

Community Christian Center

The Word
Fellowship
Prayer

The Good Tidings Newsletter

A Report on the Revival at CCC



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KENNETH CLOWDUS, PASTOR

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Pastor's Corner

This month featuring *Associate Pastor Dustin Paraspolo*
It's Time to be More Child-like

Good morning! On behalf of my wife, the youth and the youth leaders (Adrian McHugh & Tony Britton) I would like to thank you CCC, Pastor Ken and our Lord Jesus for allowing us to go on summer youth camps. We are so blessed to have families here that are so generous to our group. I would like to sincerely thank the Gomer and Algorri family for blessing us every year. It continues to be a great joy to serve God here at CCC and I truly appreciate it.



We just got back from the Jr. High and High School summer trips. These

trips have been fun and powerful. Every year everything we do is based on blessing these kids, yet I feel like I'm the one who has been blessed. It's what happens on these trips that helps me understand what Jesus meant when referring to children.

Matthew 18:3-4 NLT *Then he said, "I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven."*

God has called us to be as humble as children. When the disciples were arguing about who was going to be the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven, Jesus gave them an answer that they were not expecting. I would have loved to have seen their faces when Jesus told them this shocking secret. The pathway to greatness is to be humble like an open and trusting child. This is so incredibly different than from what the world would teach us about greatness. The way to honor is humility. WOW! Not who's the most powerful or makes the most money or who's the highest ranking. No. Who is willing to humble themselves? Who is willing to be the worst so someone else can feel like the best? Like our Pastor says, "Life is not about making yourself feel good or important, it's about making other people feel good about themselves."

I like the way the Gospel of Luke says it: Luke 18:16-17 NLT *Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."*

The Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like children. Kids are transparent; often what you see is what you get. They haven't learned how to build a wall and put on a hallelujah face like us adults. Because of this our hearts are hardened towards God and we're not in a place that allows us to be fully touched by God. We have become so complicated. Kids are not so, they are open and trusting. It's amazing how the youth believe me and are so willing to do what I ask. They really trust me, often without even questioning me. A little kid will jump in their parents' arms

anytime anywhere. It's so not like us sophisticated folk who will continue to ask God, "Why?" even to the point that we talk ourselves right out of the will of God. God is calling us to simplicity. An uncomplicated and trusting attitude is what we need in order to truly experience God.

On these trips I have the opportunity to be a part of something special. Seeing these kids enjoy every part of the trip, fully trusting that everything is taken care of is just mind boggling. The way they just join in without worrying about what's going to happen or how it will happen, is crazy. They simply trust that everything will work out and that we have it all under control. Kind of like the way we should be trusting in God. When it's time for fun the kids have the best fun and when it's time for God they have a real Experience. To see them laugh and cheer without holding back on that raft makes me so filled with joy I almost can't contain myself. And to see them worship God is beautiful. Seeing these kids as young as 11 and as cool as 18 surrender their hearts in worship to God, not trying to be the most holy or think they have to stand out, but with tears in their eyes and a real joy in their hearts, they worship. It truly blesses me. I really can't explain it. I honestly believe we may saw an angel one day while we were worshiping on these trips. It's that powerful and anointed. I could really go on and on about it.

In just four days without a cell phone, iPod, internet, video-games or TV... pretty much with no distractions, we are able to have a life changing, eternity altering experience with the Most High God. Imagine what we could do with more. As one of our youth put it, "It would be so much easier if we could just live here!"

May we all live life in the likeness of children. May we all have faith and trust in God as children do. May we live simply and be transparent like they are. May we all humble ourselves and live life on purpose. God bless! - Pastor Dustin



Chris Holloway visited us last month with his wife, **Sasha**, and daughter, **Hannah**. We were blessed by his wonderful, world-class tenor voice. Mezzo-soprano Sasha and Hannah also sang for us. We enjoyed it very much. Chris and his family are very committed to the Lord Jesus Christ and travel all around the world with God's message in music and word.



Led by the Spirit Without a Word

by **Joe Hernandez**

My wife, Margie, and I were new in Pastor Lujon's church when Pastor Lujon moved us all to CCC. In one of the services there was a prophet who was prophesying over everyone. My wife, Margie, said that we should go up to the altar. I said, "No, God doesn't have anything for me." My wife asked me again and again I said, "No." She said, "We're the last ones." So I said, "Ok," not expecting anything. The prophet laid hands on my wife and looked at me and said, "God has given you a healing ministry and your wife is to be in agreement in whatever you say. You are not to talk about yourself; you are to listen to them. The Spirit of the Lord will tell you how to pray for them."

I forgot all about it. One day when I came home from work, Margie told me that my son's sister-in-law's fiance, Bud, had a heart attack. He's a deputy marshal. Without thinking, I said, "Let's go pray for him." So we went to the hospital. I'd never prayed for anyone before like this and I never thought about what I was going to say.

Many family members were in his room when we got there. I started doing everything the prophet told me to do without realizing it. I asked Bud what happened. He said that he had a heart attack and that the doctors told him they were going to do tests on him to find out where the damage was. I asked if I could pray for him. He agreed and I asked everyone to get in a circle and I prayed for him.

Soon after that when I came home from work, Bud and his fiancé were at the house visiting with my son. When he saw me, Bud said, "Thank you for healing me." I said, "I didn't heal you, God did." I was unknowingly giving God the glory. He said, "The doctor told me that he didn't know what happened, but you have a brand new heart." He had gone home from the hospital without any medicine. Glory to God. Mark 16:20 *Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.* NIV

Another time when Margie and I were visiting my Mom, she told me that my sister was sick with a high fever. So we all went right into her room where she was in bed feeling very sick. Margie and I shared with her what the Lord was doing in our lives. Then I don't know why, but I put my hand on her head and prayed over her. I don't remember what I prayed. About three or four months later when we went to my mother's house for dinner, my sister ran up to me and said, "You healed me." I said, "No, God healed you." Later that day, my wife told me that the morning after I prayed for my sister, she got up and cleaned the whole house. Glory to God. As for me, God forbid that I should boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is because of that cross that my interest in all the attractive, worldly things was killed long ago and the world's interest in me is also long dead. Gal 6:14.

MILITARY COLUMN

by **Rick Brown**

Hi. My name is Rick Brown. I served my country by joining the U.S. Navy in the summer of 1958. After three months of basic training in San Diego, I was stationed on the USS Rogers. The ship was a destroyer built in the final years of the 2nd World War.

After mopping decks and other maintenance duties, I became a gunner's mate. Maintaining and shooting all types of guns was interesting and exciting. I attained the rank of Petty Officer, 2nd Class.

I saw much of the Western Pacific Islands, including Japan

and China. Definitely wanting a career in the Navy, I was all set to do the 20 years for retirement. However, after marrying my high school sweetheart, Linda Allen; officiated by our good friend and pastor, Dr. C.S. Lovett, of our church in Baldwin Park, I changed my mind.

I served four years and became a civilian. I enjoyed serving my country and would certainly do it again. I am grateful to CCC for allowing me to tell my story. We both appreciate CCC for your support of veterans and currently active troops, as our son also served in the Navy, and our grandson is currently deployed, also in the Navy.

Editor's Note: Rick Brown is a friend of Pastor Tony Paraspolo who graciously wrote this piece because he was impressed with CCC's honoring of the U.S. Military. As editor, I thank him and I ask CCC members to do some writing too. We all appreciate and enjoy what you have to say. God bless. S.J.

God is Love

1 John 4:16

by **Sharon Johnson**

1 John 4:16 *God is love.* This verse tells us that the Source for everyone's love is God because He **is** love.

When you feel a special heartfelt feeling for your sweetheart, child, parents, friends, pets, etc. it feels really good. When we feel love for God it is amazing, especially when we feel His love flowing back to us. I believe that whether you're a Christian or not, the love you feel is from God. Acts 17:27-28 *...he is not far from each one of us. For in him we live and move and have our being.* So, we live and move and have our being in Love. I'm not talking about selfish love here because we are also influenced by our own sin nature and the devil.

I've often thought that the worst thing that could happen to someone is if they lost the capability to love.

God will judge all people at the end of time and will have to send those who reject Him and His son, Jesus, to Hell – the Lake of Fire and Torment, and when they are banished from the presence of God or Love, they will lose the ability to love. How utterly awful that would be. They will feel nothing but selfish, angry, hateful feelings.

I couldn't prove these thoughts to be true, but recently I thought about Satan. At one time he was the angel of Light – present amidst the most amazing and glorious Love of God. When he turned from God, he became a monster. No love – no redeeming qualities at all. The Bible said that Satan came to earth to steal, kill and destroy, and that he is the father of lies. He deceives people and causes them to do things that are so evil and heinous that we don't want to talk about them. Could it be that without God's love that is what human beings would turn into - horrible, selfish monsters? No wonder they would have to be contained in a place from which there is no escape - because of all the evil that they could spread in God's new creation if they were let loose.

It makes me shudder to think of these things. I choose Love – God is Love – I choose God and His wonderful joy and hope and lovingkindness. These are the qualities I want to embrace and enjoy for eternity.



The anointing is the real fountain of youth. -Creflo Dollar
You don't want to go to 666 Crispy Ave. as your final destination.
-Creflo Dollar

The Outreach



Women's Meeting - The Fashion Show



The Picnic



More pictures can be seen at CCC's Website.

The Good Tidings Newsletter
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UPGRADE YOUR VEHICLE

by Sharon Johnson

- ▶ GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE &
- ▶ END OF YEARS SALE.
- ▶ ZERO PERCENT FINANCING
- ▶ GET IT AT FAR BELOW STICKER PRICE.
- ▶ GREAT TRADE IN VALUE ON OLD MODEL.

You, too, can have a newer, better make and model of yourself...an eternal body.

In a special deal with the manufacturer, new bodies are available to all Christians.

There is just one requirement: The Holy Spirit must dwell in you. That only happens when He comes into your heart at the time you accept Jesus Christ as your Savior. Jesus paid the price so that you may have eternal life with amazing new bodies. Oh, and by the way, a mansion and heaven is thrown in also.

Rom 8:11 *And if the Spirit of Him Who raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, [then] He Who raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also restore to life your mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies through His Spirit Who dwells in you.* AMP

Editor's Note: I heard these new models get good gas mileage too! Sorry - I couldn't resist it.

SUPERHERO

by Sharon Johnson

Superheroes are in vogue now. We see them everywhere in movies and television. Their popularity may be increasing because we want to identify with them because, frankly, sometimes we feel weak and dream of having power to overcome all the obstacles we face – to fight the enemy and win. Hooray!!!

As Christians, our main superhero is Jesus. But not because He displayed superpowers or showed supernatural feats of strength and dominance. It is because He lived a perfect life in obedience to God and then laid down His life in an agonizing death to save us sinners. He was innocent and took our guilt. He is our hero as well as our Savior.

The Bible says that we are made in the image of God and we should strive to be like Jesus. I want to be a mini-superhero, don't you? I ask God to use me – work His great power through me to affect other people and help them. I ask for all the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit to operate through me. I can't wait to see what He will do next. Lord, help me and my Christian brothers and sisters to be willing and obedient. Then, get our superhero capes ready and jump in the Godmobile - and we will stomp the head of our arch enemy! POW! ZOINK! HA - HA - we win!!!

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