



Greater Los Angeles Stake

October 2002

HISPANIC MINISTRIES

- ★ The annual Hispanic Labor Day Retreat brought 90 campers of all ages to Camp Buckhorn. Our guest ministers were **Ruby and Amador Lopez** from Temecula. They brought a powerful ministry of music and preaching. Our lives were touched by the life changing power of the Holy Spirit as we shared together in worship, class and play.
- ★ Our Senior High youth attended a retreat in Tecate, Mexico, sponsored by the San Diego District. Four of our bi-lingual youth, **Sarai Juarez, Vicky Casares, Alvaro Gonzales,** and **Francisco Rios,** and two counselors, **Linda and Todd Espiritu Santo,** shared with youth from San Diego and Arizona in unique hands-on experiences. We learned to make authentic pottery with a family who had little in the way of material things, but were more than willing to share what they had. One young man noted that his small bedroom was bigger than the home this family of 9 lived in. It presented us the chance to rethink priorities.
The afternoon was spent in an orphanage visiting with 50 little boys. It was another chance to interact with some precious children and again consider our blessings. Our time together closed with a night at a hotel of swimming and fellowship, and a closing service that touched the hearts of all. We had a wonderful weekend of learning, sharing, caring, and fun.
- ★ **Sergio Juarez** will be in Independence for 3 weeks finishing his studies in the International Leadership Conference. For the last several years, spring and fall, he has been blessed to study with church leaders from all over the world. Now he comes home again to Los Angeles, better able to serve as a minister of the gospel. Good news!

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- ★ The Witnessing Rally held Saturday, Sept. 21 was a time of worship highlighted by the sharing of testimony. Members from 10 congregations in the stake participated. Several of the congregations have expressed desire to hold a similar event. The spirit of "Each One, Reach One" was pervasive.
- ★ "Foundations for Ministry" emphasis kicked off in the Orange Congregation on Sept. 29. The six week program focuses on sharing the basics of the faith and doctrine of the Community of Christ. The adult church school class is on our scriptures and the worship services are centered in our beliefs.
- ★ We are trying to organize a pre-ordination class, "An Overview of Priesthood." Anyone who is interested in taking this course should contact **Bill Dodds** (626-285-4500 or wdodds@cofchristla.org) or **Henrietta Kaleikau** (714-633-6595).
- ★ The Temple School Winter Field School will be held in Independence at the Temple Feb. 3-7, 2003 A wide variety of courses are provided and cost is \$45. Housing is available at the Olive Branch Inn or area homes. Contact Irene Zuber (izuber@cofchrist.org) or the Stake Office for complete information.

Have You Heard?

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Letter from the Stake President

This much may be said about Greater Los Angeles Stake: we know how to throw a potluck. I've been sharing with you all in Congregational Meetings for Mission this month, each one of which is followed by a potluck that has me trotting back for third helpings. Like Jesus and his followers in the Gospel of Luke, our faith community does its best business around a table.

We have been doing good work before the potluck, too. At each meeting, we spend an hour or so working in small groups to articulate the things we value about our participation in the larger Community of Christ called the stake. You have been coming up with good stuff! As we complete the process in October, I will share back with you a compilation of all of our best ideas.

Since I last wrote, stake leaders, including our pastors and stewardship commissioners, have been working hard to balance our expected income for next year with the programs of ministry and services we all want to share in. At this point in the process, we have agreed that we expect to have available \$250,000 in sustainable income, made up of \$150,000 from earnings on our savings (or from our reserves if the earnings do not come in) and \$100,000 in contributions from individuals and assessments from congregations. That will provide for a budget that is less than half of the 2002 budget. My friends, we all need to do some hard thinking about whether a \$250,000 budget measures up to our longing to be the Community of Christ in this world. Expect to spend time working on it when you come to your congregational meeting.

Yours, Paul Davis, Greater Los Angeles Stake President

Schedule for the remaining meetings:

Date	Host	Invited Congregations
Oct 6	Orange	Anaheim, Basileia, Costa Mesa
Oct 13	Ventura	Canoga Park, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Simi Valley
Oct 20	Long Beach	El Segundo, Gardena, Lakewood, Torrance

FINANCIAL AND BISHOPRIC UPDATES

Pre-Authorized Transfer (PAT) of funds is now available. This option is available to assist those who wish to contribute to the local congregation, Stake, and World Church ministries a fixed amount regularly. Your set donation will be deducted from your checking account once a month on the 15th. For more information or to receive the authorization form call the stake office for **Ed** or **Tonia**.

Income to the Stake	Actual YTD	Budgeted YTD
Allocation from Storehouse	121,200	168,750
Loan from El Segundo	240,000	180,000
Transfer from Agency Accounts	17,652	21,750
Membership Contributions	6,115	-
Interest	1,177	-
Miscellaneous (including Albertsons)	725	11,250
Totals	\$386,869	381,750
Stake Expenses		
Administration	31,933	26,175
Audit	13,000	5,000
Human Resources	213,367	222,000
Congregational Support	41,292	38,250
Temporal Expense	87,246	91,575

COMING EVENTS

- *Youth Retreat at Temple City, October 11-13*
- *Anaheim October Festival, Saturday, October 19 - 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

- *Bridge Builders Fall Festival, November 12-14*

Reunion -July 20-26, 2003