



Church Life

Worship on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
714-538-9681 • www.fccorange.com
An Open and Affirming Congregation

Chapman University Partner • Stephen Ministry Congregation • Habitat Covenant Church
February 9, 2011

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WEEK OF COMPASSION February 20 through 27

"God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."



Ahhh! The joy that comes from giving someone just the perfect gift. Their utter delight is a gift right back.

Joy motivates us to share our resources with a hurting world through Week of Compassion. Where does this joy come from? From God! Sharing invites God more fully into our lives: As we reach out in love, we open the way for God to reach more deeply into us. As one contributor said, "Giving just feeds my soul! This is what life is about—not collecting things, but helping people."

Giving from our abundance helps build clean water and sewage facilities in villages devastated by poverty; nurtures self sufficiency through health care, education, and job training; and brings safety, shelter, and food after natural disaster or violent circumstances have made towns uninhabitable.

Sharing brings you to us, to others, to God. Let sharing transform you as you help transform the world through Week of Compassion.

We will receive this special outreach offering on the two Sundays indicated. Please be generous with your gifts.

YOUNG ADULT LED WORSHIP March 6th at FCC Orange

Young Adults? In the church? In our church? YES! They may not always be in worship, but this church has many active 18-35 year-olds. Sometimes you *can* find them in worship, at Bible Study, in leadership at FCCO, at Chapman, or out in the world trying to figure out who they are as people and most importantly as Disciples of Christ.

On March 6th, join around 20 young adults as they look at the Matthew 7:21-29, the parable of the Wise man and the Foolish man. This popular story causes all of us to question what type of foundation that our faith is built upon.



Keeping in Touch...



Something as simple as a light bulb operates on the vacillation between positive and negative poles. There is enough in life that pulls us toward the negative. The real charge in life comes when we leap from what is negative to the positive. Plug into the positive.

Which reminds me of this story about a king in Africa who had a close friend who he grew up with. The friend had a habit of looking at every situation that ever occurred in his life (positive or negative) and remarking, *"This is good!"*

One day the king and his friend were out on a hunting expedition. The friend would load and prepare the guns for the king. The friend had apparently done something wrong in preparing one of the guns, for after taking the gun from his friend, the king fired it and his thumb was blown off.

Examining the situation the friend remarked as usual, *"This is good!"* To which the king replied, *"No, this is NOT good!"* and had his friend sent to jail.

About a year later, the king was hunting in an area that he should have known to stay clear of. Cannibals captured him and took them to their village. They tied his hands, stacked some wood, set up a stake and bound him to the stake. As they came near to set fire to the wood, they noticed that the king was missing a thumb.

Being superstitious, they never ate anyone that was less than whole. So they untied the king and sent him on his way. As he returned home, he remembered the event that had taken his thumb and felt remorse for his treatment of his friend.

He went immediately to the jail to speak with his friend. *"You were right"* he said, *"it was good that my thumb was blown off."* And he proceeded to tell his friend all that had just happened. *"And so I am very sorry for sending you to jail for so long. It was bad for me to do this."*

"No," his friend replied, *"this is good!"*

"What do you mean, This is good?!" How could it be good that I sent my friend to jail for a year?

"If I had not been in jail, I would have been with you."

Certainly, no one knows what tomorrow will serve us. But attitude has much to do with life's menu. We always have a choice as to how we approach life.

"Two men look out through the same bars," wrote Fredrick Langbridge, *"One sees mud and one sees stars."*

See you in church,

Stanley D. Smith, Senior Pastor

COME WORSHIP WITH US

"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Arms"

February 20, 2011

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Leviticus surely stands among the least treated biblical books in the lectionary. In fact, it only appears once in the lectionary cycle, and this is on the 7th Sunday of Epiphany, which because Lent often comes early, it never appears. So what are we to think of this text? Leviticus at least deserves a little more of the love it asks us to show to our neighbor.

Scriptures: **Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18** Psalm 119:33-40
1 Cor. 3:10-11, 16-23 **Matthew 5:38-48**

We invite you to come and worship, bring friends, sing and celebrate God's loving grace. Worship leadership includes **Don Latimore, Stan Smith, Olivia Updegrave, Dean Shepherd, Phil Chap,** and others.

February 27, 2011

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

This text certainly would not make it onto any Bible passage popularity list. It's not an "old standard" taught to children in Church School, and it anything but a feel good, familiar text. There are no pageants written about the first few verses of Paul's letter to the Corinthians. This is not a passage that would make it onto a banner as you enter the church parking lot. Nevertheless, *judgment* is a word that demands a hearing.

Scriptures: Isaiah 49:8-16a Psalm 131
1 Corinthians 4:1-5 Matthew 6:24-34

We invite you to come and worship, bring friends, sing and celebrate God's loving grace. Worship leadership includes **Shami Espinoza, Juan Espinoza, Stan Smith, Olivia Updegrave, Dean Shepherd, Phil Chap,** and others.

March 6, 2011

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Young Adult Led Worship

(Please see the Front Page of this Church Life)

Scripture: **Matthew 7:21-29**

We invite you to come and worship, bring friends, sing and celebrate God's loving grace. Worship leadership includes our **Young Adults.**

More Happenings

PSWR Disciple Women 21st Regional Convocation

Friday, March 11 and Saturday, March 12, 2011

The registration deadline for this event has been **extended to Tuesday, February 15**. Please plan to attend this once every two-year event to expand your awareness of "*God Calling to be in Prayer, to use our Gifts, to be of Service.*" Register at: http://pswdw.com/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/2011_Convocation_Registration_Form.282144334.pdf or come to the church office.

Chapman Founders Day 2011 Celebrating 150th Anniversary

Chapman University is turning 150 years old this year and a central campus celebration will be held at our 28th Annual Founders Day, **March 18 & 19, 2011**. The **two day** event held on the Orange, CA campus has many strong options for participants to enjoy under the theme, **ReNew**.

ReThink – **Bishop John Shelby Spong**, leading theologian and spokesperson for progressive Christianity, will offer three lectures during the day on Friday, March 18:

Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism, *Jesus for the Non-Religious*, and *Eternal Life: A New Vision*

ReFlect – **Dr. Newell Williams**, President of Brite Divinity School and leading Disciples historian will present a lecture called *Chapman DNA: Disciples, Education and Abolition* on Friday evening, March 18.

ReCognize – **Dr. Dennis Short** will be honored as Church Leader of the Year during worship on Saturday morning, March 19.

ReUnite – **Dr. Alvin Jackson**, noted preacher and pastor of Park Avenue Christian Church in New York City and Chapman alumnus, will preach during worship on Saturday morning, March 19.

ReKindle – Our church relatedness as we celebrate our Disciples heritage and honor our new official relationship as a United Church of Christ university

ReJoice – **Anne Lamott**, gifted essayist and novelist dealing with themes of faith, grace, sobriety and community with humor and heart, will present readings from some of her work on Saturday afternoon, March 19. **The Chapman University Choir** will also perform.

Other hi-lights include events for prospective students and parents, campus tours, a luncheon, and a Saturday evening **Young DOC Alumni event**. Child care is available upon early request.

Detailed information and online registration is available at www.chapman.edu/churchrelations/founders.asp. Questions? Please call the **Office of Church Relations at Chapman - 714.997.6760**.

January 30, 2011

Communion Prayer

God of Love, we thank You with grateful hearts today, because we know that no matter where we pitch our tent or how high the mountains we have to climb or low into the valleys of life we must go, we still breathe in deeply the beauty of You around us.

We soak in the sunlight of Your love, drink from the life sustaining river of faith, hear the crunch of crisis beneath our feet, feel the winds of transformation against our face, wrap our arms around one another, and know that we are whole, and that You are there.

And until the end of time, we understand that we are always in Your sanctuary, where we can practice kindness, where we can learn to walk humbly, where we can teach justice, where we can gather around the table of Your love, to share the bread of life and the cup of hope. Amen

– Penni McRoberts

February 6, 2011

Offertory Prayer

Lord, You are our Light: You are the Light of the cosmos, in Jesus Christ, You are the Light of the world, and through the Spirit You are the Light within us all.

You have told us to claim Your Light and live in such a way that it shines through all that we do and is salt and light to the world.

As we bring our hearts, our gifts, and our lives to You now, we trust You to transform these offerings into salt and light for the world, as food for the hungry, shelter for the homeless, and hope and love for all who need You this day. Transform what we offer here, including the persons we are becoming by Your grace, so that all Your creating will see and give glory to You.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

– Barbara Post

Communion Prayer

Creator God, we are greatly blessed to be in union with You at this table. For it was You who gave to us the gift of Your only Son, Jesus, The Christ, our Lord and Savior. As we eat from the loaf and drink from the cup, may we confess to You our sins and shortcomings, knowing that Your perfect love for us is unconditional and everlasting. Open our hearts to receive Your forgiveness and love and give us the courage and the will to spread our salt and shine our light into a world so desperately in need of them.

In Your name we pray, Amen.

– Rich Kemp



FCCO's Christian Action and Outreach Committee

In the last Church Life, we reported "Outreach Happenings" for the various ministries donating funds to outreach. Under the Christian Action and Outreach Committee, we significantly under-reported monies given. The total given in 2010 by CAOC was an amazing **\$35,866**, which included Budgeted giving to Disciple Mission Fund, Local Outreach, and Bucket Change to Local Outreach. In addition, Disciple Women gave \$7,560, and \$5,000 was collected for the Aids Walk. **TOTAL OUTREACH \$48,425,56.**

2011 FCCO Directory and Database Update

Thank you to those who have responded to our request for confirmed and updated contact information. At this time, approximately 10% of our active congregation has responded. So, we are asking the remaining 90% to complete the update form. Forms are available in the church office, in the narthex on Sunday mornings, and on our web site at <http://www.fccorange.com/contact-fcco/forms/2011-fcco-directory-and-database-update/>

Pastors' Class

Stan and Olivia will be teaching a series of classes geared to prepare individuals 5th grade and older to join the church and, where appropriate, be baptized. The classes are scheduled Sundays from March 20 through April 17, from 2:30 to 3:30 PM, in the Library. Our goal is that those attending will be ready to join our church family on Easter Sunday. Please reserve your place by calling the church office at 714-538-9681.

2011 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Event Registration Forms are available in the church office. **Early Registration deadline is April 2, 2011**, saving \$50. The General Assembly will be held Saturday, July 9 through Wednesday, July 13 - in the Bridgestone Arena, Downtown Nashville, TN. Make your reservations at: <http://www.disciples.org/GeneralAssembly/RegistrationHousing/tabid/528/Default.aspx>

Also, check out pre-General Assembly events that are scheduled at: <http://www.disciples.org/tabid/58/itemid/816/Dont-miss-out-on-General-Assembly-prevents-whic.aspx>

OUR CONCERNS

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR:

Mary Walker, Gwen Shaw, Mary Dotson, Ken and Lois Worden, Paul Roberts, Doris Luraschi, Nikolas Mills, Betty Gregg, and...

Eileen Vincent - recovering from surgery

Bruce Williams - passed away February 2. (Christine Baker's step-brother)

Jo Ward - sister suffering from kidney failure and anemia. (Bonnie Eppler)

Madison Raheb - prayers for shrinkage of 8-year-old niece's brain stem tumor. (Ruth Raheb & Kathy Sorensen)

Ella Foster-Weaver - success in receiving her Green Card for permanent residency status.

OUR WORLD-WIDE CONCERNS

United States recovery from massive winter storms

Middle East unrest (Egypt, Tunisia, Yemen, Jordan)

Ongoing wars in **Afghanistan** and surrounding areas

Australian cyclone and ongoing flooding

From Sunday:

Ashanti - prayer that God comforts daughter's heart and family concerns. God's peace and joy. (Marquita Carter)

Victoria (Ashanti's sister) - prayer that she runs back into God's arms and that God will direct her path in decision. (Marquita Carter)

Debbie Row - continuing pain from shoulder injury from work related accident. (Judy Row)

Priscilla Espinosa - Pneumonia caused by asthma - doing better. (Mari Jo Buchtel)

Stedney Phillips - in hospital ICU with H1N1 flu and pneumonia. She cannot breathe on her own and needs lots of prayer please. (Wendy Rosenquist)

From Sunday:

Heather and Andrew - after many delays and days of traveling, they are home from Brazil. (Steve and Sandy)

David Ruby - has been offered admission to Chapman University Film School with a Chancellor Scholarship. (Nanci Carol Ruby)

Youth and Children's Choirs - celebration of great work, fun rehearsals, and a beautiful performance today! (Jazmine Harnishfeger)

We lift up in Prayer—The Pacific Southwest Regional Church and Regional Ministers **Don and Susan Dewey**, and the **General Church** and General Minister and President **Sharon Watkins**; and, in the Pacific Southwest Region, we lift up the **Nanum Christian Church**, Phelan, and its pastor, **Chang Ryul Yoo (Chung-Sook)**.

FCCO YOUTH AND KIDS

PSWR FEB Camp 2011

A United Church of Christ and Disciples of Christ partnership event.

[YOUTH NEED TO FIND THEIR OWN TRANSPORTATION!]



- What:** A winter camp event
Theme: "Seek the Peace you Long to Hear"
Theme Night: Woodstock!
Who: Sr. High youth (9th-12th grades)
When: 7 pm, Feb. 18 to 11 am, Feb. 21, 2011
Where: Pilgrim Pines Campground, Oak Glen
Co-Directors:
Rev. Mark Pettis (UCC); Ms. Lisa Kolby (DOC)
Keynote Speakers:
Louise Sloan Goben and Galen Goben
Music Leader: Tom Perring
Worship Leader: Rev. Joe Zarro

Co-sponsored by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of the Pacific Southwest Region and the Southern California Nevada Conference, United Church of Christ.

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH CHOIRS PERFORM

- April 3** Children's and Youth Choirs
April 24 Children's and Youth Choirs
11:00 AM EASTER Service
May 22 Youth Choir - **YOUTH SUNDAY**
June 6 Children's Choir

REGULAR SUNDAY PROGRAMMING

- 3:30 PM CHILDREN'S Choir (Chapel)
4:00 PM KIDS' Groups
4:30 PM YOUTH Choir (Chapel)
5:30 PM YOUTH Groups
8:30 PM YOUNG ADULT Bible Study

Who We Are

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

1130 E. Walnut, Orange CA 92867
(714) 538-9681 voice; (714) 538-4686 fax
e-mail: orange1st@fccorange.com
website: www.fccorange.com
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M - F

Church Staff

Senior Pastor Dr. Stanley D. Smith
Associate Pastor Rev. Olivia Bryan Updegrove
Admin. Secretary Linda Smith
Bookkeeper Wini Chuidian
Minister of Music & Arts Dean Shepherd
Organist Phil Chap
Children & Youth Choir Director Jazmine Hamishfeger
Children & Youth Choir Accompanist Pam Wykoff
Chi Rho Coordinator Natalie Nevin
CYF Coordinator Nicole Allbee
JYF Coordinator Dana Gray
YD Coordinator Sandy Reeley
Custodian Miguel "Mike" Cosme



First Christian Church of Orange
Disciples of Christ

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