



The Good Newsletter

First Congregational Church of Santa Ana, UCC

**A diverse Christian fellowship open to all and dedicated
to singing God's praises, learning God's word,
and loving one another on our journey of faith.**

A Message from Our Moderator

Dear Church Family and Friends –

I've been reading THE BOOK OF JOY by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. It is well worth your time!

"What is the purpose of life?...From the moment of birth, every human being wants to discover happiness and avoid suffering. No differences in our culture or our education or our religion affect this. From the very core of our being, we simply desire joy and contentment... The ultimate source of happiness is within us."

So let us look for joy!

Our new electronic sign will be installed in front of the church next week! It will help us to be more visible. It will allow us to share more about us.

Next Sunday, October 9th, we will worship with Rev. Lewis Leon. As this is our Samoan Friends "White Sunday", our service will be moved back to 11:00am. We will be collecting for Neighbors In Need, one of our 5 for 5 offerings for UCC.

However, we hope you will still join us at 10:30am for our Annual Out of Darkness Walk in loving memory of Eric Weuve and Luke Golding. We will meet outside the fellowship hall and walk once around the church. We will also be taking donations for American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

It looks like we may have a Youth Music Group starting in our Choir Room. This after school program gives youth a chance to learn and perform on various musical instruments.

Lori, Martin and Lucy are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Lili Marie who is due early this month! We wish them all health and happiness!

Blessings!

Sue Stewart, Moderator

Special Dates

- Pastor Appreciation Month
- World Communion Sunday, *October 2, 2022*
- Out of the Darkness Walk at 10:30 am, *October 9, 2022*
- FCC Worship at **11:00 am**, *October 9, 2022*
- Neighbors in Need, *October 9, 2022*
- FCC Worship at 10:30 am, *October 23, 2022*
- Reformation Sunday, *October 30, 2022*
- Reformation Day, *October 31, 2022*



Fall Season of Worship

We continue this season to have our services on the second and fourth Sundays of every month. Our Sunday services this month will be on October 9th, led by Rev. Lewis Leon, and October 23rd, led by Rev. Lorraine Bailey.



No Lone-Ranger Christians

World Communion Sunday, celebrated this year on October 2, reminds us there's no such thing as solitary Christianity. "As Christians we're called to belong, not just to believe," writes Rick Warren. "We are not meant to live lone-ranger lives; instead, we are to belong to Christ's family and be members of his body."

After all, Christian fellowship can't occur without fellow Christians. We can't learn the intricacies of the Bible and theology without preachers and teachers. We don't baptize ourselves. We don't take Holy Communion alone; in fact, the sacrament's very name refers to interaction with God and others.

The New Testament clearly states that one cannot be Christian all alone. We are members of Christ's body (Ephesians 5:30). We belong to the family of believers (Galatians 6:10). We are "a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people" (1 Peter 2:9, NRSV). So don't be a lone ranger or a stranger — to worship or to Holy Communion!



TheNewsletternewsletter OCT2022.

Walk...Out of the Darkness

We invite you to participate in our Annual ***Out of the Darkness Walk*** here at FCC on Sunday, October 9th, at 10:30 am. The walk is for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention that is usually conducted at Mile Square Regional Park in Fountain Valley. We remember those family members of our Church family that have lost a loved one. Please join us. We'll be meeting outside our Fellowship Hall and then hold our Sunday service at 11:00 am. Donations for American Foundation for Suicide Prevention are welcome.



Special Offering: NIN

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States.

In 2022, the Neighbors in Need "BEHOLD!" offering focuses on an economic justice. With inflation impacting all of our households, we wanted to provide a way to discuss this through a faith lens. One-third of the offering supports [Council for American Indian Ministry](#) (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. (ucc.org)

We will be collecting for this offering at our service on Sunday, October 9th.

Cents-ible Stewardship

During a children's sermon, the pastor gave each child two pennies and told them to put one in each hand. "With full hands," he asked, "how would you do other things, like drink a glass of juice?" They'd have to let go of one penny. (Likewise, adults must be willing to "let go" of material goods and desires to worship God alone.)

The pastor let the children keep the coins. When my 5-year-old returned to her seat, I suggested she could put them in the offering. Her quite loud response was, "NO! I need more money!" (Maybe my at-home talks about generosity — not to mention the kids message — hadn't sunk in?) Granted, giving is a tough concept, even for grown-ups. But adults would gladly give away "worthless" pennies.



When the offering plate came by, my daughter put in her pennies all by herself. "Now maybe some little girl can eat tonight," she said. God's prompting may take some time to change our hearts. But may we all give so freely and give up what seems important at the time.

—Julie Lee

TheNewsletternewsletter OCT2022.

A Letter from Old Friends



Hello Dear Church Family!

We hope this finds all of you doing well and enjoying each other's fellowship.

We are slowing down a little bit, as are Chip and Dayle. (The place we board them at specializes in "geriatric" dogs, with specific beds.) We could use that pampering ourselves!

Our big news is that we have put our boat "Then Again" up for sale. We knew it was time to let someone else make some memories with her. So, just another transition, but one we did at our choice of time.

Much love to all of you,

Lenny & Louise (Anderson)

Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet on Monday, October 24th, at 7:00 pm, via Zoom.

Be-attitudes



Be understanding of your enemies.
Be loyal to your friends.
Be strong enough to face the world each day.
Be weak enough to know you cannot do everything alone.
Be generous to those who need your help.
Be frugal with what you need for yourself.
Be wise enough to know that you do not know everything.
Be open enough to believe in miracles.
Be willing to share your joys.
Be eager to share the sorrows of others.
Be a leader when you see a path others have missed.
Be a follower when you are shrouded by uncertainty.
Be the first to congratulate an opponent who succeeds.
Be the last to criticize a colleague who fails.
Be loving to those who love you.
Be loving to those who don't love you; they may change.
Be yourself, above all.

—Author unknown

TheNewsletternewsletter OCT2022.

Bible Quiz

Which king allowed — even encouraged — the Judean exiles to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple?

- A. Cyrus of Persia
- B. Tiglath-pileser of Assyria
- C. Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon
- D. Hiram of Tyre



TheNewsletternewsletter OCT2022.

Mary Weuve-October 11th
Piper Aquino-October 18th
Tricia Macres-October 18th
Lori Sanchez-October 24th



Mary & Jim Weuve-October 5th

