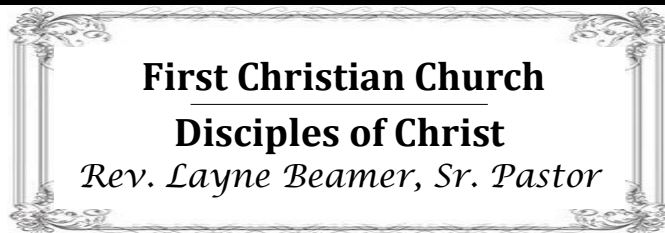


January
2018

THE MESSENGER

Volume 77
Issue 1



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

Rev. Layne Beamer, Sr. Pastor

6355 S. Greenleaf Avenue, Whittier, CA 90601 ~ Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5100, Whittier, CA 90607

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

What's the Good News for 2018?

2018 is upon us, and I don't see anything particularly promising in the headlines that offers me hope that we will see a dramatic change from the headlines of 2017.

I'm not hopeful that our two major political parties will work together to create any sort of inspiring vision for the direction of our country, at least not one that cares for the last and the least. I don't hold out much hope that anyone but the monied interest groups will catch the ear of our leaders. I don't find any cause for hope that our world will become less violent soon either here in our cities or abroad. I'm not hopeful that enough of us have learned the hard lessons that our weather is trying to teach us about our impact on the earth, at least not enough to make a difference in the coming year. Hope eludes me regarding our willingness to make short-term sacrifices in order to secure long-term betterment for all. I'm not hopeful for the coming year as I watch the rise of bigotry, racism, and religious intolerance from the seats of power down through the thronging masses taking to the streets.

I think that things may just have to get even worse before they are going to get any better. I think that we still have some hard lessons to learn; lessons that we seem to have failed to learn despite what history would teach us, and despite what Christ came to teach us.

Violence will not stem violence, fear is a liar, the "other" is actually our brother; God has already provided us with enough for everyone if only some of us would moderate our consumption and our hoarding of resources; the earth is not ours to despoil but rather God's and ours to cherish and care for; earthly rulers and governments who seek to control by violence, manipulation, and suppression of truth are false leaders not worthy of loyalty and respect; God does not "control" creation but wishes that we would control ourselves and be guided by the supreme commandments to love God and others as ourselves.

Fortunately, I do not put my ultimate hopes in the headlines or the movements, powers, and institutions that so often shape them. My ultimate faith and hope lies in God as revealed in Jesus Christ. God will ultimately prevail and peace and justice will ultimately blanket the globe. Until that eventual fulfillment of God's desires for us, some of us will continue to act as though we have learned the lessons of history and the gospel (Good News).

In 2018 parents will teach children to share, communities will strive to provide for impoverished neighbors; brothers and sisters will reach across artificial divides of race, class, language and culture; individuals and agencies will continue to welcome and support refugees; wealthy individuals and community-minded corporations will continue to share their prosperity with their own workers and others; prophets will continue to call for peace; faith leaders will continue to widen the circles of love and service beyond their own particular communities; people of faith will continue to respond to God's universal call to love and justice.

What is the Good News for 2018?

**Inside
this issue:**

Dear Brothers and Sisters

1

Church and Family

2

Calendars: 2018

January
February

3

4

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

Prayer Requests / Calendar

5

Church and Family...

A Christmas Note from the Ihler's

Merry Christmas Dear Friends & Family,

It's been a busy year, and we are looking forward to an exciting 2018. We love being able to do things with and for our kids. Example: just today we picked up Cade's car from Toyota which needed some major repairs, and I just delivered a huge bowl of fruit salad to Riley's 5th grade class. The are having a heritage lunch, something their family eats when they get together. Riley asked for my fruit salad, so of course Gramma was happy to make it.

The kids are growing up so quickly. Cade is a high school senior looking forward to college. Our excited senior received an acceptance letter from Santa Clara University Leavey School of Business. Now we wait to see if letters come from Chapman University and University of Puget Sound. Our little Riley is now a 5th grader, now a beautiful young lady. She is an excellent reader, reading at a 9th grade level. Basketball practice has started again, soon our Saturdays will be attending games. Also 5th graders can choose to play an instrument and be in the junior high band. Riley chose the flute and is doing very well. Craig drops her off for band practice at the Jr. High on his way to work. A bus takes the kids back to the elementary school. Her school offers choir and the Marimba Band (during recess or after school). She loves these two extra subjects.

The kids added a new member to the family, Charlie is a female, black lab puppy, now 7 or 8 months old (Cade wanted to call her Charlie). The kids are at work all day so Bob and I take turns going over to take Charlie for walks and play. This is definitely a great way to exercise.

Bob and I are both doing well, no major health problems... thank goodness. Mom is also doing well. We are definitely blessed.

Friends and family, you are in our hearts, our thoughts and our prayers. Thank you for your love and friendship.

...an added note:

Bob's helping with the train derailment, things are pretty busy for him.

Hope all of you are doing well. Think of you often. Just heard from Curtis & Diane Maikui— they built a home in Port Angeles. It will be fun to touch base with them.

2018 we will look for a date and a cheap fly down to see everyone.

Hugs,
Lauralee



Red Hat Hadley Bells

You're invited to join us *this Wednesday, January 3th @ 1:00pm* at the Roadhouse Grill, 15156 Whittier Blvd, Whittier, CA 90603.

Please call Carrie and let her know if you plan to attend.

The Lord's House 'Keepers'



We will meet at the church on **Thursday, January 18th @ 10am** to do some housekeeping chores to keep our church beautiful. Wear your 'grubsies'.

Please see Celeste Smith or Judy Stockman on Sunday mornings to sign up or you can call Celeste.

Dream Interpretation Class

We meet at the church, once a month on the 3rd Thursday. Join is on **Thursday, January 18th @ 2:00pm** in the Library.



2018 January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Happy New Year's Eve Good bye 2017</p>	<p>1</p>  <p>Church office closed</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6pm Meditation</p> <p>7:00pm Board Mtg</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>6:30pm Twin Hearts</p> <p>7:00pm Women's NA</p> <p>7:00pm CEA</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30pm Parent'g</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-8pm</p> <p>7:00pm CEA</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9a-12pm CAPC Cookg</p> <p>4:30p Just Love Coalition</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9am-2pm AMB Academy of Music for the Blind</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School & Adventurers</p> <p>10:45am Worship Service</p> <p>12pm-6 pm Free Store open</p> <p>6:00 pm CEA HOW</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9am CAPC -Art</p> <p>6:30pm Anger Management</p> <p>7:30 Spanish AA</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6pm Meditation</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:00pm Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:30pm Twin Hearts</p> <p>7:00pm Women's NA</p> <p>7:00pm CEA</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30pm Parent'g</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-8pm</p> <p>7:00pm CEA</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9am-2pm AMB Academy of Music for the Blind</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>
<p>14</p> <p>8:50am Elders Mtg</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School & Adventurers</p> <p>10:45am Worship Service</p> <p>12pm-6 pm Free Store open</p> <p>6:00 pm CEA HOW</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9am CAPC -Art</p> <p>6:30pm Anger Management</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6pm Meditation</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30pm Twin Hearts</p> <p>7:00pm Women's NA</p> <p>7:00pm CEA</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10am Lord's House Keepers</p> <p>2Pm Dream Interpretation</p> <p>4pm Whole PI</p> <p>6:30pm Parent'g</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-8pm</p> <p>7:00pm CEA</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9a-12pm CAPC Cookg</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9am-2pm AMB Academy of Music for the Blind</p> <p>Whole Place work day 10am</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School & Adventurers</p> <p>10:45am Worship Service</p> <p>12:15pm Blood Pressure Screen</p> <p>12pm-6 pm Free Store open</p> <p>6:00 pm CEA HOW</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9am CAPC -Art</p> <p>6:30pm Anger Management</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6pm Meditation</p> <p>7pm Poetry Workshop</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:00pm Consortium Mtg</p> <p>6:30pm Twin Hearts</p> <p>7:00pm Women's NA</p> <p>7:00pm CEA</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:30pm Parent'g</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-8pm</p> <p>7:00pm CEA</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9a-12pm CAPC Cookg</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9am-2pm AMB Academy of Music for the Blind</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>
<p>28</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School & Adventurers</p> <p>10:45am Worship Service</p> <p>12pm-6 pm Free Store open</p> <p>6:00 pm CEA HOW</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9am CAPC -Art</p> <p>6:30pm Anger Management</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6pm Meditation</p> <p>7:30 pm Spanish AA</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:30pm Twin Hearts</p> <p>7:00pm Women's NA</p> <p>7:00pm CEA</p>	<p>Happy Birthday in January to the following...</p> <p>1-Millie Rodgers 12-Don Jenkins 13-Randell Kina 14-Araceli Vargas 28-Betty Kenworthy</p> 		

2018 February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Happy Birthday in February to the following... 2-Bob Ihler 12-Zack Johnson 14-Julian Melendrez 26-Michyl Shannon Quilty						
				1 6:30pm Parent'g <i>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-8pm</i> 7:00pm CEA 7:30 pm Spanish AA	2 9a-12pm CAPC Cookg 4:30p Just Love Coalition 7:30 pm Spanish AA	3 9am-2pm AMB Academy of Music for the Blind 7:30 pm Spanish AA
4 9:30am Sunday School & Adventurers 10:45am Worship Service 12pm-6 pm Free Store open 6:00 pm CEA HOW	5 9am CAPC -Art 6:30pm Anger Management 7:30 Spanish AA	6 6pm Meditation 7:00pm Board Mtg 7:30 pm Spanish AA	7  6:30pm Twin Hearts 7:00pm Women's NA 7:00pm CEA	8 6:30pm Parent'g <i>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-8pm</i> 7:00pm CEA 7:30 pm Spanish AA	9 7:30 pm Spanish AA	10 9am-2pm AMB Academy of Music for the Blind 7:30 pm Spanish AA
11 8:50am Elders Mtg 9:30am Sunday School & Adventurers 10:45am Worship Service 12pm-6 pm Free Store open 6:00 pm CEA HOW	12 9am CAPC -Art 6:30pm Anger Management 7:30 pm Spanish AA	13 6pm Meditation 7:30 pm Spanish AA	14 6:30pm Twin Hearts 7:00pm Women's NA 7:00pm CEA	15 <i>10am Lord's House Keepers</i> 2Pm Dream Interpretation 4pm Whole PI 6:30pm Parent'g <i>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-8pm</i> 7:00pm CEA 7:30 pm Spanish AA	16 9a-12pm CAPC Cookg 7:30 pm Spanish AA	17 9am-2pm AMB Academy of Music for the Blind Whole Place work day 10am 7:30 pm Spanish AA
18 9:30am Sunday School & Adventurers 10:45am Worship Service 12:15pm Blood Pressure Screen 12pm-6 pm Free Store open 6:00 pm CEA HOW	19 9am CAPC -Art 6:30pm Anger Management 7:30 pm Spanish AA	20 6pm Meditation 7pm Poetry Workshop 7:30 pm Spanish AA	21 6:00pm Consortium Mtg 6:30pm Twin Hearts 7:00pm Women's NA 7:00pm CEA	22 6:30pm Parent'g <i>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm-8pm</i> 7:00pm CEA 7:30 pm Spanish AA	23 9a-12pm CAPC Cookg 7:30 pm Spanish AA	24 9am-2pm AMB Academy of Music for the Blind 7:30 pm Spanish AA
25 9:30am Sunday School & Adventurers 10:45am Worship Service 12pm-6 pm Free Store open 6:00 pm CEA HOW	26 9am CAPC -Art 6:30pm Anger Management 7:30 pm Spanish AA	27 6pm Meditation 7:30 pm Spanish AA	31 6:30pm Twin Hearts 7:00pm Women's NA 7:00pm CEA			

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

January 7, 2018

Sermon— "A Godly Ruler"
—Pastor Layne Beamer
Scripture—Psalm 72:1-14
Worship Leader—Ted Knoll
(C) Donna Knupp Smith (O) Louis Head
(H) Ted Knoll

January 14, 2018

Sermon— "People of a New Age"
—Pastor Layne Beamer
Scripture— Mark 1:4-11
Worship Leader— Michael Mackey
(C) Alison Johnson (O) Araceli Vargas
(H) Donna Knupp Smith

January 21, 2018

Sermon— "Leave It All Behind"
—Pastor Layne Beamer
Scripture— Mark 1:14-20
Worship Leader— Gerhard Schaefer
(C) Louis Head (O) Jenifer MacLowry
(H) Alison Johnson

January 28, 2018

Sermon— "The Mightier One"
—Pastor Layne Beamer
Scripture— Mark 1:21-28
Worship Leader— Donna Knupp Smith
(C) Ted Knoll (O) Randell Kina
(H) Louis Head



Deacons in January 2018:

Prepare— Celeste Smith

Serve— Marcus Blake, Carrie Decker
George McGarry

Substitutes— Gil Blake, Michael Mackey,
Joe Papaian

Clean up— Neala Mackey



If you know of anyone in our church, in your family, in our community that needs prayer. Please contact the church office.

There is power in prayer!

PRAYER CALENDAR

In this issue of The Messenger we ask that you lift up in prayer a sister congregation and the pastor.

January 7, 2018

First Christian Church, Norwalk
13820 Studebaker Road
Norwalk, CA 90650

January 14, 2018

Pasadena Christian Church
789 N. Altadena Drive
Pasadena, CA 91107
Director, Darrell McGowen

January 21, 2018

Urban Mission
810 S. White Avenue
Pomona, CA 91766
Director, Al Lopez

January 28, 2018

Iglesia Nueva Vida
c/o First Christian Church, Riverside
4055 Jurupa Avenue
Riverside, CA 92506
Director, Rogelop Martinez

Remember our Homebound:

Dorothy Burrows, Posada, 8120 S. Painter Ave.,
Whittier, CA 90602 (562) 945-2651.

Marion Hodges, Park Regency Heights,
The Wellington, Rm 254, 1750 W. La Habra
Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631.

Barbara Butler, 13001 La Mirada Blvd., Suite
304, La Mirada, CA 90638

Margaret Wilkison, Amber Hill, 12729 Amber
Hill Ave., Corona, CA 92880, (909) 923-2110.

First Christian Church of Whittier

6355 S. Greenleaf Avenue, Whittier, CA 90601-3589 ~ Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5100, Whittier, CA 90607-5100

Our Mission Statement

As Disciples of Christ of First Christian Church of Whittier, California,
we are committed to sharing the teachings of Jesus Christ with our neighbors everywhere through
acts of love and caring. Our calling is to learn, grow, teach, and serve in a constantly changing world.

Board of Directors

Co-Chairs.....	Larry Knupp & Judy Stockman
Co-Vice Chairs.....	Araceli Vargas & Randell Kina
Secretary.....	Donna Knupp Smith
Treasurer.....	Sue Sitzwohl
Historian.....	Roberta Ivey
Elders.....	Jenifer MacLowry
Deacons.....	Michael Mackey
Adventurers.....	Carrie Decker
Deskins.....	Ruth B. Shannon
Property.....	Richard Cisneros
Worship.....	Gerhard Schaefer
Church Resources.....	Betty Kenworthy
Parish Ministries.....	Debbie Galindo
Christian Education.....	vacant

Church Staff

Pastor.....	Reverend Layne Beamer
Music Director/Organist.....	Blake Howard
Administrative Secretary.....	Ellie Larez-Brault

Phone: 562-698-0556

Email:

Pastor: layne@fccwhittier.org

Ellie: fccsecretary1@gmail.com

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Please send all correspondence to:

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