



"To Discover and Grow in God's Grace and Love"

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October



We are so grateful for Pastor Jim and Penny's loving and faithful leadership over the last 40 years! We also thank God for each and every person and ministry that has been a blessing to the ministry here at FCCA.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

Dr. Jim Schibsted—Senior Pastor
Rev. Emily Miller-Todd—Associate Pastor
Susan Fraker—Office Assistant
Tyler Robinson—Music Director
Angella Kissoon—Accountant
Linda Freud—Missions
Mike Austin & Chuck Pennington—J.O.G (Just Ordinary Guys)
Sandya Costa—Montessori Director

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STAFF

"Grateful for the Past—Hopeful for the Future!"

Penny's Reflections: October, 2021

In our lives God brings different people and events before us and they change us! And in the 40 years Pastor Jim & I have been at First Congregational Church of Anaheim we have seen and interacted with such a wonderful variety of people who have touched our souls. We came when we were just in our twenties and there were wise older folks who were patient with us and also had their own spunk and passion. You wonder where Eleanor Philipps got her spunk? You'd know if you had been around her parents Burton and Isabella McKenzel!

Over the years many young adults with families came, who even when going through their own struggles, cared so much that their children be and do well. Single adults came, some with children, looking for extended family. Bravely they reached out and found it. Others found ways to minister; helping out with youth, worship music, missions and property projects. Babies who were rocked in nurseries grew up and attended Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Cedar Lake Camps and Youth Group meetings. They then launched to continue their journeys in other places. We have had the good fortune to still be in touch with several and are moved by what they have done with their lives.

Since we've been here for FORTY YEARS we've seen and gotten to know a lot of different people and we've known many who have passed away and are now with the Lord. Looking back, seeing pictures, stirs up memories and tender feelings. We miss them and we are also full of gratitude for having known them.

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Connect

Sunday Morning Worship

10:45am Sundays

In Person and on Facebook Live

Encouragement for Today

Pastor Jim, Pastor Emily and friends are sharing short encouraging videos on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week through Facebook.

Church Facebook Page

“Anaheim Chapel at First Congregational Church of Anaheim”

Celebrating 40 Years of Ministry Together!

FCCA Reunion

Sunday, October 3

Worship Celebration & Lunch
We will celebrate Pastor Jim and Penny and all who have been part of the ministry of FCCA for the last 40 years. We would love for this to be a reunion celebration to honor the many people who have poured into ministry here at FCCA.

JOG: Just Ordinary Guys

The second Monday of every month, join the guys for lunch, comedy, music and a testimony.

*Monday, October 11th
12:00-1:30pm*

Women's Luncheon

Mark your calendars! Watch the e-news for more information.

*Monday, October 18th
11:30-1:00pm*

Operation Bless Food Distribution

Operation Bless is held once a month.

October Date:

*Wednesday, October 20th
4:30-6:30pm*

Setup will start at 3:30pm.

Church Updates

"Celebrating 40 Years of Ministry Together!" FCCA Reunion

Sunday, October 3: Worship Celebration, Lunch to Follow
Pastor Jim and Penny have been in ministry here at FCCA for 40 years! We are excited to celebrate Pastor Jim and Penny and all who have been part of the ministry of FCCA for the last 40 years on Sunday, October 3rd. We would love for this to be a reunion celebration to honor the many people who have poured into ministry here at FCCA. A luncheon will follow worship.



Rooted Groups are Meeting: Rooted isn't just

another Bible Study...Whether you have been a lifelong

Christian or are a new believer, Rooted has the potential to connect and re-engage you with God, His Church, and your purpose. The Rooted experience encourages 7 rhythms in our faith journey: daily devotion, prayer, freedom from strongholds, sacrificial generosity, serve the community, share your story and celebration. *Groups are meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings through November 10th.*

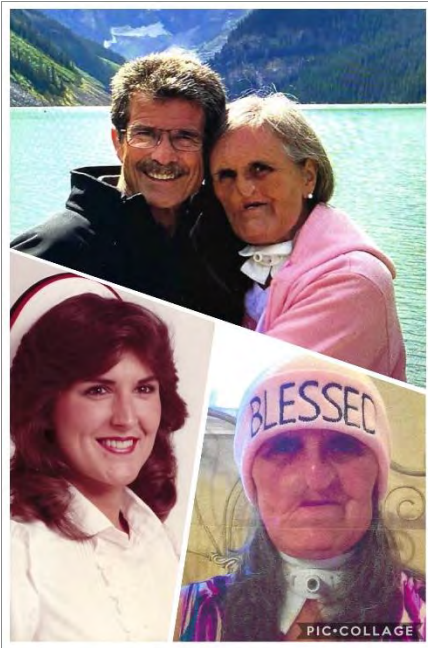
Operation Bless Food Distribution: We are grateful to partner with Unlimited Church in this ministry. **Next Food Distribution:** Wednesday, October 20th; 4:30-6:30pm, Setup begins at 3:30pm

Women's Luncheon: We will have another women's luncheon on Monday, October 18th from 11:30am-1:00pm. Watch the e-news for more information! (If you would like to receive our e-news, you may visit our website at www.fccanaheim.org. Under "E-news" on the home page, you may submit your name and email address.) At the last women's luncheon in August, women from the church started a prayer tree that is located outside of the church office. All are welcome to write prayers and clip them to the tree or to pray over the prayers on the tree! There are benches near the tree where you may sit and pray.

Sunday School: We are offering Sunday School twice a month. Penny Schibsted and Linda Freud alternate leading on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. We are offering coloring pages for the kids on Sundays that we do not have Sunday School.

JOG Men's Luncheon

Featuring Guest Speakers, Guy & Dani Morrison



Authors of the book, "No Matter What," Guy and Dani Morrison will tell an incredible life story. Guy has a doctorate in Chiropractic, and Dani was a register nurse. They have shared a passion for children, raising three natural children and nine foster children. They will share how they struggled with addictions and their marriage before coming to Christ, the challenges they faced with Dani's cancer and her countless surgeries. Then they will share the radical way that Christ came into their life through people like Joni Eareckson Tada and changed everything!

When: Monday, October 11th 2021
12:00 pm - 1:30pm

Where: First Congregational Church of Anaheim
515 North State College Blvd Anaheim, Ca 92806
(Located one block south of La Palma on the west side of State College in the city of Anaheim)

Cost: \$12

Plan on enjoying another delicious meal prepared especially,
By: Culinary Chef Jose Ramon Chavez.

Please RSVP via email at chuck@penningtons-inc.com or
Call Chuck at 714-350-8983 or Mike Austin at 714-425-2649

JOG



Of Orange County
Just Ordinary Guys

Meeting the 2nd Monday of Every Month

Missions' Corner

Christ to the Villages, Nigeria

I am thrilled to report that Sandy and I enjoyed a wonderful afternoon and dinner with Rev. Matthew Oladele and his wife from Christ to the Villages mission in Nigeria. Matthew and Mary had an extended visit to the United States to stay with his sister, Eunice Oladele Fayehun and her husband, Victor, near Colorado Springs, CO. One of the reasons for the visit was to be with Eunice for the birth of her first child, who was born on July 5th. In mid-August, Matthew and Mary had some business to take care of in California. Sandy and I were blessed to spend some time with them. Our relationship with this mission goes back to the late 1990's when his father, Rev. Solomon Oladele and his wife Margaret visited Sandy's church, Faith Congregational Church in Monrovia. They were such dynamic Christian missionaries. Matthew took over after his father's death in 2009.



The pandemic has presented many additional challenges to their work at the mission. Besides school closures many people were out of work due to shut downs. Food was scarce. Matthew took upon the role of farmer and used some unplanted land on the cashew farm for growing



crops, esp. rice, to help the people of the nearby villages. There was very little help from the government and no vaccines.

Matthew and Mary returned to Nigeria at the beginning of September to be back for the start of a new school year. I am grateful that FCCA continues to support Christ to the Villages with our prayers and our donations.

Missions' Corner: Christ to the Villages, Nigeria

Continued...

Our church, esp. Janice Bowers, was so instrumental in getting the cashew farm started. That farm will help provide financial resources to sustain Christ to the Villages. Matthew reports that all is going well with the trees.



I hope you enjoy the photos of the students at the Alpha Nursery and Primary School, of some cashew trees, of Matthew, Mary, Sandy and me at Polly's Restaurant and the Nixon Library in Yorba Linda, and of the family with baby Darasimi Zion.

Faithfully,
Linda Freud





October Birthdays

- 1-Oct Helen Hummel
- 5-Oct Daniel Ahl
- 6-Oct Virginia Tressler
- 9-Oct Jessy Luquez
- 9-Oct Robbie Robinson
- 16-Oct Rudy Marderos
- 17-Oct Pastor Emily
- 19-Oct Amanda Pacillas
- 23-Oct Nancy Clark
- 24-Oct Pam Evans
- 24-Oct Jon Ryan Hill
- 26-Oct Justyn Gonzales
- 29-Oct David Hill
- 30-Oct Penny Schibsted
- 30-Oct Lucas Rider

If you would like to have your birthday included in the CALL, please contact the church office at 714-776-0960 or fccoffice@gmail.com.

Penny's Reflections October, 2021 Continued...

We have also seen many changes in the church and neighborhood over the years. Fewer young people came and those who stayed grew older. In the neighborhoods, people of color became the majority. Congregations like Iglesia de Dios began worshipping and fellowshiping. They have been here over 25 years and have created their own memories while impacting lives. Many other groups have come and partnered with us as well. They each bring gifts and backgrounds that enrich what is being done.

Jim & I are now part of the older crowd and are thrilled to still hear the laughter of young children playing and quality adults working hard on this campus. We are also happy to witness a young woman, who we knew as a child named Emily, grow up and develop into such a wonderful minister amongst us! God knew what He was doing in bringing many different lives to this corner of Anaheim!

Some things have not changed. While we are an ever-changing mix and the property keeps getting prettier, the experience of gathering on the front lawn to fellowship and eat good food is always special! I see photos from the 1950s, 60s, 70s and on, of people doing what we will be doing this Sunday October 3rd, 2021. I smile in recognition of what it's all about! And then there's the comfort and hope that has come to many over the years, when they enter the sanctuary doors, set aside worries and begin to sing & worship. That experience is as healing as ever.

I hope you come to church this Sunday and that we build more memories celebrating God's gifts here at First Congregational Church of Anaheim!

With my love,
Penny Schibsted

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

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Your donation of \$50 can help offset the cost.
Please contact the Church Office for details at 714. 776.0960