

FIRST  
 CONGREGATIONAL  
 CHURCH OF  
 ANAHEIM



The  
 Call

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

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# August

## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANAHEIM

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Dr. Jim Schibsted—Senior Pastor  
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 Chuck Pennington—J.O.G (Just Ordinary Guys)  
 Sandya Costa—Montessori Director

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

## **“Summer Fun!”**

A Letter by Pastor Emily

Summer is flying by! We invite you to join us on Saturday, August 3rd from 12-6pm for the Multicultural Festival here on the church property. There will be food vendors, merchandise vendors, resource booths, entertainment, a 50/50 raffle, a bounce house for the kids and more! Trinity Aumua, Bishop Taisi and Pastor Grettel’s daughter (with Unlimited Church), will be performing with a Samoan Matalasi dance group. Hawaiian Hula Praise Dancers are confirmed. From our own congregation, Craig Rowe will be performing with the 5 Star Band, and Dennis Johnson will be setup to do caricature drawings. We thank Unlimited Church for leading the planning for this event alongside help from other churches that worship on the property. Come on out and join the fun!

Ricky and I thank you, FCCA, for supporting Royal Family Kids Camp with your offerings this month. I am excited to say that Ricky and I will be headed to camp July 28th-August 2nd having met and surpassed our fundraising goal! Royal Family Kids is part of the broader organization, “For the Children,” which exists to create life-changing moments for children who have experienced relational trauma. Many of the children who attend Royal Family Kids Camp have been in foster care or are currently in foster care. RFK and the associated mentorship program runs thanks to many volunteers and thanks to donors like you. Thank you for being part of this mission with us.

*(Continued Pg. 7)*

## **Connect**

### **Sunday Morning Worship**

*10:45am on Sundays*

### **Sunday School**

Sunday School is held every Sunday in the Griffith House during worship. Teachers & students are dismissed from worship to go to Sunday School just before the message.

### **Connect Online**

**Facebook:** Anaheim Chapel at First Congregational Church of Anaheim.

**YouTube:** First Congregational Church of Anaheim

**Instagram:** FCCAnaheim

**Website:** [www.fcca.org](http://www.fcca.org)

### **Multicultural Festival**

*Saturday, August 3rd*

*12-6pm*

Come enjoy performers, food vendors, merchandise vendors, resource booths, a 50/50 raffle, a bounce house for the kids and more!

### **JOG: Just Ordinary Guys**

*Monday, August 12th*

*12-1:30pm, McKenzie Hall*

**Guest Speaker:** Bob Brauchler  
\$12, First Time Visitors: Free

### **Women’s Tea**

*Monday, August 26th at*

*11:30am (see CALL insert)*

# FCCA Updates & Events

## **MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL!**

*Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> from 12-6pm*

The Multicultural Festival is around the corner! There will be food vendors, merchandise vendors, resource booths, entertainment, a 50/50 raffle, a bounce house for the kids and more. Mark your calendars, and join us for the fun!

## **WOMEN'S TEA**

*When: Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at*

*11:30am*

*Where: Cindy Hamann's Home!*

3522 W. Oak Ave

Fullerton, CA 92833

*Why: Christian fellowship and good food are good for the soul.*

*RSVP to the church office at*

*[fccaoffice@gmail.com](mailto:fccaoffice@gmail.com) or (714) 776-0960.*



## **JULY SPECIAL MISSION GIVING**

Thank you for your generosity! In July, we collected funds for the following missions:

### **One Great Hour of Sharing: Iowa Flood Relief**

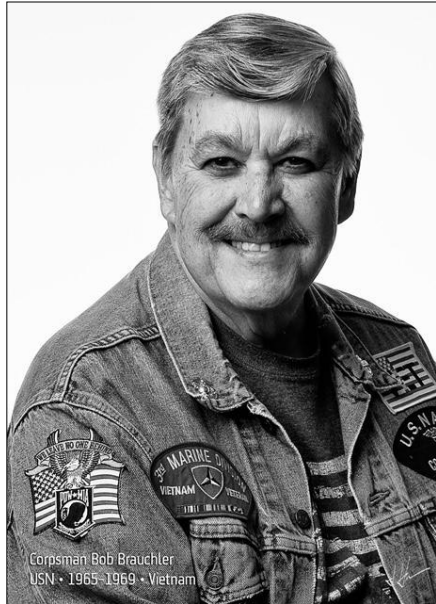
We collected funds to support Iowa flood relief efforts. The Congregational church in Spencer, Iowa has been directly affected. Between your gifts and allocated mission funds, we were able to send \$450.

### **Royal Family Kids**

Pastor Emily and Rick are currently volunteering at Royal Family Kids camp (July 28<sup>th</sup>-August 2<sup>nd</sup>). Each RFK camp is part of the larger organization, "For the Children," which exists to create life-changing moments for children who have experienced relational trauma. Between your gifts and allocated mission funds, we were able to send \$645 to Royal Family Kids.

# JOG Luncheon

## Featuring Guest Speaker, Bob Brauchler



Bob is a retired nurse administrator. His interest in medicine began as a Corpsman with the Marines while serving in Vietnam. He later went to nursing school and then on to the University of Texas for a master's degree in public health. In 2003, Bob began serving with the Good Samaritan Medical Dental Ministry which focuses on Vietnam's poor. He continues to serve as a board member and has traveled many times on mission trips to Vietnam. He is currently planting a church in one of the Northern provinces.

In 2016, Bob began his own ministry, partnering with a friend to form Hope Beyond Borders. This ministry works by gathering surplus medical equipment and supplies from local

hospitals and sending them around the world to those in need.

**When:** Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm – 1:30pm

**Cost:** \$12, First Time Visitors: Free

*Enjoy the music of singer and guitar player Bob Goodrich, as well as the humor from Normandy Veteran, Jack Gutman, and football coach, Tom Meiss. We will have an excellent meal planned with tables always filled with good fellowship.*

Please RSVP via email at [chuck@penningtons-inc.com](mailto:chuck@penningtons-inc.com) or call Chuck at 714-350-8983

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## MISSIONS' CORNER

### *A Note from Mission Chair, Linda Freud:*

*From June's Mission Ministries Philippines newsletter, I am sharing an inspirational article about how one of their teacher's lives has been transformed. Dr. Chona Domingo, their director, also reported how God has blessed MMP this past school year, 2023-24. A total of 49 Christian preschools have been empowered, influencing 1,000 children in their Christian faith. Additionally, the gospel has been shared with more than 1,000 parents. MMP looks forward to the 2024-25 school year with enthusiasm and excitement, knowing that it is the Lord who has given MMP the privilege to be His head, hands, and heart to these little ones!*



# Classroom Gazette

A Publication of Mission Ministries Philippines

Volume IV, Issue No. 3

June 2024

## Your Promises Are True

A Journey of Faith..... Claire Santillan

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11, a verse that one can hold on. But the journey is not always easy. Many times we struggle, making each turn a question of continuing or quitting. And yet God has a way to reach us and comfort us. Making His plans in our lives to come true.

The goodness of God has been an apparent pillar in the life of Teacher Clarita Santilla, or Teacher Claire, a partner teacher of Mission Ministries Philippines for over 2 decades and appointed as on-call supervisor.

Teacher Claire was of different faith before she became a preschool teacher. Although she had always been a woman of strong moral values, her faith had never been a central part of her life.

She came to know Jesus when she applied to a preschool managed by Christ Jesus Our Life church, which happens to be a partner school of Mission Ministries Philippines. The school's mission to foster holistic development in children resonated with her deeply. As she began her role, she was not only introduced to a supportive professional community but also to the Christian faith. Teacher Zeny Ignacio, the pastor's wife and the owner of the school, became her spiritual mentor.

What started as an ordinary job for her, as a means to alleviate her family's daily needs, was God's way of bringing her to knowing the Blessor of everything.

Her faith strengthened over time. And as she walks in her faith, another tragedy tested her. Her husband passed away leaving her with 4 kids. Her eldest, Andrea, at that time was only first year high school, Inah, grade 6, Tom grade 4 and their youngest Jerry was only one and a half years old. In the wake of her husband's untimely death, Claire faced the daunting task of providing for her young children alone. Financial struggles and emotional turmoil became her daily companions. One would have crumbled, but Teacher Claire stood to her faith that God will never forsake her nor leave her.

As she worked day and night to sustain her family's needs, she continued to grow deeper in God's word. Embracing her faith in Jesus provided Claire with a renewed sense of

hope and purpose. The biblical teachings emphasized the importance of trust in God's plan, which helped her manage her anxieties about the future.

The life of Teacher Claire shows how God moved in different ways. How true that He will take care of the widows and the fatherless as mentioned in Deuteronomy 10:18. Despite all the struggles, 3 of her children are all degree holders now and her youngest is in high school. Teacher Claire would just be awed how God sustained them throughout the years.

One of her prayers is in Joshua 24:15, “As for me and my household we will serve the Lord” She serves in her church as one of the leaders and president of the Women's Ministry Nationwide, and true enough, all her children have their ministry in their church.

Today, Teacher Claire enjoys her time travelling. Another blessing from God.

Truly God's promises are true and dependable, a strong fortress, and the perfecter of our faith. When we face dead ends, tragedies, challenges and trials, God is always there to open new doors, a new hope. For the battles is not ours but His. He will fight for us.



## From the President's Corner



All glory to God for another year of victory. Navigating your preschool ministry after the pandemic has surely not been easy, but by the grace of God, you all made it! Congratulations! As we approach the 2024-2025 school year, it is our prayer at Mission Ministries Philippines, as your humble partner, that you experience Lamentations 3:22-23: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;

His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning."

Let us all join hands in facing another season of teaching children with enthusiasm and excitement, knowing that it is the Lord who has given us the privilege to be His head, hands, and heart to these little ones!

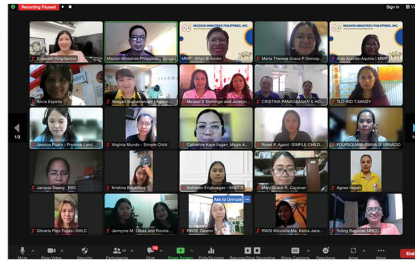
## Empowering Early Childhood Education MMP's 32nd ECE level 1 Seminar

The recently concluded 32nd Early Childhood Education Level 1 seminar, held from June 20-22, 2024, marks the commencement of Mission Ministries Philippines' Year-Round Seminars. This enlightening event brought together early childhood educators and practitioners via Zoom, focusing on the theme "Rekindling Your Passion in Early Childhood Education".

The three-day seminar showcased speakers primarily from the University of the Philippines. Their presentations were largely based on the philosophy adopted by Mission Ministries Philippines. It was impressive to see how the speakers connected their content to the Developmentally Appropriate Philosophy endorsed by NAEYC

(National Association for the Education of Young Children).

The seminar highlighted the new Matatag Curriculum of the Department of Education, underscoring the government's recognition of its vital role in shaping Filipino children. This curriculum aims to unleash the full potential of the new generation for national progress. MMP's curriculum closely aligns with Matatag, positioning MMP as a pioneer, having implemented it from the outset. Part of the Matatag curriculum includes teaching 21st-century skills such as communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity, which are also integrated into MMP's Kidpreneur curriculum. This approach aims to cultivate an entrepreneurial mindset in children, preparing them to be future leaders not only in business but also in serving the Kingdom of God.



As the field of early childhood education continues to evolve, events like this seminar play a crucial role in fostering a community of informed and passionate educators committed to providing high-quality, developmentally appropriate education for all children.

### Editorial Staff

**Dr. Chonabelle Domingo**  
Editor-in-Chief

**Erlyn Isidro**  
Writer/Managing Editor

**Ronald Mandocdoc**  
Layout Artist

## Yes! I want to join in providing a brighter future for children living in poverty

☐ \$200 will sponsor Feeding the Mind and Body for 25 children (feeding program with MMP books). ☐ \$500 Tuition fee for one teacher living in a disadvantaged area to enroll in the training certificate course in Early Childhood Education. ☐ \$2000 will enable a school to be set up in a disadvantaged area for one year. Includes curriculum, learning materials, training, and coaching of teachers.

My best gift of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help as many children as possible who are living in poverty.

All training programs for children accredited by the Professional Regulation Commission of the Government.

### Mission Ministries Philippines, Inc.

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### Payment Options

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Account No. 0004-0002-4123  
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Telephone +632 84136304

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### Tax deductible donations (USA): Mission Ministries USA,

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## August Birthdays

3-Aug Paul Canton

5-Aug Rumyana Staneva

6-Aug Jonathan T. Yip

7-Aug Paul Haas

13-Aug Blake Ramsay

19-Aug Julia Swagerty

21-Aug Joan Edwards

27-Aug Adrienne Villa-Real

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](mailto:fccoffice@gmail.com).

*(Pastor's Article Continued)*



Ricky and I are excited to leave for camp after worship on Sunday, July 28th. Ricky will be found behind a camera, editing photos and playing drums with the worship band. Each child is given a personalized photo book to take home with them at the end of the week. Some of the volunteers at camp were campers themselves years back, and they have indicated that their photo books were treasured possessions. The photo books reminded them after camp of the positive connections and memories made.

In addition to helping the photo team, I will be the Bible verse lady. I will help the campers learn the memory verse that fits the camp's theme: "Wonderfully Made." The verse of the week is Psalm 139:14, "*I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.*" Campers can find me around camp, recite the verse, and get a prize.

At a training afternoon, the chaplain assigned to our camp said something to us that caught my attention. He said, "Whenever you feel yourself pulled to contribute to the good of another—pay attention. That is the heart of Jesus." His words will be rolling around in my head for awhile.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Emily

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