

# 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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## Missions

Stacey Loy Wong

January's missions offering of \$826.72 will be sent in support of Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County. For every \$1 donated, their organization is able to provide 3 meals. That means our mission offering will be able to provide 2,478 meals to those in need. Since the pandemic hit a year ago, many people are facing hunger and food insecurity in Orange County. Pandemic-related unemployment has eliminated countless jobs. Second Harvest Food Bank estimates that they serve about 500,000 people per month, which is twice the pre-pandemic number. Cornerstone UMC is proud to be able to partner with this amazing organization to do our part to help others during this difficult time.

The February and March mission offerings will be used to host an appreciation lunch for the healthcare workers at the Placentia-Linda Hospital on Wednesday, March 17th. Located only 1.5 miles from our church, the hospital and its staff have diligently tended to the healthcare needs of our local community since the pandemic began. As a token of our appreciation, and in recognition of their service, plans are in the works to host a lunch for the 300 hospital staff members. We will be providing 12" Subway sandwiches with chips, cookies, and water. We hope that we can bless these local heroes for all they have done, and continue to do, for our community. †

## Beautiful Creations During the Pandemic

Our talented and creative Lily has made over 400 face masks for friends and family members. If any of you do not have a face mask, please contact Lily Lee. She also made a beautiful prayer quilt.

Pam Fitch †



Message from Pastor John Wang

Jan-Feb 2021

*"Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom."*

*-James 3:13*

Dear Beloved Church,

I have wonderful news to share regarding my graduation from the C2 Leadership Institute. This edition of the Pastor's Column is going to cover the highlights of my class and what I learned. I had a great experience participating in the C2 Leadership Institute hosted by Hyepin Im, the founder of Faith and Community Empowerment Los Angeles (FACELA). This was an intense 19 week class held every Tuesday morning on Zoom for 4 hours each session. I was invited to join this class by Bishop Grant Hagiya, along with fifteen other clergy from our California-Pacific Annual Conference, in order to gain valuable tools to further grow connections between our church and the world in many practical ways.

- Peer-to-Peer Networking – One of the greatest gifts of this class was being introduced to amazingly gifted and talented clergy from our conference. As we journeyed through the sessions each week, I was inspired by my colleagues' passion and diligence for their unique projects some of which included creating affordable housing on the church property, and developing food sustainability outreach programs for families in need, especially during the pandemic. I now have a wider network of resources to reach out to in case we decide to pursue such an endeavor. Teamwork makes the dream work!
- Community Partnerships (Walmart/Target/Starbucks, etc.) – Each session, our teacher, Hyepin Im, brought an assortment of amazing speakers and community leaders from the business world. We learned from managers, department chairpersons, and community engagement executives about how we can partner and make use of local business resources. One of the best lessons I learned was to get to know our local Walmart or Target store managers whenever we plan an event because we can potentially receive free donation items to support our cause. Many local businesses have a surplus of items that aren't sold, and certain managers are willing to help churches with a contribution of clothing, food, or gift cards, if requested. I intend to make new friends the next time I go shopping.
- Affordable Housing and Food Insecurity Projects – We heard from a variety of local bank representatives about their grant funding efforts as a result of the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), an act which places a required burden on financial institutions to invest in their local community. These banks are most willing to fund church events or projects that focus on providing aid to low-income families in the community. These types of projects will receive the most attention on applications, although funding is limited. It was a helpful reminder that there are funds available in the community, and we can seek them out if we are lacking financial resources for particular projects.
- Creating a Community Development Corporation – A non-profit, community-based organization for revitalizing areas where they are located. Last, but not least, a majority of speakers discussed the difficulty of funding church events and projects due to the religious and spiritual component. Most community partners have rules of separation between secular business and religious institutions. We were encouraged to consider creating a Community Development Corporation (CDC) out of our churches, which are separate non-profit entities, not directly connected to the church. The CDC would be a non-profit agency that funders would be much more comfortable giving grants to, so as not to show favoritism to one religious institution over another.

*(Cont'd on pg. 3)*

## Message from Pastor John Wang

(Cont'd from pg. 2)

These highlights are just a few drops of water from the swimming pool of information I received from the C2 Leadership Institute. The greatest gift of this class is the new network of people I am connected with who can help our church expand its reach in Placentia and beyond. My project is focused on continuing the Spirit of Friendship Tea in a virtual format through Zoom and on raising funds to help families in need through the Friendly Center of Orange County. It is still in the early stages of preparation, and my hope is that ultimately, we can glorify God through another beautiful event that gathers us safely online while also helping the needy. As Proverbs 19:17 states, "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done."

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor John Wang †

## Blessing Bags

Because of our generous church family donors, our Caring ministry are able to provide 24 blessing bags to those who are less fortunate or disabled. Richard, Pam, and Walter Fitch and Kay Wong purchased and assembled blessing bags with a variety of snacks, tissues, wipes, toothbrush, toothpaste, sanitizer, and a list of resources to guide a person should he or she need to seek help. The List of Resources includes:

- Meals on Wheels in various cities
- Blessing Boxes in 5 locations in Placentia
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline
- Substance Abuse Hotline
- Service on Mental Illness & Addiction
- Mary's Kitchen in Orange
- Placentia Senior & Neighborhood Services
- Orange Senior Transportation Program
- Veteran's Crisis Line

Pastor John and ladies of our Women's Bible Study will help distribute the blessing bags as needed. If you would like more information about these resources, please contact Pam Fitch or Wendy Yu. We pray that our small gift will be a big encouragement to guide someone who needs help. Thank you and blessings.

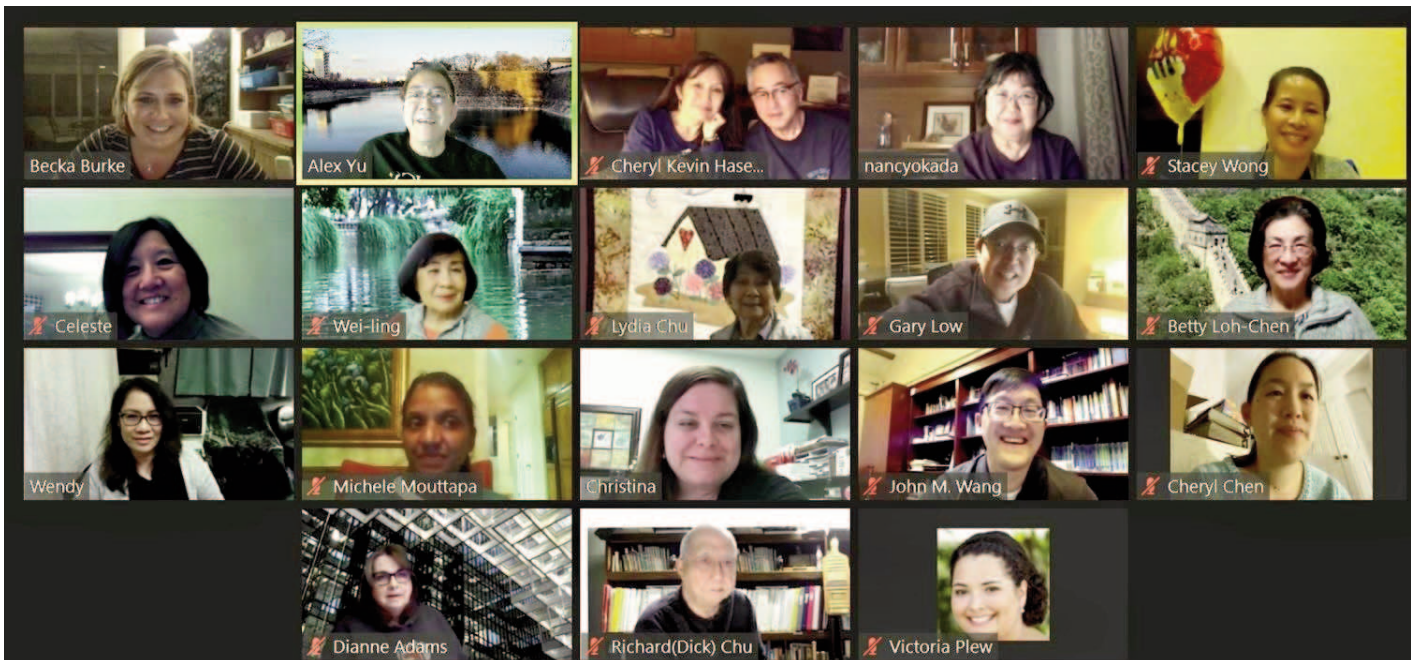
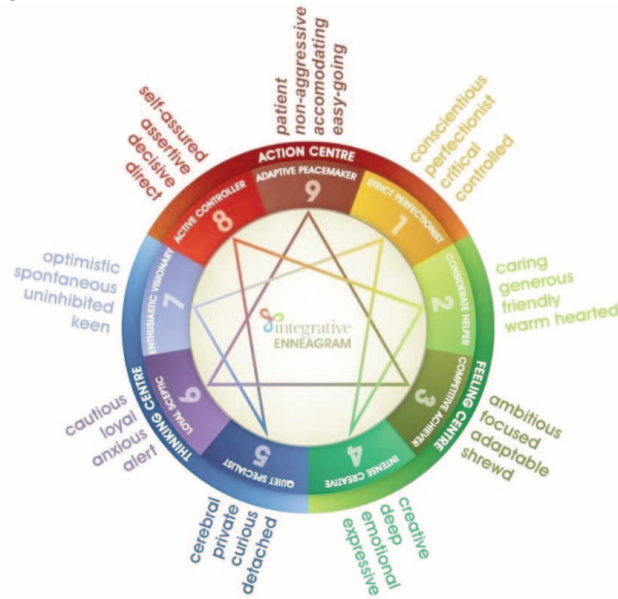
Pam Fitch †





**What's Your Type? Cornerstone's Enneagram Zoom Workshop** *Cheryl Hasegawa*

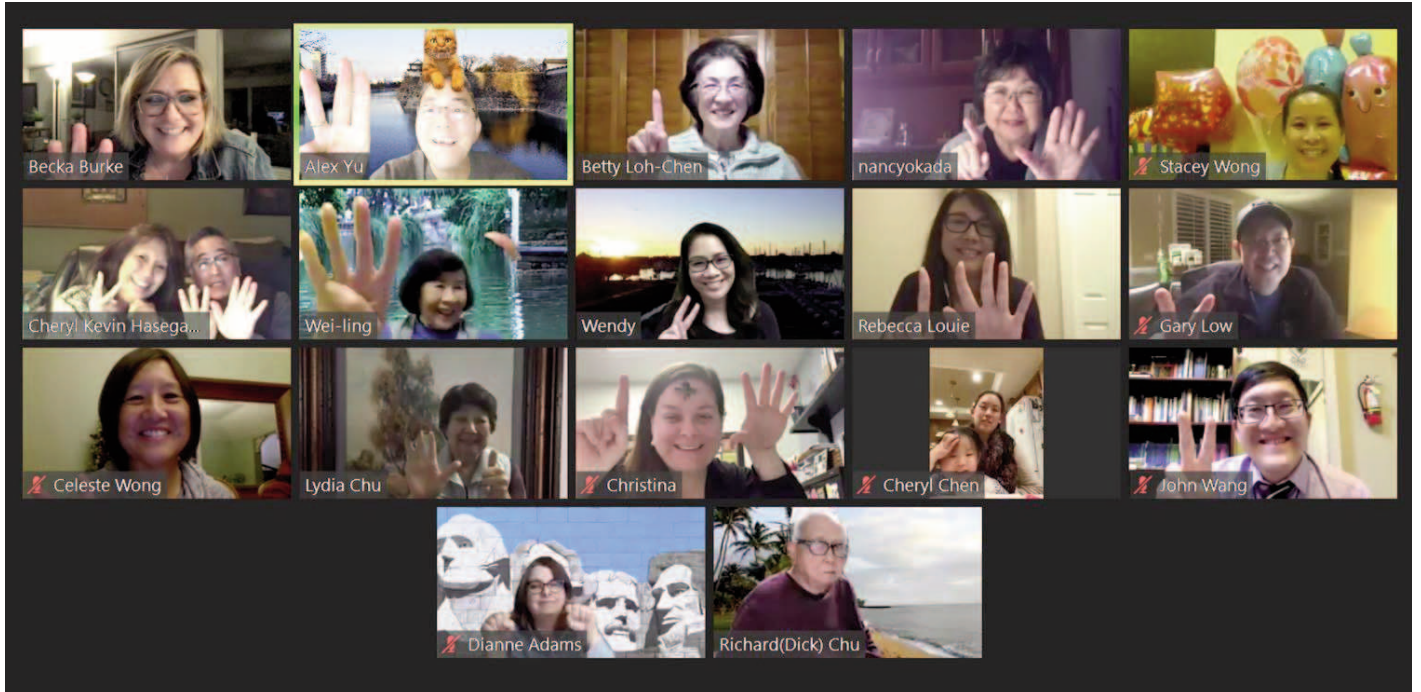
Pastor John introduced us to a very meaningful and fun class on Enneagrams. The Enneagram is like a map for self-discovery and personal growth based on 9 personality types. We met for 3 Zoom classes in February 2020 with Becka Burke who does personal coaching as well. We each took a test which led us to our top 3 or 4 types on the Enneagram wheel shown here. We then read more in-depth on each type to see which we felt matched our core motivations in life best. Learning our personality type is not an end in itself, but can point to the beginning of a journey. For myself, it is helping me identify what's been a driving force in my life, and what can make me healthier. Am I a peacemaker (9) or a competitive achiever (3)? As a peacemaker, I can see why it is so hard to know what my opinion is, or why I second-guess my decisions, since I'm so busy focusing on others! It's so helpful and convicting! Some in our group fit a leader, controller type (8), many the nurturer helper personality (2), and some were the cautious skeptic (6). Thank you, Pastor, for opening our eyes to another way of learning to use our gifts for God's best purpose. This is just a beginning! †



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### Ash Wednesday Drive-Thru Blessing

On February 17th, we had an Ash Wednesday Drive-Thru in lieu of an in-person service. Pastor Broghan and Pastor John were able to do prayer blessings over many who came by the church parking lot. A prayer of blessing and imposition of ashes in a cross was given out on a prayer card. †



Doug - postman



Pastor John Wang & Pastor Broghan Hunt



Starbucks treats for the pastors from Stacey Loy Wong



Pastor John, Steve Louie & Pastor Broghan

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### Ash Wednesday Drive-Thru Blessing

(Cont'd from pg. 5)



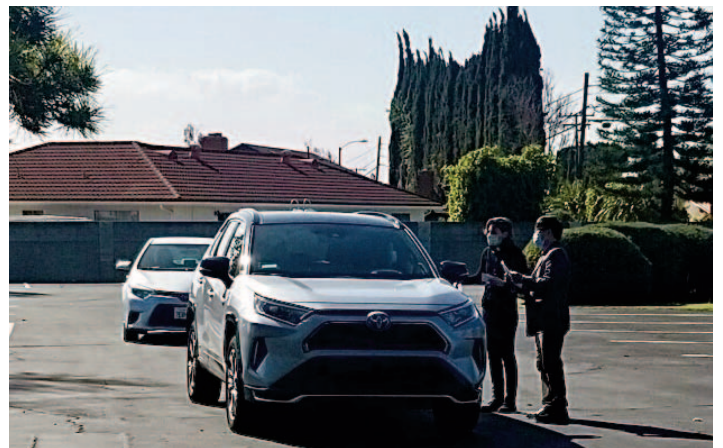
Wendy Yu & Pastor John



Pastor John, Izzy Velasco & Pastor Broghan



Eleanor Barbour with Pastor Broghan and Pastor John



Drive-Thru - Pastor Broghan & Pastor John



Pastor Broghan, Joyce Wong & Pastor John



Judy Hayakawa, Pastor Broghan & Pastor John

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### Ash Wednesday Drive-Thru Blessing

(Cont'd from pg. 6)



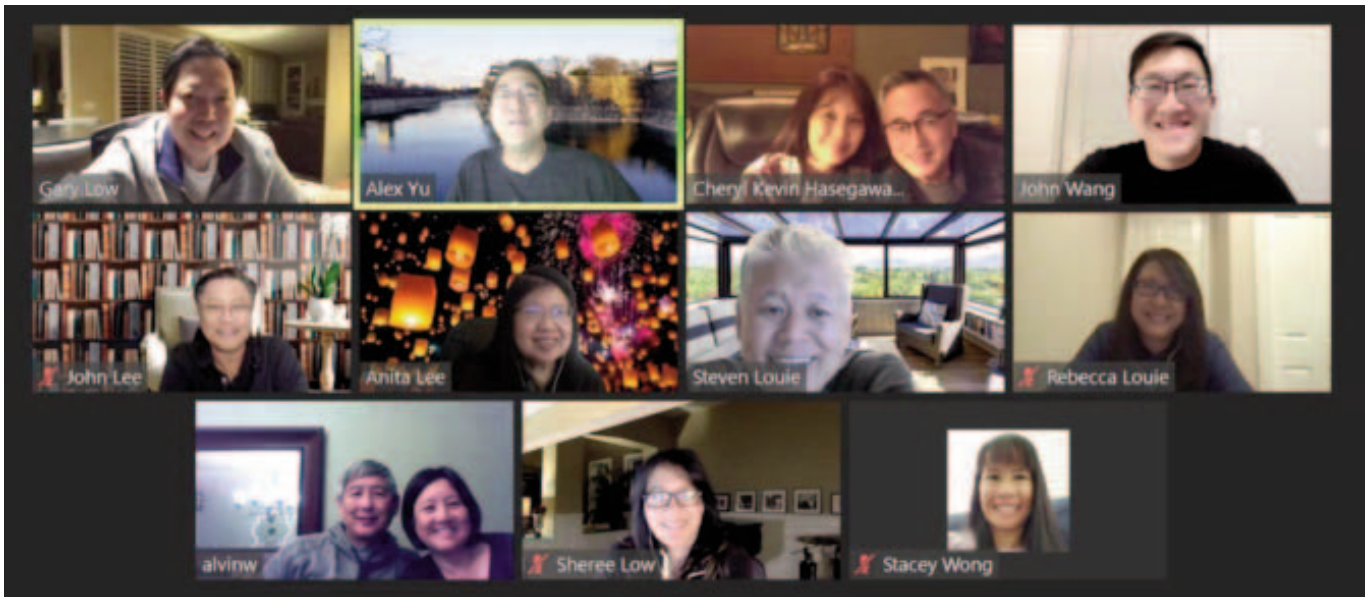
Winston & Kay Wong



Pam & Richard Fitch & Pastor John

### TGIF Bible Study

Jan. 8, 2120 & Jan. 22 2021



### HUGS Quarantine Valentine Party

Cheryl Hasegawa



HUGS hosted a fun Valentine get-together via Zoom, with games created by Sheree Low. It was so great to catch up with friends we hadn't seen in a while! What most folks enjoyed most was reconnecting after a year apart, and seeing that we're still a really close group of friends. We even learned more about each other! We shared our "Yay me" or "Why me" moments from 2020. There were graduations and weddings, injuries and surgeries. We got the chance to meet Teri Fukushima's boyfriend Tom!

We played Word Scramble. Arleen had the longest word, PALESTINE made from "Happy Valentine's Day", while Ken had the MOST words found. Suzy and Steve tied for "best MEMORY", they recalled 17 of 22 random items on a table (see pic). Crazy great minds! And who would have known my husband Kevin had a secret talent for Zoom Freeze Frame. He held the longest (goofy) frozen face! Partner Pictionary was coordinated team fun, too! Brad yelled Mouse Trap when Judy barely drew Mickey Mouse ears and her partner barely drew a few lines. The topper was online polls of how well we know each other. Turns out Sheree knows us better than we know ourselves. Her multiple-choice questions included better answers than our original ones. We learned what makes John feel all warm and fuzzy inside, how Suzy is like Sheree with little time to watch TV anymore, what Mary Lynn does in her rare spare time, and one of Teri's favorite places to go. We also found out about Byung's surprising greatest fear, how Yin would spend \$10, what Arleen does to relax, how Ken & Di take turns cooking, and what Erick's ultimate hands-down favorite meal is!

Thanks, Sheree, for such a fun evening of laughter and friendship. Thanks to all who tuned in! Blessings to our friends we miss so much. †



Freeze Frame Game

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### HUGS Quarantine Valentine Party

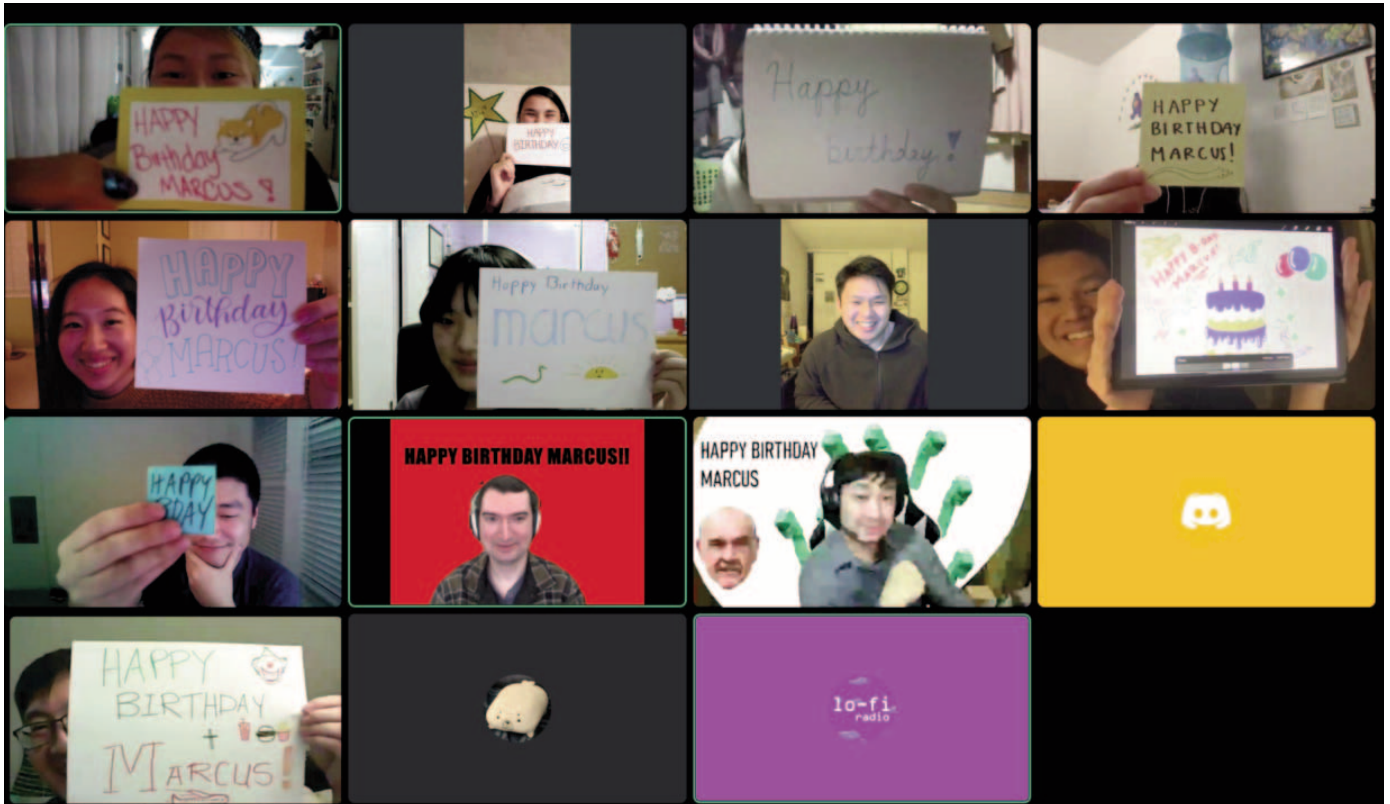
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EXTRA

By Katie Low

EXTRA started off 2021 with studies on the Holy Spirit and on setting goals. Then in February, we started watching **The Chosen**, a TV series based on the life of Christ. We also had some fun game nights playing **Jackbox**, and had a special Valentine's Day event where we played **Guess Who?**, **Code Names**, and **Fish Bowl**. On other weekday nights, we've been having **Among Us** game nights and movie nights with the girls. Hoping to continue these nights of fun and fellowship as the year progresses! †



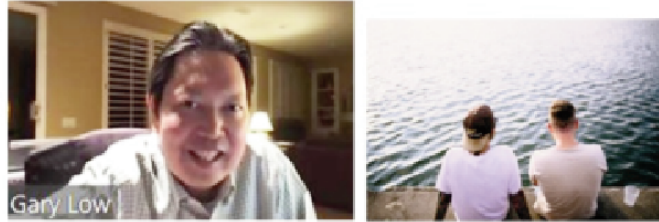


## Reflections During the Lent Season

Cheryl Hasegawa

As we prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies in remembering Jesus' period of fasting and reflection, these are some reflections offered up in response to select bible passages or to the question: "What would you give up for Lent, to give more time to spend with God?" †

### Lenten Sharing from Gary Low



I will give up watching Lakers games for Lent. I'll use the time to pray, read my Bible, or lift others up by email, text, or calls.

Psalm 27:14 "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord" is the verse I've chosen for my personal reflection. I need to remind myself not to take things and situations into my own hands, but to pray to God with all my heart. Wait with patience and know that God will answer my prayer in His time, not mine. At the same time, to remain strong and steadfast, knowing that God is always with me as I wait for His answers.

### Lenten Sharing from John Lee



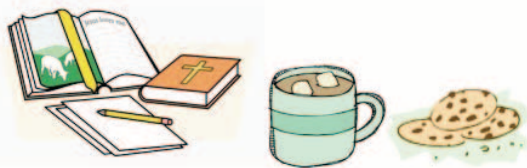
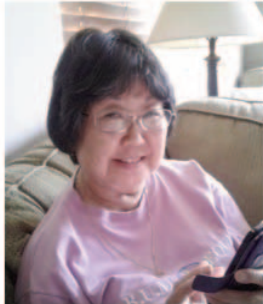
Isaiah 58:6 "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to lose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?"

- Isaiah 58:6 reminded me that God wants us to give up not just food for a moment, but to focus on the things that are of eternal value, my life. This Lent Season is the time to embrace the personal choice to avoid listening to and following the ways of the world around us during this global pandemic and time of unrest.
- The secular news is so sensational and has the stories of people who want to basically rule the world to the news about people who cannot control their anger and fears. These are the tempting distractions that have removed me from the word of Jesus Christ gradually, and negatively affected my daily thoughts and perspectives.
- I believe God wants me to read, share, and practice the love of Jesus Christ, and promote the news of spreading His compassion and love over hate, justice over injustice, and especially Blind Faith in God over human fear and self-righteousness.
- I am convicted of how I need to give up the distractions around me for the New Year 2021 and seek God's reasoning through prayer, reading, and practicing the love of Jesus Christ on what is true, plain, and simple, regardless of what others think.

(Cont'd on pg. 12)

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### Lenten Sharing from Nancy Okada



I am thinking of giving up hot cocoa. Specifically, Swiss Miss Dark Chocolate Cocoa because I notice myself snacking more, and it is a great temptation. I did read that cocoa has health benefits. OR I may give up cookies for 40 days. I will leave it at that for now. Plus, I will read the Bible, a chapter a day starting at **Genesis 1**.

The verse I always think about is **1 Peter 5:7. Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you.** NIV. I worry a lot about everything. **It's comforting to know that God cares for me,** a sinner, and one who hasn't been reading or studying the Bible or been of service lately. **That He could still care for me is reassuring, that I am still OK and loved by God.**



### An Anonymous New Lifer shared...

For Lent, I plan to continue to meditate each morning, but to put into action, not just in thought, I will truly give up sugar! That means, the majority of the time, no sweet cream with coffee and no desserts - a difficult thing to do! During this lockdown, we all ate more snacks and desserts. I love to bake and try new recipes. Of course, I created more temptations for family and friends.

Although I gave the goodies away, I sampled a lot of them! No enjoyment trying to give it up!

**Psalm 33:20-22 "We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, Lord, even as we put our hope in you."**

The thought of what our Lord did, His suffering for our sins was so horrible and such the ultimate sacrifice. Why can't I give up something so simple - sweet desserts, but yet so difficult. As a mother, we do everything to sacrifice for our children. Yet, Christ did all that and more, so I need to sacrifice and wait in hope for the Lord, he is our help and our shield. In time, I will rejoice and feel physically and mentally better.

I put my hope in Him.



### New Life

Right before Chinese New Year, New Lifers were treated to a Zoom cooking demonstration by the experienced cooking instructor, Wei-ling Louie. Wei-ling shared that since we've been hunkered down for almost a year, she and Bock really miss going out for dim sum. Using her cooking expertise, she refined a recipe for a quick and easy Cha Siu Bao. Bock tried out his video skills, recording Wei-ling making Cha Siu Bao in their kitchen with his phone! He did a great job filming and editing it. Even though we couldn't smell what was cooking, the picture of the finished steamed Bao had everyone's mouths watering! †



### New Life Zoom Meeting

January 27, 2021

