

cornerstone news

praises announcements news updates information prayers

Worship the Lord with Us

-No on-campus Sunday School, Worship Services, Fellowship or other meetings at this time. Join us online:

Sundays

11:30am Worship Online Service
1:00pm Zoom Lunch Fellowship Hour

Tuesdays

9:00am Zoom Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays

10:00am Zoom New Life Fellowship - Seniors
8:00pm Zoom Prayer Meeting

Thursdays

7:30pm Discord BASIC Fellowship for Young Adults
1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month

Friday Night Fellowship

7:30pm Zoom TGIF Adult Bible Journaling Class
8:00pm Discord EXTRA College/Career & AMPM Youth Group

Contact us for more info on Zoom/Discord meetings at this time. Days and times are subject to change.

Cornerstone UMC

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Wendy Yu
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Newsletter Co-Editors
Audrey Yee & Charlene Wong
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Missions

Stacey Loy Wong

The holidays are about giving to others and especially reaching out to those less fortunate than ourselves. In November, our church was able to provide \$25 grocery gift cards to the dialysis patients at Satellite Healthcare, Orange. This is the health center in which our own Cheryl Hasegawa works as a social worker. Many of these dialysis patients are vulnerable and struggle with poverty that has been exacerbated by the Covid pandemic. I asked a couple of the Tuesday bible study members, the talented Celeste Wong and Rebecca Louie, to assist with making some special Thanksgiving blessing cards. Their handmade creations turned out beautifully! On behalf of our church, 22 patients received a handmade card, along with the grocery gift card, as a surprise for Thanksgiving. Thank you to Cheryl and her co-workers for allowing us to come alongside them to bless others!



*May the Lord bless you and protect you.
May the Lord smile on you
and be gracious to you.
May the Lord show you his favor
and give you his peace.*
Numbers 6:24-26

*Blessings to you and your family
as you share a
special Thanksgiving.*
*From your friends at
Cornerstone United Methodist Church*
www.cornerstonesocal.org

For the month of December, the missions committee purchased over \$750 worth of toys and gifts for the Friendly Center's Holiday Gift and Toy Drive. Unlike previous years in which we purchased gifts for only 1 or 2 families, the missions committee wanted to more broadly share Christmas blessings with a greater number of families, since so many people are hurting this holiday season. After speaking with the Friendly Center's Director of Development, Arian Ghiacy, we discovered that the Friendly Center had similar thoughts in their approach to Christmas gift-giving. They chose to "pause" their Adopt-A-Family program for 2020 and instead focus their efforts on a Holiday Gift and Toy Drive to benefit 400 families, including 1,000 children. May Quon purchased gifts from the Friendly Center's Amazon wish list and Stacey Wong bought additional gifts at Target. Gifts were sorted by age range and packaged in large trash bags for easy transport. All presents were delivered to the Friendly Center during a socially-distanced, designated appointment time on December 12th. Thank you to all Cornerstone members for your support of the November and December missions offerings. Even though our community is in the midst of the pandemic, our church was still able to serve others for Thanksgiving and Christmas in a way that was safe for all. †

*I lift my eyes up to the hills—from where does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.”
—Psalm 121:1-2 NRSV*

Dear Beloved Church,

Happy New Year! Though it's a new year, I hope and pray it gets better than what we're seeing in this first week of January. At the time of this writing, a day has passed since the forced entry into the Capitol building by an angry mob resulting in several deaths and many arrested. This event, added to the backdrop of surging positive COVID-19 cases in California, makes me wonder what is happening to our country and in our world? Where does our help come from? My search for an answer to these frustrating questions is to turn to prayer and the Bible. The Psalms is one of the best places to relate to our feelings because they are all expressed so well by the author. When our sense of normalcy is taken away from us in so many ways, the Psalms captures our feelings and reassures us – *My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.* We are not in control of these events. Let them drive us to our knees in prayer to God who is sovereign over all things.

Indeed, the Bible is the nourishment for our souls in these times when there is so much chaos and unrest in the country. This new year represents a chance for fresh starts and goal-setting that will bring greater glory to God through our faith in Jesus Christ. I have felt God's nudge to move us closer to a deeper relationship with Him through a renewed focus on Intentional Faith Development as explained in the *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* by Robert Schnase. Last March, I planned to do a deep dive into studying and preaching through this book, but the pandemic made me shift my focus. In 2021, it feels right to press on with developing our faith since the pandemic has changed our way of life, offering us more opportunities to be reflective and meditative. God gives us this time to transform us from the inside, working out our spiritual weaknesses and brightening us to shine our light in a dark world. In the coming weeks and months, our church is planning more ways to transform from the inside out through a Zoom Enneagram workshop, studying the book of Romans, and deepening our dependence on God to be uncomfortable for the sake of the Gospel.

Finally, keep praying for loved ones battling COVID-19, cancer, illnesses, quarantine, and isolation. The power of prayer changes everything! We can trust our powerful God of mercy, compassion, and love to carry us when the journey becomes too tiring. The Psalmist knows this all too well:

"The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore."

-Psalm 121:7-8

Grace and Peace,
Pastor John †

EXTRA

By Katie Low

EXTRA has really been ramping up in terms of activities! Some of our noteworthy events were having a face-masked Friendsgiving picnic at the park, welcoming in the new EXTRA members (Allison, Jillian, and Samuel) with distanced hangouts, and having our annual Christmas party on Zoom this year! We also discussed topics such as singleness, dating, and the characters of Christmas. On other weekday nights, we've been having **Among Us** game nights and girls' movie nights... there's never a dull moment! †



New Life

New Lifers have continued their Zoom meetings every Wednesday morning at 10:00am, helping them to stay connected and not feel so isolated. Pastor John has prepared many devotionals which have encouraged discussions and deeper sharing. In December, we viewed the PBS special series on Asian Americans, which documents the impact Asian Americans have had on our nation. Over 100 years of history was covered in these 5 episodes:

- Breaking Ground - New immigrants arrive from China, India, Japan, and the Philippines. Barred by anti-Asian laws, they are the first "undocumented immigrants."
- A Question of Loyalty – Japanese Americans during WWII
- Good Americans - During the Cold War, Asian Americans are seen as the Model Minority, but also perpetual foreigners.
- Generation Rising – Younger generations fight for equality in the agricultural fields and on college campuses, claiming a new identity as Asian Americans. Post-Vietnam brings new immigrants and refugees.
- Breaking Through – The new millennium confronts issues of immigration, race, and economic disparity, as the U.S. becomes more diverse and more divided.

The New Lifers found these videos very interesting and educational as these topics were not taught when we attended school. †

December 2, 2020



New Life - (Cont'd on pg. 5)

New Life - Cont'd from pg. 4

December 23, 2020



Congressional Gold Medal for WWII Vet Bill Chan

December 9, 2020



Our dear Bill Chan is one of over 20,000 Chinese American World War II Veterans to receive a Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his service. The ceremony honoring these veterans was held in Washington D.C. on YouTube due to the pandemic. Bill and Helene are shown viewing the ceremony from their home. Bill proudly displays the hats he has received to honor his service.

Congressional Gold Medal for WWII Vet Bill Chan (Cont'd on pg. 6)

Congressional Gold Medal for WWII Vet Bill Chan - *Cont'd* from Pg. 5

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 12, 2017

Dear Colleague:

We are writing to invite you to cosponsor S.1050, a bipartisan Congressional Gold Medal Bill honoring Chinese-American Veterans who served in World War II.

By 1941, more than 100,000 Chinese Americans had immigrated to the United States. Due to laws such as the Chinese Exclusion Act, which restricted Chinese immigration to the United States, many Chinese Americans faced discrimination and an inability to build thriving communities. Nevertheless, almost 20,000 of these brave men and women, from every state, served in the American armed forces in every World War II theater of battle and branch of service, earning citations for their heroism and honorable service. In the Army and Army Air Corps alone, 1,168 Chinese Americans served from our home states of Illinois, Mississippi, and Hawai'i.

As we look forward to the 75th anniversary of the repeal of the Exclusion Act next year, the United States remains indebted to the bravery, valor and dedication displayed by the Chinese-American Veterans of World War II. This legislation honors a group of World War II Veterans who, like many minorities, overcame discrimination to serve their country bravely and honorably.

Please join us in cosponsoring S.1050. For additional information, contact Erika Moritsugu in Senator Duckworth's office at Erika_Moritsugu@duckworth.senate.gov or Lindsay Linhares at Senator Cochran's office at Lindsay_Linhares@cochran.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Thad Cochran
United States Senator



Mazie Hirono
United States Senator

TGIF Bible Study

December 4, 2020



Cornerstone Worship in December



Christmas Sunday Fellowship Hour



Cornerstone United Methodist Church - Lay Leadership 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Pastor: (non-voting)	John Mark Wang
Administrative Council Chair	Jon Chen
Finance	Al Wong
Trustee Chair	Dick Chow
SPRC	Betty Loh-Chen
Worship	Anita Lee, Cheryl Hasegawa
Caring Ministry	Minnie Lou, Pam Fitch
Missions	Stacey Loy Wong
New Lifers	Betty Loh-Chen
BASIC	Jon and Cheryl Chen
EXTRA	Katie Low (Nick Cota, Steven Farren, Jon Kwalk)
Marketing and Communication	Gary and Sheree Low
Administrative Council Secretary	Katie Low

LAY LEADER Kevin Hasegawa

LAY DELEGATE TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE Betty Loh-Chen

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Finance	Al Wong
Treasurer	Joyce Wong
Secretary	Robert Quon
Bookkeeper	Al Wong
Payroll	Judy Hayakawa
Administrative Council Chair	Jon Chen
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Betty Loh-Chen
SPRC	Betty Loh-Chen
Lay Leader	Kevin Hasegawa
Trustee Chair	Dick Chow

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

2021	Pam Fitch, Steve Louie, Betty Loh-Chen (Chair)
2022	Robert Quon, Dick Chu
2023	Andrew Fong, Gary Low
Lay Leader	Kevin Hasegawa

TRUSTEES - (CHAIR ELECTED BY TRUSTEES)

2021	Dick Chow (Chair), Jeff Hasegawa, Charlie Lou
2022	Matt Chai, Richard Fitch, Benson Fong
2023	Bock Louie, Joshua Yu

LAY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE (NOMINATIONS)

Pastor	John Mark Wang (Chair)
2021	Minnie Lou
2022	Wei-ling Louie
Lay Leader	Kevin Hasegawa

Cornerstone United Methodist Church - Lay Leadership 2021

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Worship Chairs	Anita Lee, Cheryl Hasegawa
Attendance Recorder	Selina Yee
Prayer & Praise Recorder	Wendy Yu
Communion Preparers	TBD
Bulletin Publisher	TBD
Audio/Visual System Coordinators	Jon Chen, Andrew Fong, Kevin Hasegawa, Joshua Yu, Jeff Hasegawa
Power-point Coordinator	Jillian Yee
Head Usher	TBD
Praise Band Team Coordinators	Cheryl Chen, Brad Chinn, Katie Low, Ryan Low, Sheree Low, Alex Yu

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Stacey Loy Wong (Chair)
Wei-ling Louie, Pam Fitch, May Quon, Pat Gayle

CARING MINISTRY

Minnie Lou, Pam Fitch
Lydia Chu, Pat Gayle

COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter Editors	Gary and Sheree Low Audrey Yee, Charlene Wong
Website	Allan Wong

EDUCATION

Adult	Ed Joe
Children	Celeste Wong

JOINT PARISH (CUMC & PUMC) ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL FOR CUMC (5 VOTES*)

Pastor (non-voting)	John Mark Wang
*Administrative Council Chair	Jon Chen
*Lay Leader	Kevin Hasegawa
Chair of Parish Council	CUMC
*Finance Committee Chair	Al Wong
*Parish Board of Trustees	(elected by Trustees)
*Administrative Council Appointee	Rotating CUMC Member - Bock Louie
Treasurer (non-voting)	TBD

JOINT PARISH (CUMC & PUMC) BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR CUMC (5 VOTES*)

Pastor (non-voting)	John Mark Wang
*Board of Trustees	Dick Chow, Richard Fitch, Jeff Hasegawa, Bock Louie

** Dick Chu would like to be a representative from CUMC for any CUMC Trustee unable to attend the meeting.

Reflections Corner

<i>PROS OF 4 'C's OF LIFE</i>	<i>CONS OF 3 'C's OF LIFE</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>CHRIST</i> 2. <i>COMPLIMENT</i> 3. <i>COMMUNICATION</i> 4. <i>COMPASSION</i> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>CONDEMN</i> 2. <i>CRITICIZE</i> 3. <i>COMPLAIN</i>

SPRC Request for Comments

The purpose of SPRC is to support the Pastor and Staff and enhance communication with the congregation. If you have any comments, suggestions, or words of encouragement, please contact one of the SPRC members:

Betty Loh-Chen (Chair)	blohchen@gmail.com	714-488-8236
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