

cornerstone news

praises announcements news updates information prayers

Worship the Lord with Us

Sunday Mornings

- 9:00am Prayer Meeting
- 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
- 7:30pm BASIC Fellowship for Young Adults
1st & 3rd Wed of the month

Friday Night Fellowship

- 7:45pm TGIF Adult Bible Journaling Class
- 7:30pm AMPM Youth Fellowship
for Middle - High Schoolers
- 7:30pm EXTRA College/Career Group

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

Cornerstone UMC

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Pastor John Mark Wang
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Fri 3:00-10:00PM
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Missions

Stacey Loy Wong



CASTeam 6 coordinated July's mission project in support of Human Options, a nonprofit organization in Irvine that supports and empowers individuals and families to escape relationship violence in Orange County. Since the organization's inception in 1981, Human Options has impacted the lives of more than 38,000 individuals affected by relationship violence. Using the mission offering of \$515, CASTeam 6 purchased towels and sheets for the Human Options shelter. Cornerstone's congregation was also invited to donate full-sized toiletry items such as shampoo, soap, lotion, toothbrushes, and toothpaste that shelter residents can take with them when they leave the shelter. Due to the generosity of our church family, CASTeam 6 was able to assemble about 30 hygiene kits for shelter residents.

In August, Missions celebrated students going "Back to School," by buying school supplies for unhoused (homeless) students in

the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District. Under the federal McKinney Vento Act, children and youth are considered homeless when they "lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." This could mean children that reside at a hotel/motel, shelter, or vehicle, or multiple families living in one home with relatives or friends. Missions partnered with the local school district to provide school supplies for students enrolled in the McKinney Vento program. A Catholic church in Yorba Linda had already donated backpacks, but the school district was greatly in need of supplies to fill those backpacks. Wei-ling Louie, Stacey Wong Jr, and Joshua Wong hit the back-to-school sales at Walmart and two Target stores. The August mission offering of \$672 enabled us to purchase an SUV-load of mechanical pencils, erasers, colored pencils, markers, binders, dividers, 2-pocket folders, highlighters, notecards, pencil pouches, and college-ruled paper. †



Message from Pastor John Wang

Dear Beloved Church,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! For me, this past month of August was filled with a whirlwind of fun, mentorship, laughter, and growing faith! I had the opportunity to travel to Nashville, TN, Evanston, IL, and Oceanside, CA all in the span of three weeks. Needless to say, the events were both energizing and exhausting, and I loved every moment.

On August 14 - 16, I attended the annual Journey Toward Ordained Ministry retreat in Nashville, TN. This event rewards ethnic seminary students from across the country who applied for the scholarship with a trip to Nashville, TN and a grant of \$5,000. At this two-and-a-half-day event, I spent time with two other clergy mentors, Pastor Nickie Moreno Howard and Rev. Alexis Faith, along with two directors of the program and staff at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Rev. Trip Lowery and Rev. David Martinez. Together, our team provided valuable workshops and mock interviews for current ethnic seminary students pursuing ordination in the United Methodist Church. Many people are not aware of how rigorous the United Methodist ordination process can be, which includes annual paperwork examining one's calling to ministry, theology, self-care, and effectiveness, in addition to coming before a committee to undergo an oral interview. Each stage of the process brings a candidate one step closer toward the goal of ordination in the United Methodist Church, and the purpose of our meeting annually in Nashville is to provide the best preparation for each seminary student before their actual interviews. It has been a privilege to work alongside my friends Nickie, Alexis, and Carlos to train people like ourselves who are currently in the midst of seminary education. I was a recipient of this scholarship when I attended seminary, and it has been my honor to give back to the program.

The following week, from August 21 – 24, I attended the first Ethnic Young Adult Gathering of the six national ethnic Plans of the United Methodist Church in Evanston, IL at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. According to our event agenda:

The Ethnic Young Adults Gathering (E.Y.A.G) is a collaboration of the six ethnic ministry plans of the United Methodist Church. 2019 marks an inaugural large-scale collaboration that focuses on youth leadership development. There is an international movement towards diversity and inclusion, and the United Methodist Church (UMC) is working to be incorporated into this change. Looking at the church's past, present, and future, the six ethnic ministry national plans want to

raise-up leaders of diverse backgrounds to guide the church in the coming years.

The six ethnic ministry plans consist of Asian American, Korean, Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latinx, African American, and Native American. I attended the event on behalf of the Asian American Language Ministry Plan which includes Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Middle Eastern, Cambodian, and Vietnamese Americans. There were eight other young adults in addition to me who represented the Asian American group and we had a wonderful experience learning about the inner workings of the General Board of Global Ministries, the social justice work taking place in Evanston, and sharing our unique ethnic experiences of church. The best part of the event was that all the young adults from each ethnic group collaborated together to plan the next gathering, expressing their willingness to lead and seeing the value of our diversity as ethnic Christians.

Finally, in the last week of August 30 – September 1, I was able to serve as the guest speaker for our church's EXTRA Young Adult Retreat in Oceanside, CA. Katie Low, Jon Kwalk, Jon Chen, and I collaborated for several weeks in preparation of our retreat which was themed 'Wave After Wave' – Strengthening faith in the midst of difficult life circumstances. During our retreat, I focused my messages on practical tools to develop inward and outward spirituality in order to withstand the hardships of life. We had wonderful fellowship moments breaking out into small groups to reflect on the questions derived from the messages, and each small group took a turn at preparing breakfast each morning. I am especially grateful to Katie Low and Ryan Low for leading beautiful praise and worship songs each day, creating an atmosphere for the Spirit of God to be felt. We also went exploring to Oceanside Pier, hiking at the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve, and some challenged their minds at an Escape Room. I truly felt the presence of God in the joy, vulnerability, trust, and sharing of the young adults who attended, and I pray for God's continued work in their lives.

I am grateful for all of these experiences in different parts of the state and country, and for having the opportunity to invest in the young adults in many churches. That being said, I am also grateful for moments of rest and recharging at home, and look forward to the weeks ahead spending time getting to know all of you reading this article! God is good to us all the time. May God grant us the energy and boldness like the young adults to change the world for the better! Amen. †

Hugs 'N' Stitches

July 27, 2019

Lydia Chu is an amazingly talented quilter and works so hard sewing and organizing all those prayer quilts! In addition, she also cuts, sews, and assembles many bibs for a convalescent home. We had a fun and productive day as the helpers finished the simple parts. Thank you as you bless and serve so many with the beautiful quilts! Lydia, Kay, Pam, Cece, Crystal, and Myrna had a wonderful fellowship and a delicious lunch, too! †



Farewell to Ewin Grace



Ewin Grace's last day with us was July 11, 2019. We wish him safe travels as he left on Friday, July 12th to visit his daughter and family in Montana, then, with God's guidance, on to other ministries where he will be able to utilize his many gifts and talents. God bless and happy trails to our dear brother until we meet again! †

Thank you to Rev. Soomee Kim



Thank you to Rev. Dr. Soomee Kim for graciously taking on the extra job of preaching during the month of July during our interim period. We appreciate you, Pastor Soomee! †

Welcome Pastor John Wang

August 4, 2019



Celebration Sunday for Our New Pastor

Cornerstone gave a warm welcome to our new pastor, Rev. John Mark Wang with a Celebration worship service followed by our lunch fellowship. Pastor John moved down here from Spokane, WA, and started at Cornerstone on Thursday, August 1, 2019. Welcome to Pastor John! †



On Friday, August 2nd, a few members of SPRC welcomed Pastor John Wang while enjoying an evening meal at Urban Plates in Brea. It was a wonderful time of getting to know, support, and bless each other. Aloha! †

EXTRA - July and August Activities

July and August were fun months for EXTRA! We started off July with a literal bang by spending the Fourth of July together – mini golfing, and then going to Downtown Disney for dinner and fireworks! We continued our studies in Ephesians and Genesis, with Steven and Katie covering Ephesians and Jon Chen and Nick covering Genesis. We also baked some items for our retreat bake sale, and Cece (the best baker in the group) whipped out some amazing desserts – cinnamon marble cake and carrot cake! Thank you all for donating to our bake sale; we hope you enjoyed the goodies! Our late July event was a Duffy boat cruise in Newport Harbor, where ten of us got on

a boat and sailed away for two hours! It was a great time of blasting music, eating yummy appetizers, and trying not to crash our boat into various objects. Then in August, we had our own EXTRA summer tea party! There were plenty of orange scones with jam, bite-sized cucumber and egg salad sandwiches, potato balls, cream puffs, and other delectable desserts, as well as an assortment of both hot and cold teas! It was fun (at least for the girls) to dress up, and to enjoy each other's company while eating great food! In late August, we went on our EXTRA retreat, which is covered in another article.

Thanks for reading! †



EXTRA Retreat - Labor Day Weekend



Dear Cornerstone,

On behalf of EXTRA (our young adult group), I just wanted to thank all of you for your prayers and financial support for our retreat! In case you missed our retreat update on Sunday (9/8/19), here's a brief recap:

The Theme

Our theme for this retreat was "Wave After Wave," since we were in Oceanside, after all! Pastor John's messages centered around practical ways to hold onto our faith in the midst of life's storms and waves.

The Schedule

Each day consisted of a morning devotional/quiet time, morning and evening messages, worship, small groups, and free time! We also split up into meal groups to take turns cooking for each other. We added some last-minute things to the schedule – a music video, and a time of sharing our testimonies.

The Retreat Site

We stayed at a beautiful house in Oceanside, and it was the perfect retreat place for us! Surprisingly, this was actually the cheapest option for what we were looking for, and it was pretty close to the beach and all of our other activities. The house came with a large projector for worship, plenty of eating areas, a nice kitchen, three patios, and a sprawling backyard! The house had so much room that people were able to relax comfortably alone, and to have devotional time in different areas of the house.

The Outcome

The most impactful moments of this retreat were in small groups, testimony sharing, and the altar call. In both small groups and testimony sharing, we had a chance to share some of the heaviest parts of our lives and what we currently struggle with. It's easy for all of us to only show the best parts of ourselves, but this retreat really allowed us the opportunity to be vulnerable with each other. As a result, people were able to have open and honest conversations with each other and understand each other's stories. Pastor John also did an altar call, and four people rededicated their lives to Christ – praise God!

Again, we just want to thank you so much for your continual support of our young adult ministry! Know that your donations and prayers helped SO much – we were able to send people to the retreat who wouldn't normally be able to go and lowered the cost for the entire group so that it was very affordable! God really moved in this retreat, and so many lives were impacted.

Here is a link to a video of the retreat – we couldn't catch every moment, but it's a small glimpse into what went on! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PK_4-emTdLk&feature=youtu.be

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you Cornerstone!

- Katie Low (and all of EXTRA) †