



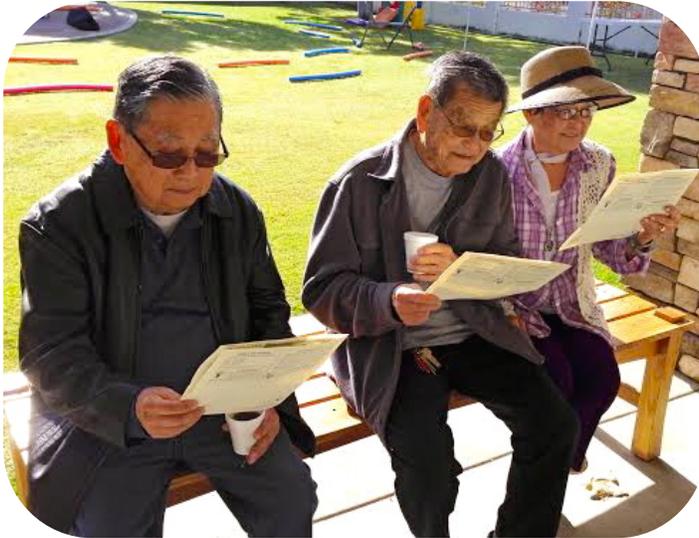
Cerritos Baptist Church

Experiencing Grace, Growing in Love.

messenger

Summer 2015

Take a look at the new design of the Messenger!



We are so appreciative of the volunteers over the years, who have labored to produce this newsletter.

Thanks to Arthur Chen, who has been doing the layout for several years; and to Girl Scout troop 1443 (led by Marianne Domae), as they continue to prepare it for mailing.

As Arthur steps down from this ministry, and it grows increasingly difficult to recruit writers, we considered retiring the newsletter. While many enjoy it, we could have followed this trend in print media.

But instead, for now, we will try a new format. Hope you like it!

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Sunday Sermons:

June 7 Erik Kakimoto

June 14 TBD

June 21 Erik Kakimoto

Summer series: *Colossians*

June 28 Donna Katagi

July 5 Erik Kakimoto



Teacher Appreciation June 14

Our annual opportunity to honor those who teach our kids!



Fathers Day Service June 21

One service at 10 AM, followed by lunch from the In-N-Out truck.



Japan Team Fundraiser June 28

Support the missions team and enjoy chashu baus!

For updated information and to listen to sermons, please check the website, www.cerritosbaptist.org

A Word from Pastor Erik ... about Community

Community. It's an idea we dream about; a word we constantly repeat; and a picture we attempt to paint with various sermon series, classes, events, and activities.

Nevertheless, we know it's difficult because, well, relationships are hard and people are complicated. Yet, we cannot mature without them. We need people in our lives in order to thrive

spiritually and emotionally.

So as we head into the summer, take advantage of the opportunities God gives you to build new relationships, strengthen existing ones, and perhaps, mend the broken ones.

Sure, we know it won't be easy, but at least we can do it together ... in community.

CBC's Young Adult Group: Where God is Moving

By JT Hayashi

Right: Hashi, JT, Daniel, Stephanie, and Derek preparing for the Myanmar Missions Team fundraiser.



About a year and a half ago, the Young Adult group at church was comprised of about 5 people. At our most recent meeting, we saw over 20 young adults show up for fellowship and a reflective worship activity led by Jon Tawa. This growth in numbers is matched by a greater sense of community and deepening relationship with the Lord among our young adults.

What is the secret ingredient to our growth? We can really attribute it only to God, since there is no other "magic" ingredient to our meetings. A typical evening begins with snacks and fellowship, followed by worship singing or a group activity.

We continue worshipping in Bible study; the privilege of teaching is shared by many of our young adults, which gives members a sense of ownership in the group. (Having just finished a study of the book of Colossians, we are moving on to the spiritual gifts, then to a survey of other religions.)

The heart of our meetings is the small group time that follows the Bible study. Afterwards, anyone who is hungry (this always includes Jon) is welcome to join us for a late first (or second) dinner—usually at Sam Woo or Lazy Dog Café.

Personally, I cannot give thanks enough for this group. Since I started attending, it has become an essential part of my Christian growth; the members truly are my brothers and sisters. I've been so encouraged by the group's love for God, love for His Word, love of fun, and love for one another. Please consider being as encouraged as I am by this tremendous part of our church!

The Young Adult group meets every Thursday night at church from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Don't let the "Young Adult" name fool you, or keep you away. Among our ranks are students finishing up their undergraduate degrees and working professionals in their mid-30s. This diversity in ages and life stages is a testament to God's power to unify a group of seemingly disparate people.



CBC Staff

Erik Kakimoto
Senior Pastor

Jo Ann Kaba
Children's Co-Director

Donna Katagi
Executive Pastor

Brandon Katagi
Worship & Youth Pastor

Nick Tawa
Interim Young Adults Pastor

Gary Tawa
Pastor to the Seniors

Kacy Nagatoshi
Children's Co-Director

Jon Tawa
Community Life Director

Steve Koshimizu
Administrator

Howard Ying, *Intern*
Lyndsey Asami, *Intern*

Snapshots of our 3 Summer Short-term Missions Teams

As the sending church, we can give, encourage, and pray for those who *go*. Please join us in supporting them!

SOUTH EAST ASIA (MYANMAR)

Dates: July 22 - August 2

Team Members: Lyndsey Asami
Stephanie Luna, Derek Huang, Michael Hashimoto, Kenneth Chiem

Purpose: Prayer Journey

Please pray: for salvation of the people of Myanmar (less than 10% Christian), protection of local churches, leaders, missionaries (persecution of Christians is very common). Pray that our team would love with God's heart, be open to His leading, be sensitive to His Spirit, and bold in our faith as we join Him in what He is already doing in this country.

JAPAN (YOUTH, pictured below, OSAKA AND ISHINOMAKI)

Dates: July 30 - Aug 15

Team: Howard Ying, JT Hayashi, Matt Wada, Jania Choice, Aaron Suzuki, Josh Rubalcava, Nikki Yoshinaga, Edmund Falcon, Bianca Tolentino, Jake Katsumata, Ashley Masuda.

Purpose: help run VBS in Osaka, continue rebuilding and ministry in Ishinomaki

Please pray: that God would open doors for us to share His gospel despite the language and culture barriers. Pray for the unity of the team.

As you can see (below), this is a very young group, some of whom have never traveled internationally, been away from home for so long, or been on a missions trip. Pray that the experience would be a positive one, and that God would grow in each of us a greater heart for missions and the lost.

JAPAN (ISHINOMAKI AND OSAKA)

Dates: August 3 -18

Team: Patti Shiokari, Bessie Yuen, Jim and Karen Kohara and their children, Rachel and Zachary.

Purpose: to partner with other churches and missionaries to help them build relationships with their community and evangelize with them, sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

Please pray: for team unity; for spiritual protection; and to be led by the Holy Spirit so that we can be effective in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

COMING IN JULY



CBC ACADEMY

July 8, 15, 22, 7:15 pm

"I continue to be amazed by the depth and breadth of the Bible and how much God has to share with us. Amazing love! ... Thank you! Always look forward to Academy."

Join us, and be amazed at the relevance of God's Word for you!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 13 - 17

Pray for the spiritual development of our kids and families as they
"Conquer Challenges with God's Mighty Power"



Church Family Updates

Congratulations! We rejoice with Nick and Michelle Tawa (and Mika) on the birth of their daughter, Cianna Emi, on May 5th.



Our condolences and prayers go out to:

- Family of Margie Okita on her homegoing on Feb. 11th. Margie will be missed by her small group, seniors Bible study, hula group, and the CBC family.
- Debbie Ichien and family on the passing of her mother, Arlene Nakamura, on February 19th.
- Al & Clara Shota on the loss of Clara's sister, June Tamura, on March 11th.

We are thankful for:

- The YOUNG ADULT group for hosting our annual Easter Pancake Breakfast. We appreciate your servant hearts and hands!
- JACK LEE and JAY HOSODA for your enthusiasm, time and energy in preparing and teaching the 9-week Finance Class.
- New Usher/Greeter Ministry Leaders, PAUL & VICKI SHINTO (1st service) and NICK TAWA (2nd service), as they fill the big shoes of ED GOHATA, who is stepping down after many years of faithful and dedicated leadership.

**SAVE THE DATE: Oct 2-4
ALL CHURCH RETREAT!**



October 2-4 at the Oaks

Speaker: **SAM LEE**

(former CBC Teaching Pastor, now at Catalyst)

Families, singles, young and old: plan to come and delight in your *IDENTITY*, as you better understand the riches of who you are in Christ.

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Cerritos Baptist
Church



Worship Services Sunday 9 & 11 a.m.
Children & Youth classes on Sunday. Call for details.
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