



Cerritos Baptist Church

Experiencing Grace, Growing in Love.

# messenger

Fall 2016

## A new Church Directory is coming!



*My, how some of us have changed and grown in 4 years!*

Come and take photos at church on Sept. 14 -18 so you can be included in the Church Directory!

Don't you love having a photo directory so you can figure out who that person was that said hello to you at church?

It only works if everyone participates! Please make an appointment on Sunday on the patio, or online through our website.

Everyone who takes a photo will receive a free directory and a free 8X10 of you or your family.

### UPCOMING SUNDAYS



**Sunday Sermons:**  
*New series begins Sept 11:  
Rediscovering Sabbath*

- Sept 4 Erik Kakimoto
- Sept 11 Brandon Katagi
- Sept 18 Erik Kakimoto
- Sept 25 Donna Katagi



**Grandparents Day, Sept 11**  
Includes special performance in 9am service, plus activities



**Team CBC Fundraiser, Sept 18**  
Support our World Vision team as they run for clean water in Africa (see article, page 2)



**Baja Home Ministry, Oct 1-2**  
Build a home for a family in need in Baja; sign up now to help!

*For updated information and to listen to sermons, please check the website,*

## A Word from Pastor Donna

When we read or hear the news of what is going on in our world, it's easy to feel overwhelmed and alarmed. So much is out of our control, but we can respond with more than worry and complaint.

We can pray, and seek God's grace and wisdom for people we don't know, as well as people we know.

We can be light and salt (Matt. 5:13-16) in our part of the world - our homes, schools, workplaces, neighborhoods - by shining the

light of love, joy, peace, patience in our interactions with people.

We can ask the Spirit how he might use us, and to lead us in how to give, reach out, smile, and share His love with others.

We can trust God who is all-powerful, all-wise, and all for us. He is our light in the darkness, our hope, our help. He is the God who is *able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.* (Eph 3:20). Even when we can't see it or understand, God is faithful.

# Running for Clean Water

by Ellen Shimada

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.* (Eph. 3:20)

God has once again shown me the truth of this promise.

A few years ago a friend shared about a running group at her church. I had been participating in half marathons for over 5 years, and bringing such a program to CBC was appealing to me. It seemed like more than I could manage, but the desire to lead a running activity stayed with me.

Fast forward several years later. I am still running in half marathons. I still want to lead a running event. Then Don Lee from World Vision contacted CBC about partnering to raise money for clean water systems through the Long Beach Half Marathon on Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>.

I met with Don and learned about bringing clean water to villages in Africa. It is a solvable problem in our lifetime. It reduces child mortality rates, allows children to go to school (since they are not walking to get

water), and it reduces child trafficking.

It only costs \$50 to provide clean water for a person for their entire lifetime! That is what I pay for one month of water!

Then God showed me that he is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. I asked for an opportunity to lead people in a 5k, but I get to lead people through a half marathon!

I only imagined a handful of people would say yes, but God raised up 31 people who said yes! I only thought about people at CBC, but God also thought about people in Africa! God has shown me how small my thoughts are, and how vast are his.

Our team is over half way through their training program, and people are doing great! I am so proud of our

team. Not only did they commit to a half marathon, but also to raising money for clean water.

As a group we have a goal of raising \$30,000 and providing clean water for 600 people. For some, the fund raising has been harder than the training. It can take contacting three to four people to get just one donation.

If you are led to give to support our team, we have an online giving page at [www.teamworldvision.org/longbeach](http://www.teamworldvision.org/longbeach). You can also mail donations to church, or support our fundraiser on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>.



*(L to R) Christina, Ron, Penny, Lisa, Donna, Evan, Ellen, Cory, Valerie, Kevin, Miki, Kerry and Donny at a Saturday group long run.*



*Mike, Cory, & Stephanie Quitugua run or walk as a family*

## *You can support your friends on the Team!*

Team CBC members include:

Gareth Atkins, Mark and Roxanne Biles, Miki Hayashida, Amy Jennings, Amber Kakimoto, Donna Katagi, Kerry Kawano, Melanie Komure, Kellie Ma, Ron, Lisa, Christina, and Sarah Mark, Craig & Carolyn Masuda, Ernie Nishi, Tim and Wendy Ong, Mike, Stephanie, and Cory Quitugua, Ellen Shimada, Martin and Karly Shimamoto, Cynthia So, Valerie Tawa, Kevin Verzani, Gerry Watanabe, Janice Young, Penny Young.

# Vacation Bible School "Cave Quest"

By Bianca Tolentino

When I was in elementary school, VBS was always the thing I looked forward to in the summer. It was a week full of days jam-packed with stuff that's just for kids.

There was singing worship songs that are too catchy for their own good, to acting out Bible stories with the energetic storytellers, to playing games and eating snacks with friends.

I loved VBS so much that I knew that I wanted to be a part of creating the magic that appeared in the middle of the summer.

After signing up as a helper, I would say that a lot of my feelings for

VBS have not changed: I still get excited with the kids over worship, and the rotations, and I knew there would be fun times. But what did change was the way I was part of creating those memories.

I was really able to see not only the fun aspect, but also that the Word was being presented in a kid friendly way. I saw that the Holy Spirit had a way of working in those that may not have understood the word before.

I feel blessed that I've been serving at VBS for four summers now, and I know that I'm still excited to see what else God has in store for these kids at VBS!



*Kaylin enters into a Cave Quest at our VBS.*



*VBS staffers Jarret and Kevin check on our rock candy formation ... SWEEET!*

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



### *Grandparents Day Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 am*

Invite your grandparents to worship with us. Enjoy a special body worship presentation by our girls. Take a family foto and make a fun frame for it!



### *Kids at Keiro Sunday, Oct 30<sup>th</sup>*

As we sing, perform, and chat with the residents of Keiro Nursing Home, we bring a smile to the elderly by wearing our Halloween costumes.

#### CBC Staff

Erik Kakimoto  
Senior Pastor

Brandon Katagi  
Associate Pastor

Donna Katagi  
Executive Pastor

JoAnn Kaba  
Children's Ministries Director

Nick Tawa  
Young Adults Pastor

Gary Tawa  
Pastor to the Seniors

Steve Koshimizu  
Administrator

Kacy Nagatoshi  
Community Life Director

Jon Tawa  
Youth Director

Bianca Tolentino, Intern  
Isabel Arechiga, Intern

## Updates from the Church Family

We extend our heartfelt prayers to Pastor Gary and Valerie and family, on the passing of Gary's father, Mas Tawa, on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

Our condolences and prayers are also with Mike and Chris Yao on the loss of Chris' mother, Chaykin Lim, on June 10<sup>th</sup>.



Congratulations to Andy & Tina Lorenz (and big bro Jameson and big sis Andi) on the birth of their baby girl, Irelyn Elise, born on July 6h.

Thanks to **Danny and Stacy Hoo**, coordinators for this summer's Olive Crest Backpack Drive, and to the generous CBCers who donated 55+ backpacks to at-risk and abused youth.

We appreciate **Lisa Mark** (pictured below with husband Ron), who is now leading our Refreshments Ministry. Our tummies thank you and all those who provide goodies with you!



### *Women's Retreat: Live Loved!*

*Nov. 11-13, Murrieta Hot Springs*

All CBC women are invited to a weekend to grow in faith & friendships!

For info and registration, contact Steph Suzuki, [stepsuzuki@cox.net](mailto:stepsuzuki@cox.net). Take advantage of early bird discounted registration until Sept 25<sup>th</sup>.

11947 Del Amo Blvd.  
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Address Service Requested



Worship Services ..... Sunday 9 & 11 a.m.  
Children & Youth classes on Sunday. Call for details.  
Church Office Hours Tue - Fri 9:00 am - 4:30 pm  
Phone 562.860.1720 FAX 562.860.2824  
Web: [www.cerritosbaptist.org](http://www.cerritosbaptist.org)

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