



FirstChristianNews

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH HOLLYWOOD
A CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
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JEREMY GILLETT, DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES
ALFREDO GOMEZ & LOYDI RIVAS GOMEZ, PASTORS, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION

Volume LXIII No. 57

July 29, 2020

Give careful thought to
the paths for your feet ...
be steadfast in all your ways.

— PROVERBS 4:26 (NIV)

JOIN US FOR THE SERVICE THIS SUNDAY — PLUS STUDIES,
GROUPS AND MORE — ALL ONLINE AT WWW.FCCNH.ORG

LETTER TO THE FAMILY



We're living through some very confusing and conflicting times. Every day I try my best to make sense and understand decisions that are being made for us by the courts and governmental leaders. Some of them make no sense to me whatsoever.

For instance, last Friday I read that the Supreme Court ruled against a Las Vegas church's charge of religious discrimination. The church's view was that they were prohibited from opening for worship while the casinos were allowed to open for gambling. Personally, I felt that the church had a very compelling case. If the city of Las Vegas, and the State of Nevada, was concerned about the spread of the COVID virus, why would they allow casinos, where there is little possibility of enforcing mask wearing and social distancing, to open and prohibit churches, which can follow all prescribed safety precautions, from holding services of worship? Obviously I did not agree with the court's decision.

This morning I read, what to me, was another rather confusing and conflicting report. According to Pro-Football Talk, NFL players can be fined, docked a paycheck or even have their contract altered for attending a church service. The report read: "Players cannot attend indoor night clubs, indoor bars (except to pick-up food), indoor house parties (with 15 or more people), indoor concerts, professional sporting events, or indoor church services that allow attendance above 25 percent of capacity." The restrictions were agreed upon by the NFL and the players union.

I read the report several times and finally realized that what bothered me most was that church services are being lumped together with night clubs, bars, house parties, sporting events and concerts. It

was probably for the sake of expediency but it offended me. In all of those other prohibited places people are very close to one another. In church services social distancing and the use of masks can easily be practiced. So my hope is that the players will still attend church as long as they follow the guidelines. Of course, even with the previous guidelines, members of our own Rams and Chargers cannot attend church services if they are held indoors.

All of this is simply part of the world in which we live. Personally, I do not want to return to our beautiful sanctuary for worship until it is safe for everyone. I believe the more we observe the safety guidelines being suggested the sooner the day will come when it is safe. A church service is a place of obedient worship. To look at it any other way is, in my opinion, wrong.

As followers of Jesus we need to stand tall. We need to speak the truth in love. And we need to do everything we can to bring an end to this virus. And when we are able to be together again we will be stronger and better for living positively through these confusing and conflicting times.

Our virtual cooking camp was a great success last week. And there are still openings in our virtual martial arts and our virtual dance camps next week. They meet from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Parents and adults are more than welcome to participate in either of these camps. You can see full descriptions of each camp and register through the church website – www.fccnh.org – or contact Kristina Frost, the Director of Summer Camps, who can answer all your questions at camps@fccnh.org. Registration deadline is Friday evening, July 31.

Have a great week. See you in church – online!

Pergé
Pastor Bob



VIRTUAL CAMPS!

***Please Note: camps may be canceled due to low enrollment, so please spread the word! Registration is OPEN NOW! Please email Kristina Frost at: camps@fccnh.org with any questions or concerns.**

**Virtual Dance Camp by ACE Dance Project:
August 3-7, Hours: 9:30am-12:30pm
Price: \$99 per family**

This week of dance will be filled with genres including ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop and yoga. We will offer beginner/intermediate levels based on age. Every morning will begin with a warm up - stressing the importance of waking the body up before a busy day - and end with mind and body calming yoga. Ace Dance Project is so excited to be part of your kids' summer dance experience!

**Virtual Martial Arts Camp:
August 3-7, Hours: 9:30a-12:30p
Price: \$99 per family**

There is nothing outside of yourself that can ever enable you to get better, stronger, richer, quicker or smarter. Everything is within. Seek nothing outside of yourself, only the spirit within. We do not use martial arts for hurting people - it's for protecting them and ourselves. It's not about fighting, it's about building character. Let Victory Martial Arts teach you Life Skills first, kicks and punches second! Each camper receives a uniform and belt!

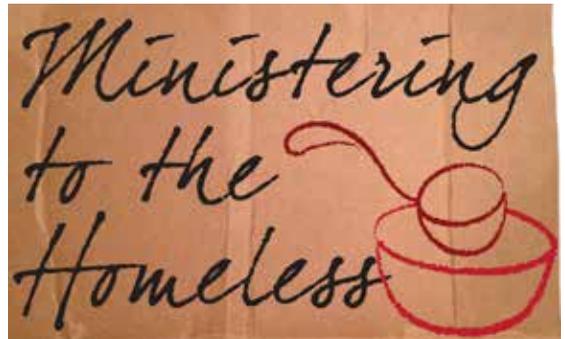


REMEMBERING THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

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!

Chris Diaz • Joshua Bigbee • Steven Zaun

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.



a note from the **HUMAN NEEDS COMMITTEE**

We are in need of summer clothes! Men's t-shirts, shorts, and jeans. Socks for men and women. Ladies t-shirts, shorts, summer pants and casual dresses. Underwear for men and women—plus hats and water bottles.

Donations can be dropped off at the church office during normal business hours. Please contact Deborah Luster with any questions at 323.854.6707. Thank you!

IMPORTANT NOTE

Tuesday morning Bible Study is on hiatus next week and will resume on August 11.

The Wednesday Evening service is also on hiatus until August 12.

youthink



I greet you in the Wonderful Magnificent name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The youth have a busy August schedule and I am excited to share this with you. As many of you know, students are starting school and are entering new grade levels. Thus, it is also the case for the youth group. Each year we typically have a welcome party for our incoming sixth graders to introduce them to the youth group. This year, I'll be hosting a Zoom meeting for all incoming sixth graders and their parents. We will discuss youth events, my expectations of the youth and parents, I'll answer all relevant questions pertaining to the youth ministry, and we'll conclude with a prayer. I'm uber excited about our incoming sixth graders.

As for our existing youth members: yesterday we completed our virtual *Blue Theology* mission trip. I am proud to say that we had 25 youth participate in this event. Wow! Go FCCNH youth!

Starting the first week of August, we'll open our "Community Circle" to both divisions of our youth group. Community Circle will be a Zoom gathering hosted by Sheri Werner (certified psychologist and principal of a charter school) and me. We will discuss and share tools for our youth to combat feelings of isolation and frustration they're experiencing living in these strange and unusual times.

I'm glad to announce that our online worship service for August 16th will be conducted by our youth. Yes, it's Youth Sunday! Normally, only those attending the 10am worship in person have the opportunity to witness the leadership of our youth on this day. But on August 16th everyone tuning into the service will have an opportunity to see the future leaders of our church and society offer their gifts from God to the Church.

I'm blessed to be a part of such a dynamic team at FCCNH. It is a place in which we place a high priority on the children of our church. Thank you to everyone

who helps make this a reality.

It takes teamwork to make the dream work.

Best,
Jeremy Gillett
Director of Youth Ministries

Pantry Vounteers,

The Pantry is in need of 15oz cans of beans. Please leave all donations at the church office M-F 9-5.



If everyone could hold off on paper bag donations until August that would be helpful at this time.

The pantry is still in need of help moving bags. If interested, please reach out to Barbara at bjavitz@gmail.com.

We have an at home activity - make sack lunches. These lunches would have to be delivered to the pantry by 7am either Mon or Friday. Each sack lunch consists of:

- one sandwich (bagged)
- bag of chips
- bag of cookies or energy bar
- piece of fruit (apple or orange or banana)
- a bottle of water

All in a paper bag. It's easy to make ten (10) of these and deliver them. You can decorate the bag (outside) if you so desire. This is a great service for our unhoused clients.

Thank you,
Rae Eiklor - FCCNH Food Pantry Liaison



August BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Steve Bulen
Neill Goben
Matthew Hallada
Alyssa Werner | 12 Teri Wagner-Fontes
Megan Burkart
Lora Wichmann
Henry Williams |
| 2 Ida Carlshagen
Lael Robinson | 13 Jeremy Gillett
Christian Youngblood |
| 3 Andy Holmer
Richard Johnson
Claire Markel
Katie Levy
Zac Levy | 14 Jon Bock
Sylvia Jeffries
William Markel
Raymond Torres |
| 4 Macauley Bulen
O'Zell Green-Simon
Nelle Niles
Alexa Rhoads
Crystal Torres | 15 Chloe Matthews
Shawn Sandels |
| 5 Lauri Fitzsimmons | 16 Lawton Grant |
| 6 Talia Martineau | 17 Hazel Carpenter
Sutton Frost |
| 7 Mary Cooper
Gracie Johnson
William Maseredjian
Claire Mitchlll
Alan Nawoj
Parker Snider | 18 Loan Anle
Marisa (Annino) Rosen
Jenny Bailey
Edward Esau
Cooper Frost
Mattias Lupei
Emily Petrie
Sara Rushing
Kelli Simmons |
| 8 Rodney Gould
Aislyn Speakman
Emmaline Tuttle | 19 Michael Bax
Frank De Lucia
Christine Gaul
Diane Hirsch
Susan Meade |
| 9 Michele Amundsen
Wyland Perrin
Robin Stallings | 20 Jeanie Moore |
| 10 Casey Butz
Rebecca Owen | 21 Haley Dade |
| 11 Marlo Schofield | 22 Amanda Sigala |
| | 23 Charlette Anderson |
| | 25 Rachael Luster |
| | 26 Tyler Savage
Kevin Simon |
| | 27 Clementine Butler
Eagen Will |



August ANNIVERSARIES

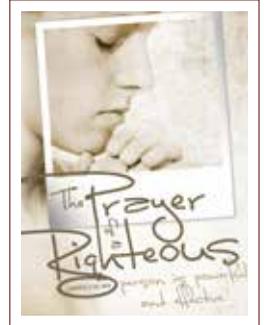
- | |
|--|
| 28 Kevin Andrews
Adaline Butler
Ava Stranahan |
| 29 Isabella Batts
Scott Lewis
Ricki Maslar
Cathy Melendez |
| 30 Aiden Batts
Jillian Kusch
Kenneth Kusch |
| 31 Geriann McIntosh
Barbara Wiles |
| 1 David & Glenda Colwell |
| 2 Tony Kaye & Dani Torchia |
| 4 Rodney & Idan Gould |
| 5 Kevin & Stephanie Kenney |
| 7 Scott Bridges & Melodee
Holsinger-Bridges |
| 8 Bill & Lynda DeMartines
Don & Celia Jordan |
| 9 Fred & Eva Sloan |
| 10 Kelly & Lynda Swavely |
| 11 Larry & Judy Day |
| 16 Ryan & Christine Gaul |
| 17 Andrew Braden & Gabrielle
DeRouen-Hawkins Braden |
| 19 Dash & Vassi Hawkins |
| 22 Kathleen & Barry Dantagnan
Craig & Jenny Harris |
| 25 William & Dawn Halberstadt |
| 27 Steve & Barbara Bulen |
| 29 Richard & Cathy Melendez |
| 30 John & Deborah Currin |

Still PRAYER IS ALWAYS THERE

A Note to the Church Family from Your Prayer Groups

Prayer has always been a fundamental part of the glue binding us together as a church family. Unfortunately, the current realities of our worldwide health crisis mean that we cannot physically gather together for either worship or prayer in the church that is “home” to so many of us.

We in the Monday morning and Tuesday evening Prayer Groups want to reassure you that, despite temporarily suspending our weekly gatherings in the Chapel, individual prayers from and for you have continued all along. As part of our covenant, we both corporately lift prayers when we are together, and lift them in our individual daily prayers throughout the week.



There Are Several Ways Your Prayers Can Reach Us

- Via direct email to one of our leaders:
Janet Bruce (grayladies@aol.com) • Eunice Cox (ec4prayer@aol.com) • Irion DeRouen (dashsmom@aol.com)
- Via e-mail via the church website:
(go to www.fccnh.org. > Worship > Prayer Requests) or click here: www.fccnh.org/worship/prayer-requests/
- Via phone call to the church office: 818-763-8218
- If you are at the church, via prayer cards that 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.

Unless urgent, Janet will compile prayers submitted on Saturday and Sunday and for the weekly list. Midweek prayers will be sent out as received. We will continue to hold you close to our hearts throughout the coming days and weeks.

8am Wednesdays on Zoom. Interested?
Email: menoncorner@gmail.com for Zoom info.

BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK OF SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020 _____
 Total General Offering \$3,830.00

CREDIT CARD OFFERINGS JULY 22-28, 2020 _____
 General Offering \$1,325.00



Did you know a percentage of
 your online purchases can be a
 donation to FCCNH?

Check out our website (www.fccnh.org) and click on the Donate or Vendor button at the top of the page and select "First Christian Church of North Hollywood" as your designated charity.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

**FCCNH NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE IS MIDNIGHT SUNDAY**

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

Articles can also be delivered to the office
 Monday thru Friday, 9am to 5pm.

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IN MEMORIAM

Earle Immel
 MINISTER OF MUSIC EMERITUS

Merle E. Fish, Jr.
 MINISTER EMERITUS



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A CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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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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Deborah Wheeler	Virginia Stebbins
Cindy Kaller	



CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT TEAM FOR SENIORS OR DISABLED

During this ongoing health crisis, several members of the congregation have organized a team of volunteers available to pick up groceries, prescriptions, medical supplies, etc., for our elderly, at-risk, or disabled FCCNH Family. For information, assistance, or to volunteer please contact Shane G. at 818.760.2551 (landline only -- no texts), or the church office during normal business hours.

For those who would like to help support these efforts in any way please contact the church office during normal business hours for information.