

cornerstone news

praises announcements news updates information prayers

Worship the Lord with Us

As we transition to in-person fellowship, meetings are subject to change.

Sundays

11:30am Worship In-person/Online Service
1:00pm Zoom/In-person Lunch Fellowship

Tuesdays

TBD Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays

TBD New Life Fellowship - Seniors
TBD Prayer Meeting

Thursdays

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

Friday Night Fellowship

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

Contact us for more info on Zoom/Discord meetings at this time.

Some groups are on Summer Break. Days and times are subject to change.

Cornerstone UMC

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Missions

Stacey Loy Wong

The May mission offering was given to the Vietnamese American Cancer Foundation. We collected \$585 which was directed toward stocking their pantry with "Asian comfort foods" for low-income cancer patients and their families. In addition, blankets and beanies made by some of the New Life women were donated to their organization, located in Fountain Valley.

For the month of June, Missions participated in an outreach program sponsored by the Committee in Native American Ministries (CoNAM) of the California Pacific Conference. School supplies were collected for Sherman Indian High School in Riverside. Sherman Indian High School is one of four residential schools for Native Americans still operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The school has a limited budget, and students often come from a great distance. In addition to the school supplies donated by congregants, the Missions committee also purchased backpacks, binders, composition notebooks, college-ruled notebook paper, spiral notebooks, and colored and #2 pencils. The Missions committee greatly appreciates Cornerstone UMC's generosity and your care for the less privileged in our community. †

Message from Pastor John Wang May-June 2021

Dear beloved Cornerstone UMC family,

It's hard to believe it's already summer! Thank God for the decreasing cases of coronavirus in California. As a result, we are so excited for everyone to return to in-person Sunday worship in the coming weeks. Our live-stream and transition team has done a tremendous job of adapting to our changing times by integrating in-person and online Sunday worship. The technical expertise, countless hours of behind-the-scenes preparation, and flexibility with changes has allowed our church to thrive. Thank you for your love for God and His people in offering your time, energy, and gifts to this sacred work!

This past month, June 17 – 19, I attended our California-Pacific Annual Conference on Zoom which gathers all the clergy, laity, and denominational leaders in Southern California and Hawaii for an online time of worship, voting on denominational business matters, celebrating ordinations & retirements, and remembering folks in a memorial tribute. If you would like more details on any of the topics of Annual Conference, check out <http://www.calpacumc.org/ac2021/>. Here are the highlights that lifted my spirit:

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Message from Pastor John Wang

May-June 2021

(Cont'd from pg. 1)

The Annual Conference theme this year was *Parables of the Pandemic*, and several videos highlighted local churches and their work during the pandemic. Crossroads UMC participated in social justice ministry including prison ministry, re-entry programs, and distributing hygiene packages. Baldwin Park UMC, led by Minerva Ferrer, Rev. Toña Rios, and Rev. Rafael Rios, started a program to make masks for neighbors who were unhoused. They were able to make thousands of masks and PPE to help others. Wilshire UMC's Associate Pastor, Rev. Suzana Kim, saw connection as their greatest need, and was able to organize 15 congregational care leaders to contact members monthly. They also created a health education initiative, a literary club, and worked with a local food bank.

I was reminded of our own church family's inspiring work throughout the pandemic. Our community care team created blessing bags, prayer quilts & blankets, and created face masks for those in need. We maintained our connectedness with one another through our weekly small group gatherings, outings, fellowship times, and meals together. Praise God for our great work for those in need!

Pastor Broghan Noelle Hunt, who served Placentia UMC this past year, was presented for provisional membership and commissioning on the elder track as a candidate for ordination in the United Methodist Church. I am so happy for Pastor Broghan as she moves forward in her process of becoming an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church. This process includes annual submissions of paperwork covering calling to ministry, theology, self-care, and effectiveness for ministry, followed by an oral exam in front of a committee comprised of clergy and laity. At this stage, Pastor Broghan is only a couple of years away from becoming fully ordained. May God bless her and her continued ministry work.

Last, but not least, our conference updated us on the ongoing Anti-Racist Initiative work being done, which was proposed in June 2020 at the previous Annual Conference. Deborah Bass of the Black Church and Community Vitality Task Force presented a report with six recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Affirm the continuation of the Task Force as a point of collaboration, accountability, and strategy-making at the highest level possible within the conference;

Recommendation 2: Ensure Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century Committee continues to be funded and supported as a driving force in the forward efforts regarding ministries with Black people within the conference;

Recommendation 3: Include results of the Racial Disparity and Equity Audit in any/all plans and projected outcomes developed to advance the ministries of all people of color within the conference;

Recommendation 4: Commit to prioritize, to the greatest extent possible, use of Black developers, contractors, and consultants on projects related to and involving predominantly Black/African American congregations and communities within the conference;

Recommendation 5: Consult with Conference and District Board of Trustees on removal or reduction of conference and district held liens on any/all properties being considered for re-development or re-purposing to ensure the Black people impacted by the project will have maximum access to assets being included within any such proposals, deals or proceeds; and

Recommendation 6: Develop a common and ongoing line of communication between the Conference Board of Trustees, the Appointive Cabinet, and Conference staff to ensure adherence to the recommendations outlined in this report."

The Commission on Religion and Race (CORR) of the United Methodist Church is also involved in the Anti-Racist Initiative. CORR's purpose is "to challenge, lead, and equip the people of The United Methodist Church to become inter-culturally competent, to ensure institutional equity, and to facilitate vital conversations about religion, race, and culture." Our denomination is committed to rooting out any racist policies or agendas within our own structures, and has experts seeking to make our denomination equitable for everyone. Even though we are the Church, we consist of sinners and have areas of brokenness that we must address within our walls.

(Cont'd on pg. 3)

Message from Pastor John Wang

May-June 2021

(Cont'd from pg. 2)

According to the U.M. Daily Report for Friday, June 18, 2021, on page 6:

Dr. Magaela Bethune is consulting with Cal-Pac CORR for the racial disparity audit, which will focus on three primary Conference bodies: Board of Ordained Ministry, Committee on Finance and Administration, and the Cabinet. Projected activities of Phase 1 are as follows: 1) document and material review; 2) 5 attendances at CCORR listening sessions; 3) informational meetings with CCORR members; 4) facilitated conversations with representatives from identified partner and affiliate groups; and 5) meetings with members of other interest groups.

The best part of Annual Conference continues to be seeing all the amazing ministry work being done by people like us in different places and cultures. Though we look different or speak different languages, God is evident in each of us as we seek to do His will in our lives. Whether the work is active listening, creating blankets or face masks, making donations, combatting racism, crafting worship and praise – all of these things is to glorify God and bless the world. May we continue pouring out God's love in whatever we put our hand to. God bless you!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor John Wang †

A Warm Welcome to the New Pastor of PUMC



Pastor Eric Schmidt with his wife, Esperanza

Pastor Eric Schmidt has served as a United Methodist Pastor for 11 years. He is the chair of the New Ministry essential ministry team for the California-Pacific Conference, serving in an interdisciplinary role. He has over 30 years of national and international business experience, including 3 years at World Vision International and his earlier career was in the high-tech industry. He was a founder/partner in several start-up companies with progressively higher executive management roles.

Pastor Eric and his lovely wife & ministry partner, Esperanza, have been married for 13 years. Esperanza is a food scientist for Passport Foods and an avid succulent gardener. She is from Navotas, a suburb of Manila in the Philippines. They enjoy singing in the choir, date nights, prayer gatherings, good science-fiction movies, smooth jazz, and spending time with family. Both have enjoyed travelling and between them, they have visited 50 countries. †

EXTRA

By Ryan Low

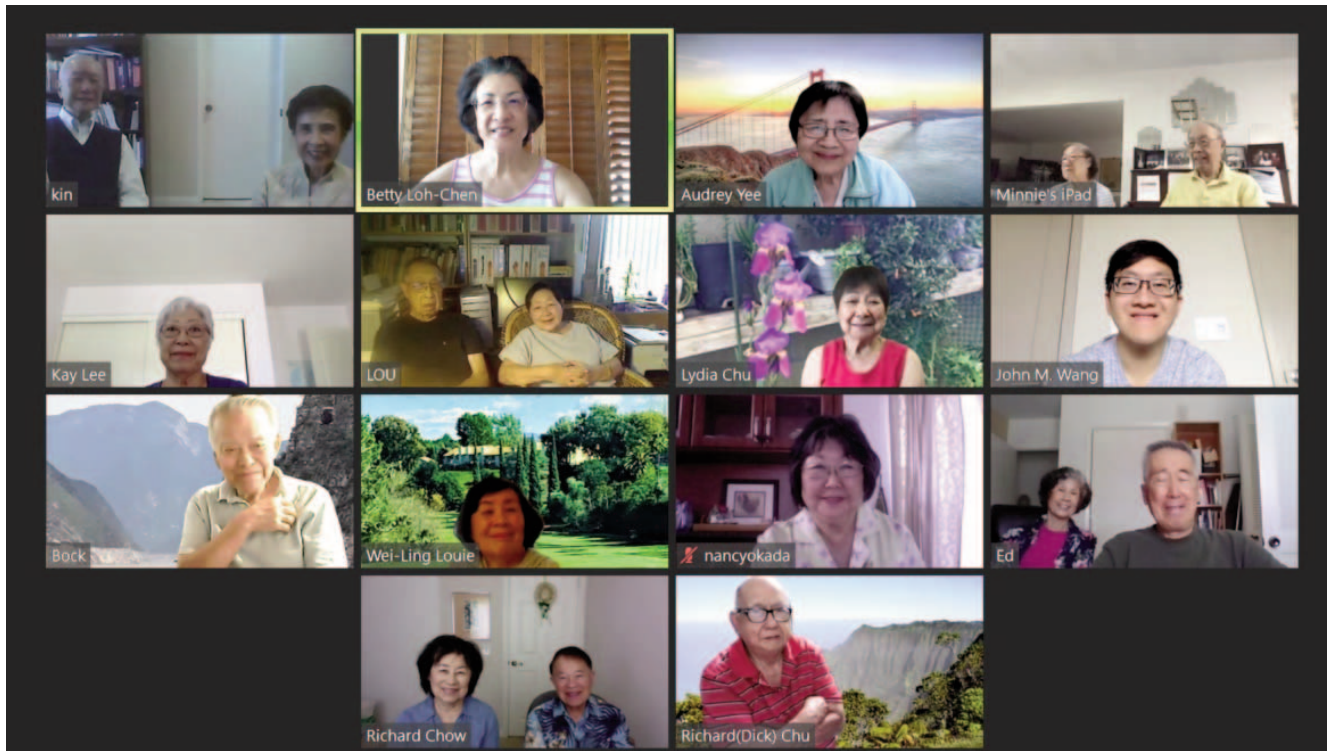
From May to now, we transitioned from Virtual to In-Person Fellowship. It's been an exciting move as Sarah Eng warmly welcomed our group into her home for our weekly studies. We celebrated graduates as Ryan got to walk at CSUF, welcomed new members from AMPM, and watched our very own Katie Low tie the knot with Matt Chai. As Extra, we welcomed a new leadership team consisting of Sarah Eng, Ryan Low, Marcus Phung, and Paul McGill. We spent the past couple of weeks diving into deep, hot-button topics that have spurred on meaningful conversation and opened spaces for further discussion. Moving forward, we, as a leadership team, are focusing on re-connecting with those we haven't seen for some time, as well as fun events and fellowship. Overall, we've seen God move in mighty ways throughout this time, and we thank you for your support and love for our group as we make this transition to in-person fellowship. †



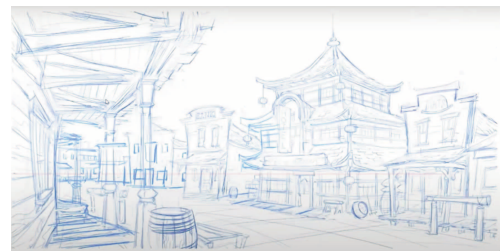
We got to light sparklers at the Eng household for 4th of July!

New Life

The New Lifers have continued to meet weekly on Zoom, watching interesting videos about Asian American history and current day issues such as discrimination and the complicated, often misunderstood, concept of “model minority.”



As part of the speaker series on Asian Americans in non-traditional careers, Court Chu, son of Dick and Lydia, explained his career as an animator working on background design, concept designs, and storyboards for a variety of TV shows and movies. He showed us some samples of his work, demonstrating the process involved in creating the final product.



After meeting every week for 15 months, the New Lifers decided to take a summer break from the Zoom meetings. As the church begins to re-open, we hope we will start to see each other in person and will re-evaluate the plans for the fall. †

The Spirit of Friendship Tea - Virtual Food! Friendship! Fellowship! *June 5, 2021*

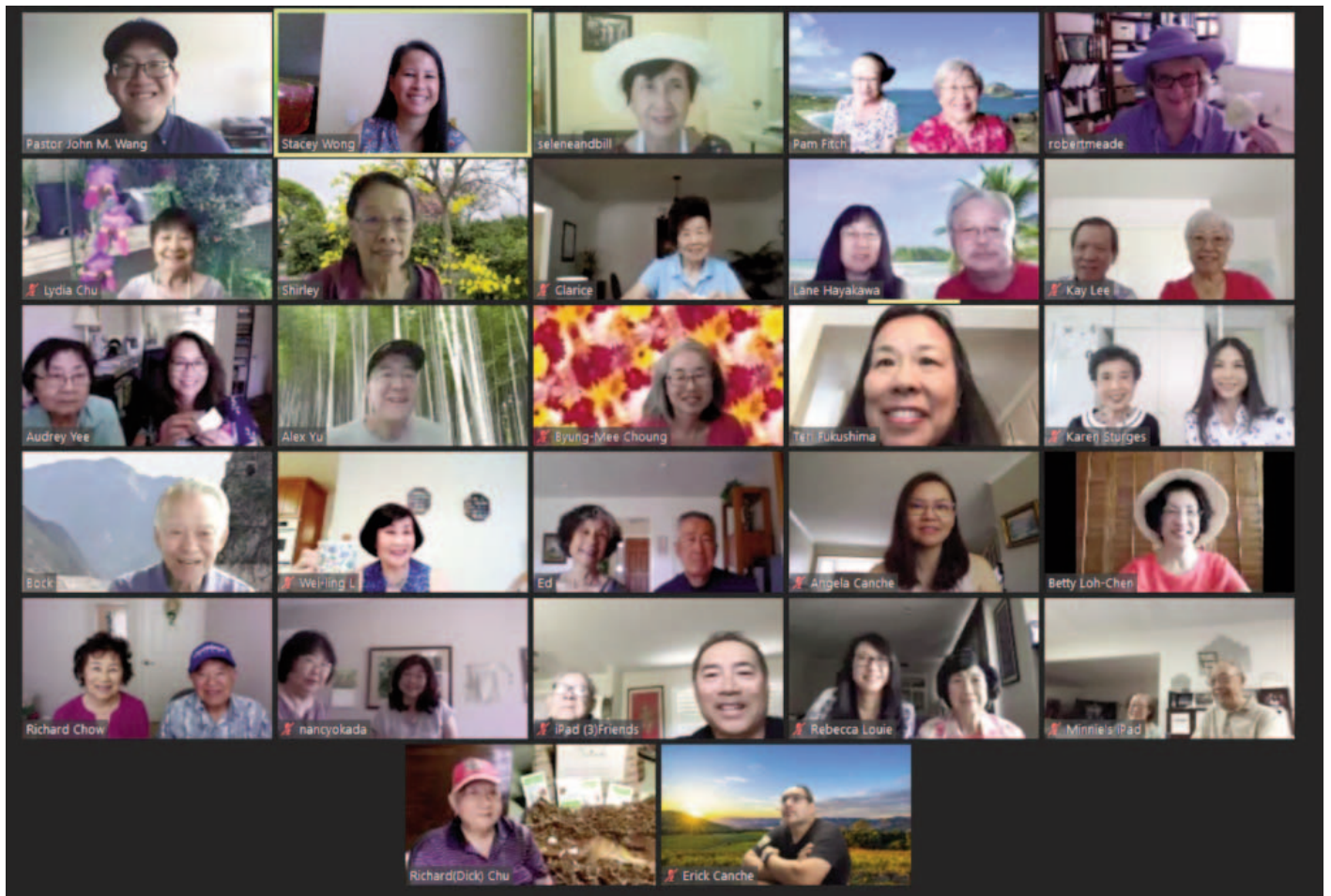
Cornerstone UMC hosted a virtual Friendship Tea as a program to uplift, encourage, and reach out to church friends and family. Since the pandemic has isolated people by not allowing them to gather together, Pastor John wanted Cornerstone to host an event that would spiritually inspire participants and spark conversations. The tea was attended on Zoom by over 40 people — women and men, HUGS, New Life members and church friends. Each person received a special tea party box filled with 2 types of tea, 5 handmade cookies, a chocolate stick, a keepsake bookmark, and a list of discussion questions. A lucky 20 participants also received a hidden surprise inside their tea box - a Starbucks gift card! The tea began with an opening prayer, and Pastor John gave a short devotional. During the tea, Pastor John's message reflected on his pandemic experiences, and tea party guests participated in two randomly assigned breakout sessions that allowed them to have more intimate conversations in a small group setting. The tea party ended as we sampled the various cookies that had been prepared by Pam Fitch, Celeste Wong, and Stacey Wong. Participants indulged their sweet tooth with a Krispie Oat Cran cookie, chewy and crispy chocolate chip cookies, a lemon krinkle cookie, and an Ina Garten shortbread cookie. Although this wasn't a typical "English tea", we were able to use technology to bring people together for a fun time of fellowship, catching up, and encouragement. It was a beautiful morning spent with friends! †



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The Spirit of Friendship Tea - Virtual Food! Friendship! Fellowship!

(Cont'd from pg. 6)



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Our 2021 Graduates!

We're so proud of you! Wishing you God's guidance and blessings on your future paths!!!

Allison Fong

Graduated from Brea Olinda High School
She plans to attend Cal State University, Long Beach
Major: Health Sciences



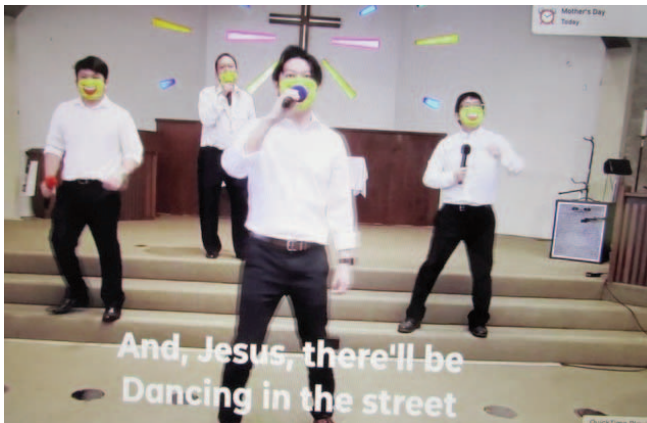
Elizabeth Louie

Graduated from El Dorado High School
She plans to attend San Diego State University
Major: Business

Mother's Day

May 9, 2021

For Mother's Day Sunday, the CUMC Men's Quartet (Pastor John, Ryan Low, Marcus Phung, and Alex Yu) sang and danced to "It's A Miracle" and "I Can't Smile Without You" by Barry Manilow.



Father's Day

June 20, 2021

Thanks to Arleen Hasegawa and Suzy Brackenridge for all their hard work in creating an entertaining and hilarious Father's Day Bobblehead video, featuring all these behind-the-scenes dance teams. With some amazing post-production movie magic, they were able to showcase bobbleheads of our Cornerstone Men and Fathers. As an added bonus, it was fun to watch the dance team bloopers at the end.

