

# cornerstone news

praises announcements news updates information prayers

## Worship the Lord with Us

### Sunday Mornings

10:00am Adult Sunday School  
11:30am Worship Service  
12:30pm Lunch Fellowship

### Tuesdays

10:00am Women's Bible Study

### Wednesdays

10:00am New Life Fellowship - Seniors  
1st Wednesday of the month  
10:00am Wednesday Fellowship  
3rd Wed of the month  
7:30pm BASIC Fellowship for Young Adults  
1st & 3rd Wed of the month

### Friday Night Fellowship

7:30pm Adults/Family Fellowship  
& Kids Club  
7:30pm AMPM Youth Fellowship  
for Middle – High Schoolers  
8:00pm EXTRA College/Career Group

Contact church office for meeting locations.  
Days and times are subject to change.

## Cornerstone UMC

2050 Valencia Ave  
Placentia, CA 92870-2040  
phone: 714-528-3068  
website: cornerstonesocal.org

Pastor SonHye Kim  
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## Missions

Wei-ling Louie

Dear Cornerstone Family,

You have been a generous and compassionate congregation, and have made a difference to many individuals and families these past few months with your generous donations and service. Here is a recap of where your Mission funds have been directed:

1. May Mission Offering - \$750.55 for Serenity Inc.

Backpacks and school supplies assembled by EXTRA (formerly EXT.777) and CASTeam#2 using most of the funds. \$150.00 was sent to Serenity, Inc., 40 backpacks were delivered to Trinity Youth Services.

2. June Mission Offering - \$342 for Threshold Ministry.

We sponsor orphan Yang Liu who lives at the Hope House Orphanage in Linjiang, China. It was the consensus of the Mission Committee to have another mission offering for this Threshold student on Oct. 8th. Cost of sponsorship is \$90/month \$1,080.00. We are \$738 short in our support funds.

3. July Mission Offering - \$382 for H.I.S. House in Placentia.

Transitional housing facilities for single adults and families who are homeless.

4. August Mission Offering - \$476 for Pancake Breakfast.

On behalf of the AMPM youth group, a check and letter was given to Alec Hasegawa to present to Fullerton 1st UMC at the next breakfast.

5. September Mission Offering - \$745 for Project Independence for disabled adults.

Eleven volunteers from CUMC helped at the Walk for Independence in September. Volunteers helped at the end of each lap by marking the walker's cards and cheering them on. Volunteers also helped at the ticket distribution tables, prize and basket tables.

6. September donations – for Disaster Relief.

The Mission Committee authorized \$1,000 to go to UMCOR Disaster Relief from the Missions Account. For the month of September, a collection box for Disaster Response (Hurricanes + Mexico earthquake) was available in the sanctuary for those wishing to contribute. An additional \$1,495 has been collected for a total donation to UMCOR Disaster Response of \$2,495. Thank you, Cornerstone, for your compassion and generosity to all those affected by these natural disasters.

7. CASTeam Lunch Meeting -To promote unity and fellowship.

Individual CASTeam meetings will be held on October 8th during lunch.

8. October (Oct. 22 and 29) - CASTeam #1 will ask the congregation to donate groceries for Pathways of Hope.

9. November – for Veterans Hospital in Chula Vista.

Blankets for Vets. Mission offering funds will help with the purchase of materials for blankets. CASTeam #6 will organize.

10. December – for Friendly Center. Adopt-a-Family - CASTeam #3 will organize.

11. December Mission Opportunity - Special Olympics Orange County Bowl for the Gold.

Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017, 10 am - 12 pm

Fountain Valley Bowl, 17110 Brookhurst, Fountain Valley

Fundraising minimum is \$50. Registration deadline: December 1, 2017.

Sign up on web: [SOSC.org/OCBowlFortheGold](http://SOSC.org/OCBowlFortheGold). †

## Message from Pastor Kim

Last time, when I wrote my article for church newsletter, I was expecting my mother to come home from the skilled nursing home. Coming home was mom's goal, and she worked so hard to accomplish it. She exercised more than she was told to do, and ate well. Her hard work paid off; she came home on July 14. I thought it was a happy ending of my mom's story - "Pastor Kim and her mother lived happily ever after. The End." But I didn't know it was a new beginning of my new challenge.

When my mom came home, she was so exhausted from over-exercising at the nursing home. Once she met her goal of coming home, she didn't want to do anything else, but rest. She didn't want to eat or exercise; she was just so tired and unmotivated. When she was in the nursing home, I just had to bring one meal a day. At home, I had to feed her three meals, and she didn't have much of an appetite. She wasn't hungry at all since she didn't move, and slept all the time. It was very obvious that if she stayed that way, she would have to go back to the nursing home again. I didn't want that to happen, so I tried so hard to motivate her to eat and do something. She was losing weight, and didn't have much strength. I felt so helpless and hopeless; I was so anxious, frustrated, and miserable. I had a strong desire to escape from this circumstance, and bugged my sister to take mom to North Carolina, even though I knew that mom was not able to travel.

In my last article, I wrote, "When I focused on the circumstance, I was panicky, miserable, hopeless and anxious. When I looked to God, I felt hopeful and peaceful." This is the answer -trusting God... calling upon God. I prayed unceasingly, but still was bombarded by my circumstance. My prayer was, "God, get me out of this." My circumstance seemed to be bigger than God.

Then, on September 10th, I shared my struggle with Pastor Soomee Kim, my best friend and colleague. In our conversation, she expressed her

desire to go to church early in the morning to pray. I did that for several months, and my time with God sustained me and strengthened me. But I stopped because I got lazy and tired of getting up so early in the morning. I remembered that when I spent time with God, everything was bearable, but when I stopped, everything became unbearable.

On the following day, September 11, we met at church around 4:50 am. We did some sharing, worshiped briefly with hymns, and read one chapter of Psalms, then prayed. Two days after I started early morning prayer, my mom got a helper, Cindy, who came three times a week. Cindy was a good cook, and mom liked her cooking. She was a good encourager, and made mom eat more. Having Cindy and seeing my mom eat better took away all my burdens. She made enough food for me to eat so that I didn't have to cook much. Finally, God became bigger than my circumstance.

Pastor Soomee and I have been doing a lot of self-reflection, analyzing, and soul searching. We help each other to see God more clearly. Like iron sharpening iron, we are sharpening each other with scripture and insights from God. It has been two weeks since I resumed early morning prayer. Now, I am able to see things in God's perspective. I know what my real problem is. My problem is my self-centeredness and selfishness... I just want to be comfortable. I don't want to be in a situation where I have to sacrifice and suffer. I thought it was mom's job to cook for me, not my job to cook for mom. I always thought that when mom cannot cook and cannot take care of herself, she should live with my sister since I have to work full time, and don't know how to cook. By contrast, mom thought that we should be together in good times and bad times. My thought was I can be with mom only in good times, when she is healthy, and can take care of herself.

God has been telling me many times that taking care of mom is a

part of God's ministry. Loving mom is part of loving my neighbors as myself. I heard it, but I really didn't want to do it. I loved myself more than my mom. Knowing and obeying are two different things. I know many 'right' things to do, but don't always do them because it requires sacrifice, suffering, and discomfort.

I have to confess what Paul said in Romans 7, "I don't do good that I want to do, but I do what I don't want to do. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this?"

Now I know it is God who rescues me from my selfish desire that leads me to darkness, and renews my heart with desires from above. I believe that I can do all things through Jesus Christ who strengthens me. I will draw strength, wisdom, discernment, and patience from God, and try my best to love. I might fall again, and complain about my circumstance again, then I will turn to God again, and try again. That's all I can do. I will continue to fight against my selfish desire, "I don't want to do it if I have to suffer."

God has been teaching me to see my true self, and helped me to accept and love myself as I am. Truth hurts, but gives freedom and clarity. Sufferings are disguised blessings from God. "We also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produced perseverance, perseverance, character, and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us," (Romans 5:3-5). I pray that my suffering contributed to build character in me. I am a work-in-progress like all other Children of God. I put my hope in Christ, who will continuously transform me.

I hope this will be the last writing about me and my mom's story. The ending of this story is "God's goodness and love will follow them all the days of their lives, and they will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

In His Love, Pastor SonHye †

EXTRA

Hello! This summer, our group went through a rebranding of sorts. Instead of Ext.777, our new group name is EXTRA. We are called to live extra-ordinary lives like Jesus, and to go above and beyond what is normally expected by being "Extra." Even though we have a new name, the function of our group is still the same – to provide a place for college students and young adults to explore and deepen their faith, and to have a community of brothers and sisters in

Christ to do life together. We also have group shirts!

We had a lot of summer activities the past couple months as well! In July, we finished off our paired studies in Philippians, and also had our annual lock-in at church. Our dear friends Nick and Jillian got married as well! In August, we went shopping for school supplies at Target for the foster kids...and it turned out that our cashier was a foster kid as well!

She was so touched to be part of our ministry night and it was awesome getting to talk to her. We also had our annual bonfire, a KBBQ night, and then 14 of our EXTRA members went on a Baja cruise together to Catalina Island and Mexico...it was a blast and a great chance to bond with each other!

Currently, we have been working hard for our EXTRA Sunday service on October 15. We hope you all can make it, and that ultimately God will be glorified through the service! †



Annual Lock-In!



Beach Bonfire!



Jillian & Nick's Wedding!



KBBQ at Cham Soot Gol!



EXTRA Cruise Crew!

## Project Independence Walk at TeWinkle Park

September 9, 2017



A big thank you to all the volunteers for their time, energy, enthusiasm, and love at today's annual Walk!

Our enthusiastic and energetic cheerleaders (Pastor Kim, May Quon, Bock and Wei-ling Louie, Randy Wong, Dick Chu, and Lane Hayakawa)

happily danced and encouraged the clients each time they walked a lap, earning points to obtain tickets for prize drawings. It was so much fun to hear and watch them cheer, jump, and dance for over an hour!

Debbie Marsteller, Executive Director of Project Independence, said Cornerstone volunteers make such a significant difference in the lives of the clients. Project Independ-

ence is very grateful for your generous donations and time!

We thank God for our energetic and cheerful volunteers Pastor Kim, Bock and Wei-ling Louie, Dick Chu, Robert and May Quon, Randy Wong, Lane and Judy Hayakawa.

God is good all the time...all the time, God is good!

Thank you and Blessings,  
Rich and Pam Fitch †



**AMPM**

AMPM had an exciting and fun-filled summer, making the most out of the free time the youth had away from school. In July, AMPM held their annual Lock-In, which consisted of many water balloon games, board games, video games, snacks, and many hours of lost sleep spent on the church campus. In August, AMPM had a fun night out to eat, starting with Bruxies, which serves an assortment of waffle dishes, and ending with some boba drinks! Also in August, AMPM had an extra fun day out at Knott's Berry Farm (pictured). Even though the weather was sweltering hot and the lines were very long, tons of fun was still had and many roller coasters were ridden.



AMPM is also embarking on a new Bible Study curriculum, which introduces and discusses a different topic every month. In July, we discussed the importance of friendship and how difficult but rewarding it can be. We looked into what the bible has to say about friendship, discovered the characteristics of a true friend, and learned how true friends help others grow. In August, AMPM discussed decision-making. Decision-making is in every aspect of our lives, but to the youth, the most pressing decision is choosing a career and college to attend. We learned, together,

how we can find comfort in trusting God because we have a limited perspective, as well as how we do not have to stress about making a "correct" decision, but make a decision for the correct reasons.

AMPM has many more fun plans in the coming months, and we encourage you to invite friends and family to join us! AMPM encompasses 7th to 12th graders. If you have any questions, feel free to contact either Amy or Alec at [awong717@gmail.com](mailto:awong717@gmail.com) or [alechasegawa@sbc-global.net](mailto:alechasegawa@sbc-global.net).

God Bless! Alec and Amy †

**Happy Trails to the Grace Brothers**

On Sunday, August 27th, our church family bid farewell and safe travels to Pastor Ewin and his brother, Robert, as they prepared to move to Seeley Lake, Montana on Thursday, August 31st. Pastor Ewin blessed us with an encouraging sermon, "A Matter of Trust" (Proverbs 3:5-6), which was followed by a special appreciation luncheon. We presented them with a generous love offering and a memory book containing photos of the many good times and blessings we received during our time with both Ewin and Robert. They will be sorely missed, but we know that they will be used by God in their new community and church. †



**CORNERSTONE KOINONIA DINNERS**

*Cheryl Chen*



Hello Cornerstone family,  
 So many people have completed their summer CUMC Koinonia dinners and have reported having a great time getting to know our church family members better! You can see the photos of people who have gone out to dinner on our Instagram page at <https://www.instagram.com/cornerstonesocal/>. If you are interested in signing up for another Koinonia dinner or if you missed out on signing up the first time, please let me know! We'd be happy to get you paired up with another church member. Thank you for all your enthusiasm with this fun summer activity! †



**Visioning Update**

*Betty Loh-Chen - August 20, 2017*

When Pastor Kim learned she would be coming to Cornerstone, she began praying, asking God for a vision for our church. After she started serving at Cornerstone, she shared the vision she received from God - to deepen members' personal relationship with God, to have unity in the body of Christ, and to reach out to the community. On February 11, 2017, about 30 members of the church, from all age groups, met to discuss this vision, and "brainstormed" to further develop the ideas into concrete activities. Alex Yu created the new acronym **DUO**:

- Deepening a Personal Relationship with God
- Unity
- Outreach

The group met again 2 weeks later on February 25, to develop an action plan for what we wanted to do for the rest of the year. On August 26, the visioning group came together to

reflect on the past 6 months and to celebrate what has been accomplished.

**Deepening a Personal Relationship with God** - The church is continuing the daily Bible reading, weekly Memory Verse, and Prayer Calendar. Several Prayer Walkers have shared their testimonies during service on the 4th Sunday of the month. Those who have had health or other problems find the prayers from the church very helpful and comforting. Some have seen God's work in answered prayers. The church will create an Advent Devotional in the coming months.

**Unity - The Koinonia Dinners**, where people of different generations share a meal together, have been a great success. Even though we see each other every Sunday, the dinners provide the opportunity to get better acquainted. (If you want to participate for the first time or want to do it again, see Cheryl Chen) Some of the **CASTeams**

have really bonded within their team.

**Outreach - The Mustard Seed Prayer Walks** continue. In addition to blessing those living in the neighborhoods, the Prayer Walkers also feel blessed themselves, and are more comfortable sharing their faith. Pastor Kim reminds us that we are just called upon to plant the seed, and need to trust God to make it grow. **The Easter EggVenture Scavenger Hunt** and **Movie Night** were both big successes, bringing lots of people from the community to visit our campus for some fun and free BBQ. The **Free Car Wash** on September 23 was also a success. The next activity will be **Trunk or Treat** on October 28.

All these things would not be possible without the congregation getting involved. We are deepening our personal faith in God and sharing His love with others in our church and in the community. †

**Joint Worship Service & Lunch**

August 20, 2017



Rev. Soomee Kim



Joint Worship Service followed by a BBQ Lunch in the Parish Park with PUMC. Thanks to May and Robert Quon, who worked hard in organizing the joint BBQ with their helpers - Rich, Pam and Peggy! †



Brad Chinn  
Narrator



**Community Free Car Wash**

9-23-17

On September 23rd, Cornerstone held a Free Community Car Wash. Many of us came out to help wash our neighbors' cars, host a refreshment table, and greet our neighbors in Placentia. Thanks for helping to share God's love through your time, service, and donations!

**Called to Finish the Race and Show God's Grace**

As Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet and said, "You should wash one another's feet." We can wash our neighbors' car instead of their feet to practice Jesus' teaching, and to show His grace that is given to us for free. Church members will experience God in this tangible way as a wonderful opportunity to love and serve our neighbors.

Pastor Kim †



**3rd Wed. Fellowship**

9-20-17



**Hair Care by Dianna Vidra**

Today, we were so blessed by Dianna Vidra! The ladies were pampered and spoiled by Dianna as she shared her knowledge and skills about caring and styling hair. In addition, she personally spoiled all of us, styled our hair, and suggested what works best for us. We also learned about what products and tools work for different types of hair. While we were learning and laughing, some of the guys played Qwirkle, and then, we all enjoyed lunch and fellowship. Thank you, Dianna, for your generosity and a fun day!

By Pam Fitch †