

COMMUNITIES OF JOY

MONTHLY NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE GREATER LOS ANGELES STAKE

Issue 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 2002

CALENDAR

Jan 1 - New Years' Holiday—Stake Office Closed
Jan 12 - High Council Meeting
Jan 14 - Martin Luther King Holiday –Stake Office Closed
Jan 19 - Pastors Meeting
Jan 20 -Prayer for Christian Unity
Feb 6 & 7- Older Adult Spirituality Aging Conference
Feb 15-17 - Children's Winter Camp
Feb 18 - Presidents' Day - Stake Office Closed

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE

On Sunday January 20, 2002 at 3:00 p.m.

the annual prayer for Christian Unity Worship Service will be hosted by the Pasadena Presbyterian Church at 585 East Colorado Boulevard, Pasadena. In addition to the annual worship service, this year's service will honor the organization of "Churches Uniting in Christ," (CUIC). CUIC is a group of nine denominations (including United Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church, Christian Church (Disciples) AME, AME Zion, CME, Fellowship of Community Churches, ELCA, and UCC) which will formally celebrate their organization in Memphis, Tennessee also on January 20, 2002.

CUIC is described as a "framework" for ecumenical dialogue and not an "organization" that might imply institutional or theological unity. The Pasadena Worship Service will include representatives from the nine CUIC denominations. All are invited to attend. Scott Sinclair will represent Community of Christ during the service. A reception will follow the event.

I am prepared to go anywhere, provided it be forward. David Livingston

DECEMBER 9 CALLED CONFERENCE RESULTS

On December 9, 2001 there was a Called Stake Conference regarding a possible loan between the Orange Congregation and the World Church not

to exceed \$495,000 for a classroom addition. The classrooms would be initialized in a long term contract with Aspen Education Group whose monthly payments would be intended to repay the construction loan. Pastor Mark Richards provided a video presentation from Aspen and a "PowerPoint" computer presentation on the various aspects of the project. The conference approved the resolution by a very large majority. Despite the authorization to proceed by the conference, there are a host of construction and contractual details to be resolved prior to finalizing the project. We extend appreciation to those persons in the congregation and stake who have spent many hours to try to make this a successful project.

HIGH COUNCIL TO MEET AT TEMPLE CITY

On Saturday, January 12, 2002 the Stake High Council will have their annual retreat at Temple City. The one day event will include worship, dialogue, education, and fellowship. Dialogue will include the topic of "Mission Center" organization and how it might effect the stake if it is approved at World Conference.

PASTORS TO MEET

On Saturday, January 19, 2002, there will be a Regional Pastors Meetings at Temple City, Ventura, Inland Empire, and Long Beach. The meetings will be from 9:00 a.m. to noon and include worship, an internet assisted educational time, dialogue on various topics, and conclude with a teleconference that will convert the four locations. One of the dialogue topics will be the possibility of "Mission Center" organization that will be considered at the 2002 World Conference. Pastors will be asked for their input on how the process of consensus building in the stake might proceed if this World Conference initiative is approved.

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

On December 4, 2001 at the California Council of Churches (CCC) meeting in Sacramento, Community of Christ was formally welcomed into the council. Scott Sinclair, Barbara Carter (Bay Stake President), and Richard Foster (Central California Regional President) represented Community of Christ. Scott Sinclair was also elected to the California Council of Churches Board of Directors. Scott Anderson, CCE Executive Director, gave a statement of appreciation for the invitation for his participation in the November 4, 2001 Stake Conference at Temple City.

PREACH CLASS VIDEOS AVAILABLE FOR USE

Video tapes of the "Power of Positive Preaching" class presented by Presiding Evangelist Danny Belrose are now available for congregational use. Arrangement for use of the tapes can be arranged by calling Bill Dodds at the leadership office.

There are five tapes in the series, each running from 1 hour to 1 and a half hours. Four of them are the actual classes and the fifth is the sermon that Brother Belrose preached at the Saturday Stake-wide worship service.

If the tapes are going to be used in a short time frame the entire set can be borrowed at one time. If they are going to be used over several weeks or months, they should be checked out one at a time.

Copies of the tapes must not be made. We ask all congregations and persons to honor this arrangement that we made with Brother Belrose.

Bill said, "These are not broadcast quality – we did "editing on the fly" and did not reedit them. This means that there are some camera, switching, etc. flaws in them, but it did allow us to get them out quickly."

If this resource proves to be helpful in the congregations we will endeavor to do more of this kind of production. Therefore, responses from those who use the materials will be very helpful.

WORLD CONFERENCE DELEGATE RESULTS

At the November 11, 2001 GLAS Conference the following persons were elected to

be the delegates for the 2002 World Conference in Independence, MO: Jan Albin, Jim Albin, Greg Barentine, Edith Beebe, Gail Biller, Earlene Campbell, Tom Campbell, Carolyn Chapple, Jim Chapple, Tonia Cooper, Tom Cooper, Craig Crownover, Bill Dodds, Shirley Dodds, Linda Espiritu Santo, Carl Gunter, Dean Hamilton, Fred Hamilton, Joseph Hammer, Sr., Shirley Hammer, Mary Hampton, Paul Hampton, Cheryl Hansen, Eldon Hart, Dale Hunzeker, Bob Johnson, Glenn Johnson, Sara Juarez, Sergio Juarez, David Kaleikau, Henrietta Kaleikau, Arla Martindale, Keith Martindale, Daniel Muhlenkamp, Denise O'Neil-Leichter, Richard Prechtel, Sandra Prechtel, Scott Sinclair, and Frances Stienon. In addition, the following persons, listed in the order of their vote ranking, are the delegation alternates: 1) Elaine Stienon, 2) Doris Breeze, 3) Donna Calderon, 4) Jo Gunter, 5) Albert Calderon, 6) Bob Nichols, 7) Evelyn Sora, 8) Don Garwood, 9) Beverly Pickens, 10) Jim Seeley, and 11) Dennis Sorenson.

There will be a meeting on **March 17, 2002** at Temple City CCM from 3:00 to 5:00 PM for all delegates and alternates to review the World Conference resolutions, that are known at that time, and any other information that would be helpful in preparing for the conference week.

STAKE EMAIL CAPABILITIES

One of the ways that the stake office is attempting to reduce operating costs is through the use of email to ministry staff, high council, pastors, and members. Since all congregations have computers we will be attempting to increase our usage of them for communications and decrease our paper, postal, and secretarial expenses. The 2002 Stake Leadership Directory will have more email addresses than ever before. Please contact Tonia Cooper, at the stake office, to provide your email address so that it can be included in this Directory. We are also appreciative of the Older Adult "Bridge Builder" email service that communicates prayer requests in the stake and is maintained by Gary Hass, from the Burbank congregation.

STAKE OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed on **Monday, January 14** in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

