette
Danny Pino

Thursday, January 25

#1 Barry Dantagnan
Terri Hall
Jackie Feecs

Sunday, January 28

#8 Sally Hallada
Jill Grosirth
Joe Beam
Jacob Beam

Thursday, February 1

#3 Rae Eiklor
Mike Eiklor
Neil Eiklor
Heather Hatch

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER CONTACTS

Transportation Teams:

Heather Hatch 508.667.1609

Congregation Representative:

Erin Zavala erinLzavala@gmail.com

ANOTHER WAY TO DONATE TO THE PANTRY

Make your donations to the Interfaith Food Pantry through the FCCNH web page (<https://fccnh.charityfinders.com/Donate%20Cash>).

THE FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF:
Canned tuna, canned chicken, rice, canned beans (pinto, navy etc.), boxed (dry) cereal, diapers, powdered milk, baby food, peanut butter and tomato products!

BY WAY OF REPORT

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018 _____

10:00 AM Worship	177
5:30 PM SpiritSong Service	35
7:00 PM Evenlight Service	7
7:00 PM Wednesday Meditation	10
Sunday School Children	45
Sunday School Youth	16
Evening Youth Group	9

10:00 AM Worship	\$6,634.03
1:00 PM Servicio en Español	\$126.00
5:30 PM SpiritSong Service	\$844.00
7:00 PM Evenlight Service	\$142.00
7:00 PM Wednesday Meditation	\$11.00
Sunday School Children	\$9.00

TOTAL GENERAL OFFERING \$7,766.03

Special Donation \$5,000.00

CHURCH STAFF

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ASSOCIATE PASTOR
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Jeremy Gillett
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES
Tyana Parr
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S/YOUTH CHOIRS
Joshua Elson
MUSIC DIRECTOR
David Rigsby
ORGANIST
Christine Karasseferian
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
Gilliana Bonacci
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Diane Hirsch
ADMINISTRATIVE ASST./WEB MASTER/PUBLICITY COORDINATOR
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
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Miriam Mancilla
DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN NURSERY SCHOOL
Greg Kirkland
MEDIA DIRECTOR

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John Henry Kreider, Tom Louie, Susan Marble, Jeff McFadden,
Denise Ovaldson
SOUND TECHNICIANS
Luis Oliart
SECURITY

IN MEMORIAM

Earle Immel
MINISTER OF MUSIC EMERITUS
Merle E. Fish, Jr.
MINISTER EMERITUS



NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE
IS MIDNIGHT SUNDAY!

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA EMAIL TO
terrib@fccnh.org or terriburton@gmail.com

Please indicate "newsletter" and/or "bulletin" in the subject line if articles are for publication. Articles can also be delivered to the office M-F, 9am to 5pm.



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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

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Cindy Kaller

Sunday Preview January 28, 2018

10:00 am Gaye Coffman (O)
Jay Aldrich (C)
5:30 pm Randy Carver
7:00 pm Aliza Ramos

Diaconate:

Kathy Dantagnan
Barry Dantagnan
Mike Dobbin
Ellen Dobbin
David Olsen
Scott Riley
Debbie Geraci
Denise Bourne
Shelley Cherwinski
Chris Qualls

Upcoming Diaconate:

February 4 Barbara Wiles & Janet Bruce
February 11 Ken Campbell & Marla Fain
February 18 Stacey Constantine & Connie Cross
February 25 Mike Dobbin & Ellen Dobbin