# cornerstone The Lul-Aug 2021

praisesannouncementsnewsupdatesinformationprayers

## 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

TBD 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



Pastor John with Jonathan Lew



Jonathan, Audrey and Barnabas Lew

On July 11th, our church re-opened for in-person services for the first time since March 2020. After months of only having online church service, it was quite a treat to see fellow church members again. Missions hosted a special guest speaker, Jonathan Lew, who came to share about his on-campus ministry at the University of California, Irvine. Currently, Jonathan is serving as a campus minister with Faculty Bridges, a Christian organization in which he works to encourage and equip university professors as they fulfill their callings and serve as ambassadors for Christ among their students and colleagues. College professors have the unique opportunity to impact and influence the lives of their students, many of whom are away from home for the first time. During the pandemic, Jonathan's ministry was focused on planning and leading meetings with a group of Christian faculty and continuing to connect one-on-one with professors through phone and video chats. Jonathan attended Cornerstone in the late 1980's and early 1990's, and is the son of long-time Cornerstone members, Chong and Isobel Lew. The missions committee was pleased with the opportunity to invite Jonathan to share about his campus ministry. Cornerstone and the missions committee are proud to be able to serve as a ministry partner with him. The July missions offering of \$1,838.80 will help support Jonathan's outreach efforts at UCI.

(Cont'd on pg. 2)

(Cont'd from pg. 1)

For the August missions project, the offering will provide needed supplies for the Cal-Pac fire bucket ministry. In the past several years, California has been hit with severe wildfires that have devastated communities and left affected families struggling to rebuild and clean-up in the aftermath. The Cal-Pac Disaster Response Task Force started the fire bucket ministry with plans to engage local churches to help assemble 5-gallon buckets that contain needed supplies for fire survivors to begin the clean-up process. Each bucket contains items such as N95 masks, work gloves, a box cutter, duct tape, multipurpose cleaning wipes, trash bags, soot sponges, and hand tools. The August missions offering will help create fire buckets that will be stored around the Cal-Pac Conference so that they are available and can be deployed on short notice whenever or wherever they are needed. As of the writing of this article, the final total for the August mission offering has not yet been tallied. Once the final August mission offering is determined, a check will be submitted to the Cal-Pac conference for this vital ministry. †

## Message from Pastor John Wang

Jul-Aug 2021

Dear Beloved Cornerstone UMC Family,

I hope God has blessed you with joyful moments with friends and family this summer. Can you believe Fall is already here? It feels like summer just flew by, probably because it was a fun time, yet I know for some of us it has been far from fun due to the ongoing COVID pandemic. Amid these challenging circumstances, I am heartened by the beautiful weddings of Matt & Katie Chai and Patrick & Amy Lowe. It was wonderful to celebrate the beginning of marital life for these amazing couples, and to see each of these individuals grow up together and become 'one flesh' in holy matrimony.

This summer, amid such joy, I also mourn with the Paulson, Quimpo, Silva/Davidson, and Canche families, who have lost loved ones that now rest in heavenly peace. New beginnings and uncharted life realities are so difficult to comprehend. Only God knows the depths of our pain and grief, and I lift them up in prayer for the comfort which can only come from God. Whether this was a summer of joy or one of sorrow, I pray God continues to be deeply present and sustaining in your lives. God's love is always present for us, we need only turn to Him with trust and faith.

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

- 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 NRSV

Today, I announce and celebrate a new blessing which comes from the Paulson family of Placentia United Methodist Church. Richard Paulson, the husband of Tisha (Patricia) Paulson, created the Tisha Paulson Memorial Fund for ministry growth. Earlier this year, Tisha passed away to be with the Lord in heaven. Tisha loved the Cornerstone UMC community and wanted to help us continue our ministry efforts in the world with a generous \$10,000 Memorial Fund. We are blessed by the great love of the Paulson family and will honor Tisha's legacy by utilizing these funds for ministry projects to further the Kingdom of God in the world. Special thanks to Richard Paulson and his lovely wife for their loving generosity and support for our minitries, and may God continue to bless the Paulson family in their service towards others. God is good all the time!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor John †

## **CUMC Reopens After COVID**

Jul 11, 2021

Cornerstone UMC reopened for in-person Sunday worship on July 11, 2021. We were finally able to reunite and worship God together in one place. While we were excited for everyone to return, we did so with proper precautions to keep everyone safe, including providing hand sanitizer, extra face masks, and contact tracing. Immediately following service, box lunches were provided to enjoy socially-distanced lunch fellowship. Special thanks to our live stream/transition team, trustees, and church members who cleaned and prepared the church for reopening. †



## Our Prayer Garden is Flourishing!

Commune with God, nature, and friends outdoors without worrying about COVID! The vivid flowers in the center are surrounded by ripening produce - tomatoes, zucchini, basil, watermelon, pumpkins, and corn. We thank God for such abundance. Come share in the bountiful crop! †







## **Cornerstone Koinonia Dinners**

FUN, FOOD, and FELLOWSHIP. This summer, we brought back KOINONIA dinners. Koinonia is the Greek word for Christian fellowship with God and/or fellow Christians. In the past, this has been our way of connecting members from different generations within our congregation, a path to our goal of Unity. Now, we can share a meal, chat, and get to know each other again after the long isolation caused by COVID. Let's rebuild unity within our church family. †













## New Life - Angel Island Tour

Jul 28, 2021

In July, our New Life Group took a Virtual Zoom tour of the Angel Island Immigration Station. Angel Island sits in the San Francisco Bay, and the Immigration Station was considered the "Guardian of the Western Gate." It was sometimes thought to be the counterpart to Ellis Island in New York, where European immigrants were processed to enter the United States on the East Coast. However, Angel Island was set up more to help enforce the United States Asian Exclusion laws.



John Clagett was our Park Ranger guide, and Angel Island Immigration Station docents, Joe and Elizabeth Chan (Joe is Wei-ling Louie's first cousin) along with Bill Warrior, presented fascinating details and stories of their immigrant families and relatives and the many hardships they and other immigrants encountered while trying to enter the United States.

Docent Bill Warrior told us that prior to Angel Island being opened, a Quarantine Station was set up in 1891 near San Francisco, where foreign ships could be fumigated, and immigrants could be detained, interrogated, and kept in isolation to prevent diseases from spreading. This was originally staffed by the U.S. Public Health Service.

Angel Island Immigration Station was open from 1910 to 1940. Over a million immigrants, who crossed the Pacific and arrived in San Francisco Harbor during this period, came from more than 80 countries, including China, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and India. They were subjected to invasive physical exams and interrogations by immigration staff to ensure that new arrivals were healthy, self-sufficient, and legally able to enter the United States. Chinese immigrants were specifically excluded from immigration to the U.S. by the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, so most of the Chinese arriving at Angel Island were detained for three to ninety days, a few for almost two years, while their applications were considered. Immigration officials were also looking for "paper sons and daughters" who were trying to enter the U.S. using deceptive documentation. European immigrants and first class passengers faced only an inspection aboard ship and were detained less frequently.

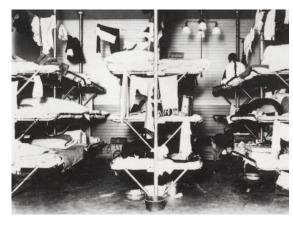


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## Angel Island Tour (Cont'd from pg. 5)

As Park Ranger John Clagett took our group through various buildings and rooms of the Immigration Station, we saw examples of many writings and carvings on the wooden walls of the barracks, where many of the detainees expressed their despair and frustrations over their detention. Those unable to pass interrogation and/or physical exams were deported back to the country of departure.







Joe and Eliz Chan and Bill Warrior informed us of the anecdotal stories of their grandparents, parents, and relatives who were detained, and showed us photos of their immigration papers and documents. They read from coaching papers or books of other immigrants, as well as transcripts of the questions and answers from immigration officers and detainees. Joe Chan's mother and Wei-ling's mother were sisters both born in Detroit, Michigan. They and their whole family were taken to China in the 1930's after their father suffered losses to his two restaurants in Detroit during the Depression.

Due to the Imperial Japanese Army Invasion of China in late 1930's and early 1940, both sisters were counseled to return to the U.S. as they were American citizens. Joe's mother came first to marry, and later Weiling's mother came to escape the impending invasion and occupation of Hong Kong. Both were detained for several days and interrogated at the Angel Island Immigration Station upon their arrival, even though they had proof of citizenship with U.S. birth certificates and other documentation.

New Life had a follow-up session with Joe and Eliz Chan and Bill Warrior the following week to continue a Question-and-Answer session with more participation from our viewers. Angel Island Immigration Station played a major role in shaping the history of California and the West, as well as the United States' complex and discriminatory immigration history. The station is now part of the Angel Island State Park and is accessible by ferry from San Francisco and Tiburon. If you are interested in watching the recordings of the tour and Question-and-Answer Session, please contact either Betty Loh-Chen or Wei-ling Louie. †

# Tuesday Women's Bible Study - Summer Outing

July 13, 2021



Enjoying a leisurely lunch at Lazy Dog in Brea during our summer break.

#### **EXTRA**

By Sarah Eng

The past few months have been a very busy season for our group. We have enjoyed a lot of fun times this summer, along with good conversations. We made our own ice cream, piloted a duffy boat among the dolphins in Newport Harbor, as well as played a lot of basketball and board games. In the midst of it all, we have been studying the topic of self-care and what that looks like for us as Christians. We have had a lot of good discussions and are working to normalize talking about feelings and tough topics like mental health. All of this culminated in our 2021 EXTRA retreat over Labor Day weekend, entitled "Living Hope", where we learned more about why we can have hope through Jesus and how we can live that out in our everyday lives. Thank you for your support of our Bake Sale and Car Wash fundraisers and for all your kindness and generosity in making this retreat a possibility. †













# **EXTRA Labor Day Retreat**









