

FBC CONNECTION

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CONNECTING THE LIFE AND PEOPLE OF FOOTHILL BIBLE CHURCH

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The Enterprise was one of only three American carriers commissioned before WWII to survive the war.



Norman R. Ozias (left) and John W. Ozias on liberty (Shore Leave) together, September 1945, Pearl Harbor, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Senior Saint: John Ozias On Board the Enterprise

by Kathy Johnson
Photos courtesy John Ozias

Recently, I had the pleasure of sitting down with John and Beulah Ozias, to sip iced tea and listen to stories of John's military service during WWII. A Navy plane captain, John served aboard the most decorated U.S. ship of the war, the USS Enterprise CV-6 aircraft carrier. One of only three American carriers commissioned before WWII to survive the war, the Enterprise earned 20 of the 22 battle stars awarded in the Pacific theatre of operations.

When 18-year-old John first boarded the "Big E" on July 20th, 1944, the warship had already carved out its place in history. A month prior, it had joined in the largest carrier aircraft battle in history, causing devastating damage to Japanese naval aviation in the Battle of the Philippine Seas. It had been involved in the Battle of Midway and many other key battles, having narrowly escaped the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941. John explained that the Enterprise had been scheduled to arrive back to its home port of Pearl Harbor just hours before the surprise attack, but had been delayed due to weather conditions.



John Ozias (left), on board the aircraft carrier, Enterprise, during World War II.

During John's 16 months on board, the Enterprise continued on its course of striking enemy forces, and it would encounter more near misses. John read to me the text of "Battle Order Number One" from the ship Captain G.D. Murray, which included the words, "Steady nerves and stout hearts are needed now," and "The failure of one man to carry out his assigned task promptly...might result in great loss of life and even the loss of the ship." The weight of this order resonates even today, and one can only imagine

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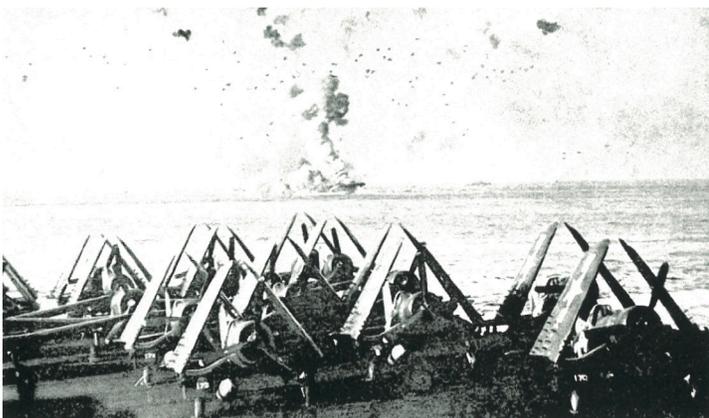
John Ozias continued from page 1

the impression it made on an 18-year-old from Fullerton, California, upon joining the Enterprise crew.

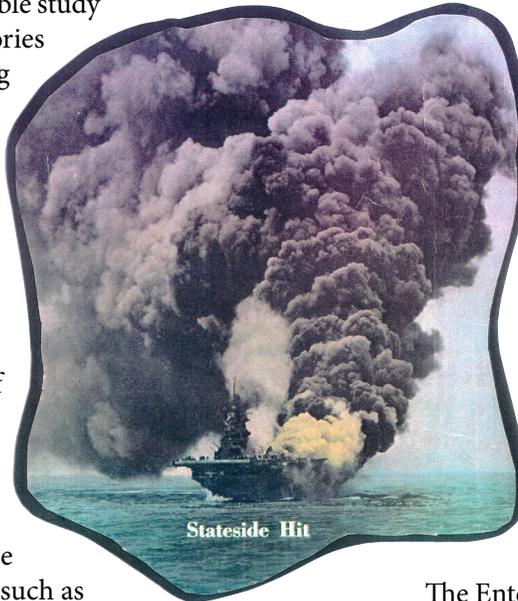
John was a believer as a young man, and is grateful today for the fellowship he found among his comrades on the Enterprise. They made time for Bible study together, and John's fondest memories include the times they gathered to sing hymns. Some of his favorites, then and now, include *It Is Well With My Soul* and *How Great Thou Art*. John expressed his thankfulness for God's hand of protection over him while the Enterprise fought on and survived during the remainder of the war.

As the plane captain of a Grumman Hellcat F6F, John helped send off fighters involved in many raids in the Western Pacific. Enterprise planes battered battleships and destroyers in the Battle of Leyte. They were involved in raids such as Luzon, Tokyo, Okinawa and in the occupation of Iwo Jima, where the "Big E" kept planes in the air continuously for 174 hours.

The Enterprise was damaged by air attack on six occasions during the war, three of which occurred while John was on board. She was nicknamed "The Grey Ghost" because the Japanese announced on three separate occasions that she had been sunk. A news headline said of the Enterprise, "Blazing guns answer Japs, claims of sinkings."



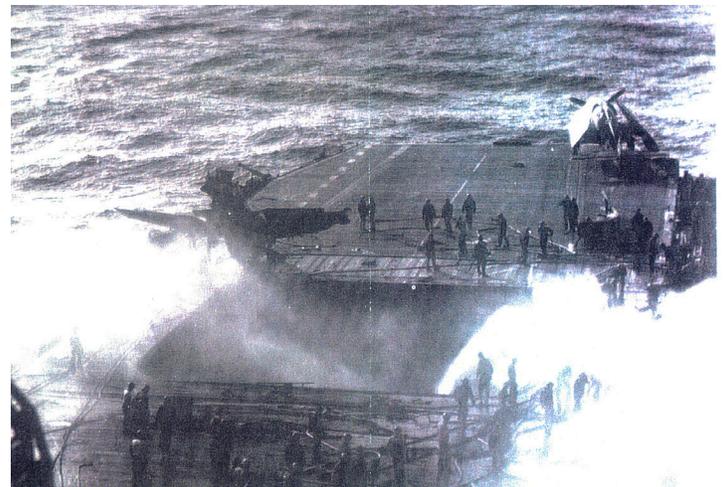
Enterprise hit by kamikaze off Kyushu, 14 May 1945 (Photograph taken from an Essex Class carrier - F4U Corsair fighters ranged on flight deck).



John recalled one morning in March of 1945, when he was waiting for his plane to return from a pre-dawn strike. An enemy plane dove to just 30 feet above the flight deck, firing its guns and hitting the island structure less than 10 feet above John's head and igniting electrical fires. At the same time, the plane dropped a 660-pound bomb on the deck, which failed to penetrate the ship due to the plane's low altitude. Instead, the bomb careened across the deck and lost its detonator in the process, preventing its explosion. John later found a small metal object on the deck, and showed it to another crewman. Not realizing what it was, they tossed it overboard, only to find out later that it was the detonator and it could have been deadly.

The Enterprise was damaged by two kamikaze strikes later that spring. The second of the two attacks, and her last wound of the war, would prove to be another close call for John. He was on catapult duty on the morning of May 14th, sitting atop a plane, preparing his nine-member crew to reposition it on the flight deck. At the same time, a Japanese pilot in a bomb-laden plane was starting his suicidal dive in the skies

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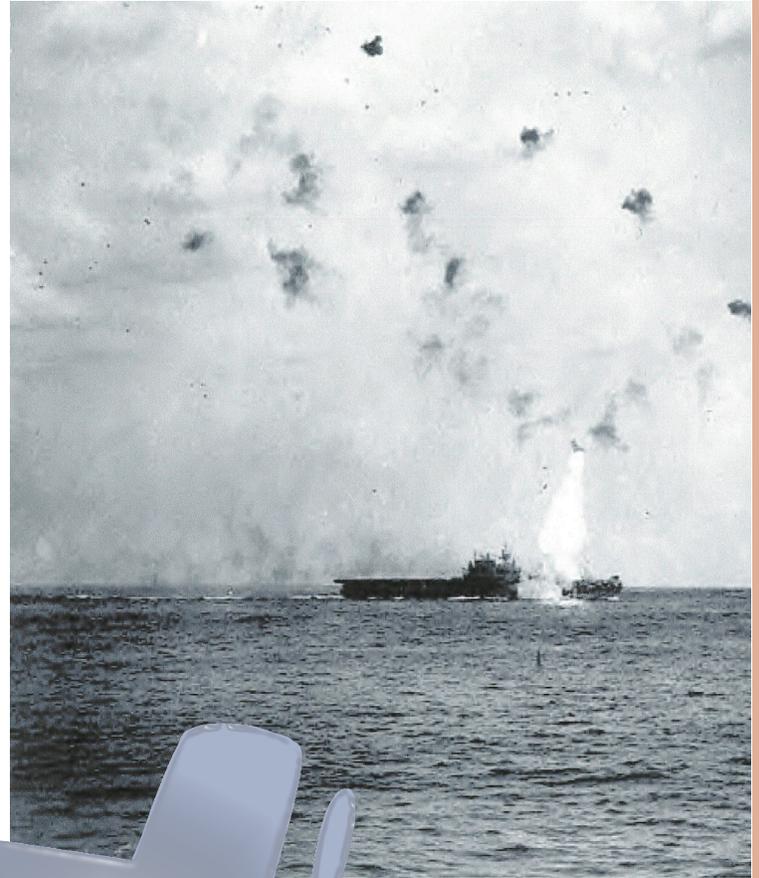
Firefighting on the flight deck of Enterprise just after the Kamikaze crash. Note impact point a few feet aft of the just departed forward elevator.



18 March, 1945. The bomb failed to arm itself because its detonator fuse was torn off. The arrow above shows bomb.

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above them. The intercom blasted, "All hands take cover, a plane is diving on the ship." John immediately took cover under the plane, then ran to the island structure, the safest place on the deck. Sadly, 14 men in other areas of the ship died that day. John believes that, if not for the warning and taking cover immediately, he and his crew would not have survived the bomb blast that shot up more than 400 feet in the air.



Enterprise's Number One elevator caps a 400 foot pillar of smoke and wreckage, moments after a bomb-laden kamikase plunged through her flight deck, May 14, 1945.

The Enterprise was fully repaired and near ready to return to battle with all planes aboard, when the war ended on August 9, 1945.

Since John's service in World War II, God has granted him many more years of safety and health. John turned 90 last November. Though it becomes more difficult to remember the events of one's life with each passing year, John's memories of his time in the service are still some of his most vivid and treasured. If you haven't had the pleasure of meeting John, stop and say hello to the gentleman in the WWII veterans cap, sitting in church next to his lovely wife, Beulah. Take the time to get to know them, if you haven't already. You may hear a war story or two, and you may learn how God has provided for them both over the years... maybe even how God used a drugstore, a walk in the park, and John's ingenuity to bring them together 16 years ago.



John and Beulah Ozias.

New Members



Natalie and Ray Lopez with Madelyn, Hayley and Ethan.

Ray and Natalie Lopez

by Amber Quoc

Ray and Natalie have been attending Foothill Bible Church for about two years and have made the commitment to become members here because they feel that the teaching is strong and biblical and that the fellowship is very beneficial to their walk of faith. They have jumped right into service and fellowship at the church helping with the Children's Ministries, greeting, and leading a small group.

The Lopez's have been married for 12 years and have three children; Hayley (10), Ethan (6), and Madelyn (4). They currently live in Rancho Cucamonga, but Ray grew up in Pomona and Natalie is from Rialto. Neither one of them grew up as Christians. Ray comes from a Catholic home and Natalie learned about Christ and His church in college from friends and co-workers.

Ray graduated from Western University of Health Sciences and works as a physician assistant in family medicine in Rancho Cucamonga. A graduate from Loma Linda University, Natalie worked as a physical therapist assistant for five years until Hayley was born. She now enjoys being a full time wife and mother while educating their children at home. Interests and hobbies that their family enjoys are camping, fishing, and going to the beach.

Ray's favorite verse says, "For I know the plans that I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope." - Jeremiah 29:11. He finds this verse reassuring and comforting. A favorite passage that Natalie turns to is Titus 3 because it reminds her of how she is not saved by anything that she has done but by His grace alone.

Yohan and Jeanee Shin

by James Beatty

Yohan and Jeanee Shin have been attending Foothill Bible Church since June 2013, and placed membership in November 2014. Yohan finished his undergraduate education at University of California, Berkley and medical school at Touro University in Vallejo and is currently a pediatric resident physician at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, where he has one more year of training. Jeanee graduated from University of California, Riverside and went on to earn a Master of Education in teaching at New York University. She and Yohan married in July 2011 and in 2013 moved to the Inland Empire so that Yohan could start his residency training. After teaching 6th grade English for a year in Chino, Jeanee is currently taking a break to tend to their little bundle of energy, Elaine, who turned one in June.

Yohan and Jeanee both grew up in Southern California; Yohan in Vista near San Diego and Jeanee in Redondo Beach near Los Angeles. Jeanee, a PK (pastor's kid), was born and raised in the church and as a testimony to the grace of God, by her continual service and the exposition of God's word, Jeanee devoted her life to the Lord at a young age. Similarly, Yohan also grew up in the church. Yohan recalls the first time he genuinely responded to the Gospel of Christ after a message at a 5th grade



Yohan and Jeanee Shin and daughter, Elaine.

summer Bible camp. While Yohan vividly remembers consciously making the decision to surrender his life to Christ at the Bible camp, he would not completely understand all the implications of that decision until his college years when he rededicated his life to Christ while attending Evangel Bible Church of Berkley. It was then when his faith truly developed that he began to grow spiritually.

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One of Yohan and Jeanee's favorite Bible verses, the life verse used for their wedding ceremony, is Romans 5:8, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." While in rebellion, God came for us. They love how Romans 5:8 captures the Gospel so clearly and beautifully.

Yohan and Jeanee, who are admittedly shy, thought it would be difficult adjusting to a new church home so they consider it a blessing to be so warmly embraced as a new couple, and are grateful for having been spiritually fed in the Young Married's Sunday school class as well as the small group led by Jason Pince, which has allowed them the opportunity to meet and fellowship with people who are also on the same walk of life. Yohan has been amazed by the richness of the fellowship and how highly the Word of God is exalted at FBC. He praises God for leading them here.

Yohan and Jeanee both enjoy watching movies, discovering new places to eat through Yelp, and just spending time together, especially with their little one. They have recently joined the Greeting Team, and enjoy serving together, being able to welcome and greet the Lord's precious church. So next time you see them out at an entrance serving, stop by and introduce yourself, as they would love to meet you.

Roger and Teri Nelson

by Arcelia Miller

Integrity, commitment, discipline and service are words that come to mind when you meet Roger and Teri Nelson. Along with their daughter Jordan (10), they have been attending Foothill Bible Church for two years and participated in both Sojourners and Generations Sunday school classes.

Both Roger and Teri have a heart to serve others by God's strength as evidenced in their current occupations. Roger is a third grade teacher in Ontario, and when Teri is not working at home, she is serving as an emergency room nurse two days a week.

It was through similar interest to serve that God was able to introduce Roger and Teri. Though Roger grew up in the church, it wasn't until his young adult years that he realized his life did not match up with the Bible. He was under deep conviction and made a wholehearted commitment to live faithfully in Christ.

When Teri first met Roger, she was not a Christian.

Teri did not grow up in the church and had a strong science background. They worked together often, and Roger's life of integrity as a Christian piqued her interest. Roger took the opportunity to give Teri the Word of life by inviting her to a church function and giving Teri her first Bible. Like the Bereans, Teri asked a lot of questions and began to study the Bible, and placed her faith in Jesus Christ.

In September of 1999 they were united as one in Christ and just celebrated sixteen years of marriage. Roger enjoys hiking, running, golfing, and geocaching with their daughter Jordan. Teri likes reading and travelling. She is fond of learning and experiencing other cultures and has made trips to South America, Mexico and Alaska.

As a teacher and ER nurse, both are living lives of service and still manage to find time to quietly serve behind the scenes when there is a ministry need. Even Jordan serves in ministry with the 2-3 year-old classes as a teacher's helper, and she plays the piano for the children's offertory.

One of Teri's cherished verses is Psalm 23:4 "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me..." She likes to meditate on the truth that we do not have to be afraid because God is with us.

Roger's favorite Bible verses are Romans 12:1-2 which speaks of the dedicated service and commitment to God as being "a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God" while not being "conformed to this world but transformed by the renewing of your mind," and Hebrews 12:1-2 which reminds us to "lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us," as we fix our eyes on Jesus Christ.

The Nelsons are thankful to join as members of FBC because of the consistent faithful Bible teaching of the leaders, and the integrity and commitment of the members to apply and live the Word of God.



Roger and Teri Nelson and daughter, Jordan. Photo by Picture People.

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New Members

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Vincent and Debbie Gottuso

by Rhonda Risser

Vincent and Debbie Gottuso, while attending FBC for a few years now, recently took the next step and joined FBC in membership.

Vincent and Debbie Gottuso

Vincent was born in New York and Debbie was born in Connecticut and early in their lives, they both ended up in Southern California; Debbie's family settled in Alta Loma and the Gottuso family made their home in Claremont. They met through work in real estate and after they started dating, Vince's mother Josephine was told that she had cancer and the doctors didn't give her much more than five minutes to live; God graciously gave her five more years. She shared the gospel with everyone she met, including Debbie! Debbie had been raised a Catholic and because of Vince's mother's love for her, Debbie heard the gospel of grace for the first time and she began her true relationship with Christ! Vince and Debbie were married in July 1989. They have two children, Kimberly (24), and Joshua (22) who is currently serving in the Army National Guard. Vince was a Major in the Army Reserves and retired just as he was going before the Colonel Board. They have two dogs, Jake, a Poochon, and Bella, a Bouvier des Flandres.

Debbie stopped working in 1991 when she had their first child so she could devote her time and priority to raising their young family. In 1995 she started weekly studies with Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) and in 2009 became the teaching leader for the Glendora class.

Some of you may recall the following story that swept through Claremont and the neighboring cities. In January of 2009, Vince received a call from his office to not come in to work and headed home. What happened next is still somewhat of a blur for him. As he entered his home, unbeknownst to him, he was walking right into a robbery in process; two men were turning his house upside down. Upon being confronted by Vince, they were determined not to leave a witness to their crime so proceeded to beat him mercilessly over the head and face with the butts of his own shotgun and rifle. They tried to strangle him to death three times and then left him for dead. Or so they thought. Debbie arrived home later that morning and upon entering the house saw the upheaval and knew they had been robbed. She saw Vince's car so assumed he was home, but didn't

see him anywhere. She then saw one of the guns on the floor and ran outside to call 911 not knowing her husband was in the house barely clinging to life. Vince was immediately airlifted to USC County Medical where he spent 7 days in their head trauma unit. Needless to say, there were months of recovery involved and only in the last couple of years has he felt his mind and memory begin to be fully restored. By God's gracious hand of protection, Vince's life was spared that day and they both proclaim God's glory and providential grace to bring and carry them through a journey that could have had a very different ending.

Two of Debbie's favorite passages of scripture say, "He is before all things, and in him all things hold together" (Colossians 1:17) and Psalm 91 with its promise of protection. Vince never tires of studying the life of David who, as a humble shepherd boy in the solitude of tending sheep, develops a deep and rich relationship with the Lord then after being told he was to be the next king, immediately returns to sheep tending, to his rise to ruler including the ups and downs of the rest of his life as he seeks after the Lord.

The Gottusos have really jumped right into the FBC life! They have been a part of the Generations Sunday school class and the small group led by Mark Anderson. Debbie has taught the 4 & 5 year olds and you will, on many a Sunday, be warmly greeted by them as you walk into service as they are part of our Greeter ministry.



Brittanie and Nick with daughters Autumn, Lily and Hannah

Nick & Brittanie Bravo

by Vanessa Bugbee

Spoken Word and sewing. Motivational leadership and music. Doctrine and discipleship. These are a few words that describe the passions and interests of Nick and Brittanie Bravo,

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a couple who have attended FBC since July 2012. The Bravo family first heard about the church from a family member and were initially drawn to the focus on family and discipleship. Nick had been sensing a need to grow in his calling as husband and father and contacted Pastor David for discipleship, meeting regularly with him for several months. Brittanie watched as Nick was transformed by God's Word over time and desired to attend the church on a Sunday morning. The first week that they attended together they loved the expository teaching and have stayed ever since. They have been a part of the Young Married's Sunday school class and Leif and Kathy Jensen's small group, serving at the Newcomer's Lunch each month.

Nick grew up locally in San Dimas and met Brittanie at a summer camp where they both worked for several summers. Brittanie was raised in a believing home by her mother and grandfather and put her trust in Christ at age 5. Nick encountered Christ at age 16 at a summer camp where a youth leader challenged him to move beyond mere words and make a decision that would result in real life change. He was broken over his sin, trusted in Christ's righteousness on his behalf, and experienced a deep hunger for the Word and a desire to be like Christ. He began to cry out to God and experience real growth through the Word. Nick and Brittanie were married while attending college and celebrated the birth of their first daughter that year. They now have three daughters: Lily (6), enjoys art and crafting, Autumn (5), loves puzzles and drawing, and Hannah (3), enjoys acting and dress-up.

Nick recently started his own entrepreneurial business as an independent consultant, coach, and marketing expert for businesses. In his free time, Nick enjoys spending time with his family, as well as writing, performing, and producing music and Spoken Word. He hopes to combine his passion for music and assisting businesses to thrive as an avenue for ministry. Nick also enjoys cooking and good food. Brittanie works as a stay-at-home-mom and sells her crochet and sewing creations. She loves the creative process and also enjoys singing, music, and playing the guitar and piano.

Nick loves the book of James which renews his mind with truth and brings him back to how best to walk in truth and edification of others. One of Brittanie's favorite verses is Deuteronomy 6:5 - "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." This verse reminds her that God must be first in every area of her life and when her love and attention are focused on God, everything else is put into right perspective.

Chad & Shelly Costello

by Linda Mawby

Although they have been attending FBC for about two years, the Costello Family recently joined as members. Chad and Shelly will be celebrating 20 years of marriage in December, living in Upland for 12 of them. Chad is a civil engineer and currently works for San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), a regional government agency that focuses on transportation planning and highway construction in conjunction with Caltrans. Early in their marriage Shelly was an elementary school teacher, but since having children has enjoyed being a stay-at-home mom.

Their eldest, Ben, is a sophomore at Upland High school and after having played a variety of team sports, is now enjoying his school's tennis team. Next eldest, Joel,



Chad and Shelly Costello with children Ben, Emily and Joel.

attends Pioneer Junior High and has also played multiple sports, but now loves to play the drums. Youngest Emily loves art and dance and will soon begin soccer. The entire family stays active with outdoor hobbies such as biking, hiking, and camping. They also love games and having backyard barbecues.

Originally from Indiana, Chad moved to the Chino area when in high school and attended Cal Poly, Pomona to earn his engineering degree. Shelly also grew up in Chino and received her teaching degree from UC Riverside. Both were raised in Christian homes but came to a saving faith in their later teenage years. They met at a local church in Chino where they were both teaching Sunday school.

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Donald and Jennifer Carlson
Photo by Mike Lewis

Donald and Jennifer Carlson

by Jessy Molina

Donald and Jennifer (Perez) Carlson are married! Pastor David Forsyth officiated the ceremony on June 27, 2015. Their beautiful ceremony and reception were held at Foothill Bible Church, where they have both been members for some time: Jennifer since 2006 and Donald since 2009. The

couple met through the College & Career group and they were both in choir together before the worship teams were assembled.

Donald and Jen knew one another for seven years before deciding to pursue a relationship in September 2014. It did not take long, though, for them to realize the Lord's plans for them to marry and were engaged on January 10, 2015. Donald was attracted to Jen's curly locks and loved her devotion to solid theology. Jennifer has a strong respect and willingness to submit to Donald's resilient application of godly theology. The Lord has wonderful works planned through this amazing match!

FBC Connection

The purpose of the FBC Connection newsletter is to inform and inspire the FBC body of what God is doing in the life of its members. Please note that the testimonies and articles are written by volunteers and do not necessarily reflect the sentiments or endorsements of the elder board. The apostle Paul explains in I Corinthians 12 that the local church is one body made up of many members and gifts. FBC Connection recognizes this diversity in the FBC body and seeks to promote community through this form of communication. On behalf of the elder board of FBC, we invite you to proclaim the excellencies of Christ who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Art Nakamura, editor-in-chief
Julia Buehl, editor
Linda Arroyo, photo editor
Ann Inlow, layout

Photos by Linda Arroyo unless otherwise noted.



Chris and Amy Day Photo by Darren Caballero

Chris and Amy Day

by Jessy Molina

Congratulations to Chris and Amy (Hydanus) Day, who were married by Amy's father, Steven Hydanus, on August 1, 2015. They held a lovely beach-themed ceremony and dessert reception at Foothill Bible Church where Amy has been attending with her family since 1994; she had been a member since 2013. Chris attends First Fundamental Bible Church in Whittier and became a member in January 2015, after moving last year to Downey.

Chris and Amy were both in attendance at the two previous Undivided Conferences but had not made acquaintance until they met at the Young Professionals small group at Foothill Bible Church. After meeting last June, the pair did not take long to see the perfect match that could be; they went on their first date only a month later. On December 22, 2014, Chris proposed to Amy, unable to ignore their shared delight in the love of the Lord. Also, there is a special connection between these two geeks that they both relish. Though Amy will be missed among our congregation, it is exciting to think how the Lord will work through this new season in their new life together in Orange County.

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Chad's favorite book of the Bible is the Gospel of John because "it most clearly and simply tells of God's great love for us and how we might be saved." Shelly's favorite verse is 1 John 4:19, "We love because He first loved us" – adding that "in it is the simple but powerful truth that His love transforms us, then causes His love to flow out of us."

God has truly made manifest in their lives the verse they established at their wedding: Psalm 126:3, "The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy." ... and He has, and they are!