



FirstChristianNews

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH HOLLYWOOD

A CONGREGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

An Open & Affirming Community that Seeks to Do Greater Things than Jesus (John 14:12)

REV. DR. JONATHAN B. HALL, SENIOR PASTOR

TAULAU TUPUA, ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR YOUTH AND MISSION

JENNIFER LE'AU, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

ALFREDO GOMEZ & LOYDI RIVAS GOMEZ, PASTORS, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION

Volume LXV No. 69

August 28, 2024

"Let not your
hearts be troubled.

Believe
in God!

believe
also in me."

John 14:1, ESV

JOIN US IN PERSON OR WATCH SERVICES ON [YOUTUBE](#) OR [FACEBOOK](#).

Check out recent service streams and more at www.fccnh.org.



It is a very small world. Time and time again I am reminded I will find connections when I am open to the possibility.

As some of you know, I participated in a triathlon at June Lake on August 17. My family and I were able to stay at the campground where the race started. It was convenient to be able to simply roll out of bed and start the race! Our campground loop was small. It had about seven spots with campers. Each family or group of friends was comprised of at least one person who was doing the race.

The race had a small-town feel because of the remote location. The race was nicknamed "the most difficult race in the most beautiful place." After the race, numerous participants were grilling food, celebrating, and sharing stories. Our neighbors had children of similar ages to Malachi and Zion. We shared a firepit for s'mores and ice cream. With stickiness on our fingertips from the aforementioned sugar rushes, we shared more about ourselves. One lady mentioned that she grew up in Sherman Oaks. I shared that I "worked in that area." She asked where I worked. I shared that I was the Senior Pastor at First Christian Church of North Hollywood. Then, it hap-

pened. She laughed and stated - "I grew up going to Christian Nursery School!" It is a very small world!

It is easy to stay in the confines of a campsite. It is convenient to zip up the tent, close the door to the trailer, etc. It is painless to have the dessert that you had packed. It is something different to open yourself up to the possibility of connections.

Connections don't just happen at campsites. They can happen at grocery stores, parking lots, and beyond. Connections can happen online and via social media. One can argue that the original intent of the internet and social media was to foster connections. However, the internet and social media have become tools by which we can conveniently isolate ourselves from our neighbors and painlessly lob divisive insults at others.

What if we were intentional about opening ourselves up to the possibilities of connections? What if we used the items around us for good? If so, we may win what seems to be one of the most difficult races of our time - finding connections. May it be so!

Together,

Pastor Seth

Senior Pastor



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mario Raven

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Mario Raven comes to us as a resident of Southern California for the past 19 years where he has a wide variety of experience and recognition as Music Director in a variety of religious organizations. Mario also has a history as a teacher of advanced musical theory, in the leading of acclaimed choirs, and a list of other accomplishments far too extensive to list in this publication.



Mario will officially begin on September 15. He follows our current Music Director David Rigby who has faithfully served our church since January 1, 2006! David's last Sunday with us will be September 22.

Special thanks to our search team! Julie Houlihan served as our chair, alongside Jon Butler, Gaye Coffman, John Currin, Deborah Dietrich, DeOnzell Green, and Ty Parr—with Pastor Jonathan serving as ex officio. This all-star team received numerous applications, interviewed 12 applicants, and participated in five in-person rehearsals with the top candidates before the final decision was made. As Pastor Jonathan explained in a recent email, "I trust this decision because God's presence was palpable throughout the process."

**10am • Sunday
September 1**



***"Carrying Others"* • TEXT: Mark 2:2-12**

Rev. Dr. Jonathan B. Hall - SENIOR PASTOR

Pastor Jonathan shares his anniversary sermon as we celebrate two years of ministry together. As he did last year on this Sunday, we will look at the same story from Mark 2:2-12. In this unique story, we see how it takes a team to empower the Gospel in our world. We hope to see you this Sunday as Pastor Jonathan shares his message entitled "Carrying Others."

**JOIN US IN PERSON OR WATCH SERVICES on [YOUTUBE](#) OR [FACEBOOK](#).
Check out recent service streams and more at www.fccnh.org.**



- 1 Michael Conte
Scott Fain
- 2 Nicole Arter
Nicole Jahangard
Anna Kolarova
- 5 Connie Isa
Carolyn Lombardo
Kelsi Werner
Noah Zavala
- 6 Kayla Baltazar
Madeline Hicks
LisaBay Santiago
- 7 Marilyn Fiddmont
- 8 Jennifer Brown
Deborah Carson
Milana Resta
- 9 Ted Sloan
- 10 Elizabeth Monsour
Patricia Pollard
- 11 Doreen Alderman
Paula Dade
Ava Linyard
Stephen Nicassio
E.J. Pharr

- 11 Juliet Pollard
Deborah Wheeler
- 12 Thomas Maseredjian
LooLoo Tupua
- 13 Atticus Braden
Grayson Snider
- 14 Sally Blowitz
Jill Groswirth
Patty Morgan
Helen Spevak
Chris Trammell
Ian Williamson
- 15 Collin Glenn
Zoie Lee
Nicholas Romanose
- 16 Julian Corzo
Felix Gaul
Bird Le'au
- 17 Alice Kawan
- 18 Joy Brittain
Matthew Bulen
- 19 Kelly Goldschmidt
- 20 Steve Tellez
- 21 Hudson Orfe
- 22 Scot Bowers
Elijah Daney
Norman Furman
- 23 Bernadette Batts
Eliza Beam
Dashiell Hawkins
Heather Kline
- 25 Grace Johnson
Claudia Rudolf

- 26 Bettina Diaz
- 27 Michael Hayes
Lilah Hiatt
- 28 Caroline Braden
David Haworth
Ian Kiwan
Morgan Stoddard
- 29 Olivia Patsch
Sandi Patterson
- 30 Jon Butler
Caroline Currin
Harriet Peardon
Ford Young



- 1 Norman & Marilyn Fiddmont
- 5 Larry & Virginia Keene
- 7 Mel & Linda Wolf
- 10 Brent & Jennifer Strickland
- 12 Richard & Harriet Peardon
- 19 Rod & Amanda Conti
- 21 Michael & Elizabeth Bax
- 23 Stephen & Lisa Furry
- 26 Kevin & Jenny Bailey
- 28 Lamont Cooper &
Tricia Crosby-Cooper



You're Invited

Join us for FCCNH's 100th Anniversary

A weekend filled with worship, food, music, merriment, friends and family. We can't wait to celebrate as we kick off the next 100 years of Faith and Community.

SEPTEMBER 7th, 2024

The 100th Anniversary Festival

Join us at FCCNH, from 11am to 4pm. There'll be food trucks, attractions, activities, a talent show, games and more. We'll also include a fun visit back to 1924 and a musical finale you won't soon forget.

Pre-Sale Ticket Prices

Buy Tickets in the Social Hall each Sunday in August

Adults \$10 • Children 6-18 \$8

Children under 5 free

Day-of Prices at FCCNH

Adults \$15 • Children 6-18 \$10

Children under 5 free

Tickets give the holder access to all events, food and drinks during the Festival.



SEPTEMBER 8th, 2024

Celebration Sunday at 10am

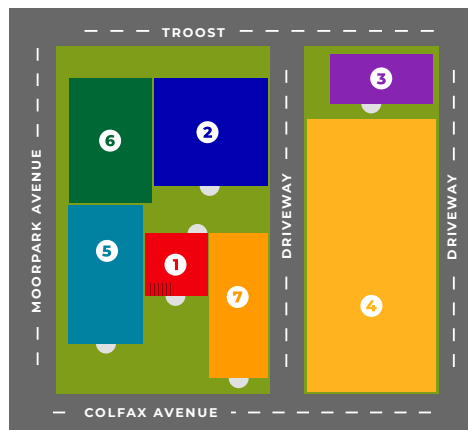
We'll gather with great joy and celebrate as FCCNH turns 100 years. Join us for a memorable service of God's grace as we praise and worship together in gratitude with uplifting readings, reflections and inspirational music.

Following the service stay for a celebration luncheon for all. You don't want to miss this!



SAVE THE DATE

Check out some of the things we're planning for the
SEPTEMBER 7th
100th Anniversary Festival!



1 LOBBY

Get your tickets and expect a few surprises.

2 ANNEX

Games, bingo, rumi, poker... and more.

3 YOUTH HUT

Go back to the 1920s with fun and refreshments... all at 1920s prices.

4 PARKING LOT

Inflatables, a dunk tank & group activities.

5 SOCIAL HALL

The FCCNH Talent Show.

6 CNS PLAY YARD

For the littles.

7 THE SANCTUARY

A musical Finale you'll love!





As reported by a source close to this family, a cousin of Dick's who had been visiting said he wished to attend a local church service. Dick said there was a church down the street on the corner. The cousin said OK. He borrowed a shirt from Dick and off to that corner church they went (FCCNH). The Lord, in one of His mysterious ways, brought to us Richard (Dick) and Billie Kline.

The Klines joined the church in January of 1995 after having attended for several months. Within 6 months Dick became a regular member of a Thursday Food Pantry Pickup team and Billie became involved with the Christian Women's Fellowship.

Dick was also the kind of person that had the skills and knowledge in the actual building, repair and maintenance of many things around the church property and treated it as if it was his own home. I had an opportunity to enter the workshop at their home and observed many specialized tools. He was ready to do or help with any needed projects—from painting, installing push bar door openers, locks and helping put gutters on the annex roof to almost anything around the property.

Billie also took care of the church property as if it were her own. The Klines worked as a team, lovingly taking care of the church property. There were



years that Billie was the head of Property Council and/or on Property Council, providing leadership and skills in all areas dealing with the property.

The Social Hall and Kitchen areas were, I believe, special for Billie because she could recruit some of her fellow CWF ladies for help. The sheers that used to cover the Social Hall windows were washed by hand and then hung on a wire that had been attached to the Kline back porch roof. The fabric was then allowed to hang to dry in a breeze without creating wrinkles or the need to iron. She would re-

CONTINUED—

cruit others in CWF to help with defrosting/cleaning the freezer to prevent frost build-up around the top to the point the lid wouldn't close. Or she'd recruit CWF ladies to clean out the refrigerator, not only throwing away old stinky, moldy products but to also scrub the inside walls.

Billie worked closely with her CWF group and the group at large. Billie was a hardworking lead volunteer to do things to help CWF with their projects to raise money for their missions: the Annual Chili cookoff, Country Faire, bake sales, jewelry sales, book sales, making hygiene kits and doing luncheons. Billie also held leadership positions within the group.

Although Billie was born in Tennessee, she was known for slices of her Texas sheet cake at the CWF bake sales. Her coconut layer cake was such a hit that it would get requested for special orders. Maybe one or both will be made for the CWF Christmas Bake sale in December of 2024 in honor of Billie Kline.

It seemed like Dick and Billie were always working on something at the church. If they weren't home, they must have been at church working on a project of some sort for the betterment of the church.

I think if you look carefully at the old photos from the building of 4390 Colfax you will see the handiwork of the original Richard and Billie Kline of "The Church on the Corner". Hopefully in the photos taken during the next year of us during the "Building Our Future Brick by Brick" campaign, we'll see some future Richards and Billies in them.

Barbara Mack, Member

100th Anniversary Committee

Welcome New Members



Rebecca Stevens and Norm Thoeming joined the church this past Sunday, August 25, 2024. Rebecca and Norm have two children, Jamison and Lewis. Join us in welcoming them to our FCCNH Family.

photo by Byron Armantrout



Loch Leven
CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

Save-the-Date

FOR THE

Men's Retreat at Loch Leven

NOVEMBER 1-3

More info to be announced later. Questions?
Contact Ne'e at menoncorner@gmail.com.



W2W
WOMEN *to* WOMEN
ZOOM MEETING
7:30pm FRIDAYS
NEWCOMERS WELCOME
 email for Zoom info W2W.FCCNH@gmail.com

BUILDING OUR FUTURE BRICK BY BRICK

Bricks can be the foundations of all kinds of things: a home, a fireplace, stairs and, of course, a church.

As we look back at the past 100 years, we want and need to look to the future. With **Building Our Future Brick by Brick**, we want to use the true foundational bricks of FCCNH—you. Our people. Our friends. Our family. God's beloved.

Building Our Future Brick by Brick embraces the simple idea of doing. Doing bigger and better, together. Growing bigger and better, together.

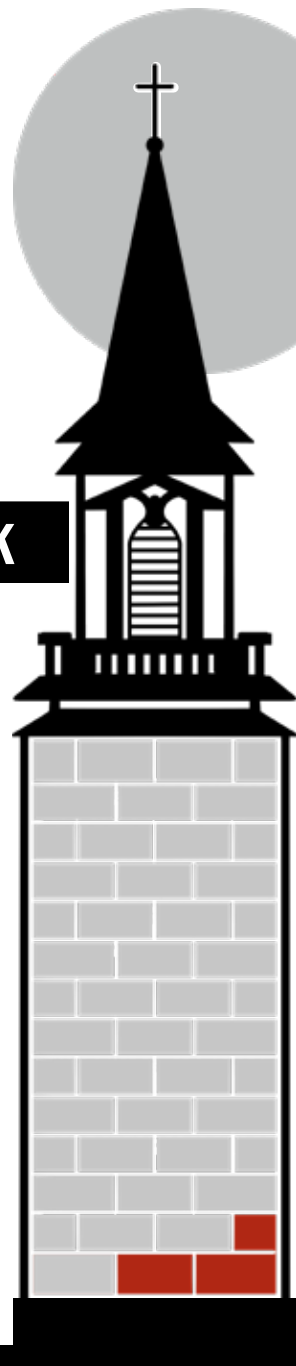
Together we can sell Christmas trees to help kids... feed hundreds of families in the neighborhood... sing in the choir... mentor our children... feed the homeless... feed each other... be a caretaker of our church.

Gandhi said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." Another way to put that is, the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of God at First Christian Church of North Hollywood.

We invite everyone to join us over the next year to help reach our goal of 2,024 hours of service to God and to our church in celebration of our 100th year.

Many of our church members already volunteer their services, and we are grateful for them. Our hope is to encourage all to gather, connect, lend a hand, and not just *go* to our church, but *become* our church: to make a difference in someone else's life... and yours.

We invite you to read the **Building Our Future Brick by Brick** FAQs and Volunteer Opportunities handouts, found in the Narthex.



Tai Chi

breathing techniques
simple stretching exercises
meditation to reduce stress

Guided Tai Chi Classes

Tues 9:30am & Thurs 3:30pm

Classes guided by Byron Armantrout.
Freewill donation of \$10 per session.



This past Sunday's acolyte, Tyler Johnston, pictured above with Pastor Taulau Tupua.

photo by Byron Armantrout



MEET & GREET VOLUNTEER HOSTS ARE NEEDED & APPRECIATED

Hosting our Sunday morning Meet & Greets are a great way to become more involved with the church and other members—it isn't complicated and **the church will reimburse your expenses up to \$150.** If you, your group or family are interested in hosting a Meet & Greet after one of our Sunday morning services, please contact Matt at matthewhunt@gmail.com or 818.404.1520.





As always, there are many ways to reach us with your prayer needs.


On Sundays, there are cards in the morning bulletins. You can write your prayers on the back and put them in the offering plates as they are passed. You may also slide your prayer cards through the slot in the Prayer Cabinet near the drinking fountain outside the Chapel doors.

During the week, your prayers can reach us in several ways:

- Via email on the church website:
www.fccnh.org/worship/prayer-requests
- Via phone call to the church office: 818-763-8218

If you are at the church, prayer cards 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.

Prayers received during the week in one of these ways will be emailed out to Prayer Group members. Unless urgent, prayers received on Saturday or Sunday will be compiled for the list given to members on Monday mornings.

The sole purpose of the Prayer Group has always been to pray for those in need. Prayers are lifted aloud in the Chapel on Monday mornings, and then become part of the daily prayer discipline of our members. As always, all prayers that come to us are kept strictly confidential and are not shared elsewhere. 



MEN'S GROUP MEETING

meets online weekly at

7PM WEDNESDAYS

Interested in joining?
For Zoom info Email: menoncorner@gmail.com

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me. —JOHN 10:14



BY WAY OF REPORT

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024

Sunday Worship 10am	152
Youth Sunday AM	16
High School Youth	4
Sunday School	35

Sunday Worship Donations	\$4,056.00
Sunday School	\$28.00

SUNDAY GENERAL OFFERING \$4,084.00

CREDIT CARD OFFERING 8/19/24 - 8/25/24

Credit Card Donations	\$2,905.00
Sunday School	\$20.00

CUMULATIVE GIVING \$6,989.00



WAYS TO DONATE

ZELLE: offering@fccnh.org
 PAYPAL: paypal@fccnh.org
 VENMO: @FCCNH
 GIVE. TITHE.LY: [firstchristian-churchofnorthhollywood]
 Go to www.fccnh.org or
 scan the code at right



CHURCH STAFF

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 SENIOR PASTOR
 Alfredo Gomez
 PASTOR, SPANISH SPEAKING CONGREGATION
 Jennifer Le'au
 DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
 Taulau Tupua
 ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR YOUTH AND MISSION
 Tyana Parr
 DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S/YOUTH CHOIRS
 David Rigsby
 MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST
 Christine Karasseferian
 DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
 Gabriela Dorantes
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
 Glenda Morgan Brown
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
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 EVENT PLANNER
 Elmer Maldonado
 BUILDING & GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT
 Miriam Mancilla
 DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN NURSERY SCHOOL
 Greg Kirkland
 MEDIA DIRECTOR

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Ne'e Le'au, Karl Wm. Klein
 VIDEO STREAMING
 Jacob Beam, Craig Brooks
 SOUND TECHNICIANS
 Luis Oliart
 SECURITY

IN MEMORIAM

Robert M. Bock
 SENIOR PASTOR
 Earle Immel
 MINISTER OF MUSIC EMERITUS
 Merle E. Fish, Jr.
 MINISTER EMERITUS



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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

First Christian Church of North Hollywood
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PROOFREADING	Glenda Morgan Brown
ART DIRECTION	Terri Burton
PRODUCTION SERVICES	Byron Armantrout

EMERITUS

Robert M. Bock	Mary Ann Steuterman
Billie Kline	Lillian Carlson
Heather Kenney	Margaret Defibaugh
Cathy Melendez	Fern Donald
Chuck Mont	Jean Johnson
Wanda Kanoy	Helen Scarna
Kay Smith	Betty Van Zanten
Shirley McClure	Deborah Wheeler
Virginia Stebbins	Cindy Kaller

