

CROSSROADS

"Children Are Not the Future of the Church"

2008 ANNUAL MEETING PRE-EVENT
The Christian Church of Pacific Grove on
Friday, April 25
12:15 PM-3:00 PM

Led by Kaye Edwards, Director of Family & Children's
Ministries for the General Church

Children are part of the Now Church. Precious gifts and insights into the nature of God and God's Kingdom are lost when the role of children (as children) in the life of our congregations is diminished. During the Pre-Event of our 2008 Annual Meeting we will explore what Jesus has to say to us about children and look at ways our communities of faith can be more inclusive of children.

For more information, contact Russ Peterman, Senior Minister, or Ellie McDougal, chair of the Spiritual Formation Ministry team. The cost of this event is \$15, which the church will gladly pay if you are interested in attending.

Mexico Mission Reunion Celebrating 30 Years of Service

Have you ever been on an FCC Concord Mexico Mission trip?

You are invited to gather to Remember the past, Celebrate the present, and Dream for the future!

More details to follow. But for now, save the date:
Saturday, May 24

Memorial Service Celebrating the Life of Lisle Morseman

First Christian Church, Concord
Sunday, April 13
6:00 p.m.

He has been a loving, loyal leader within this congregation for nearly 50 years!

It will be a wonderful celebration of his life and we will give thanks for his many years of service and love to this church and to so many.

Sometimes it's GOOD to Build Fences! CGC Work-day!

There is an old adage that it's much better to build bridges than fences. But sometimes fences are important, too! There will be a work-day at the Community of the Great Commission (our Region's camp ground) to build a fence around the swimming pool. The dates are April 19 and 20. You can come Friday night and stay Saturday-either or both.

There is no registration form so please call Carl Cordes (cell 707-694-6274, home 707-553-9821). Thanks for your consideration. CGC needs our help on this and many other projects. Without the fence completed, the pool will not be able to be used this summer.

Compass**Just Being There**

By The Rev. Dr. Russell
Peterman, Senior Minister

A friend sent me an article a while back from *The Princeton Alumni Weekly* written by a graduate,

James M. Kennedy, who was speaking on the most important lesson he ever learned, but wasn't taught in school.

Kennedy reflected about the time he was asked by a group of his colleagues, lawyers in fact, what was the one thing that he was most proud of. His answer came to him instantaneously. It was five years ago and he was in his hometown to help his mother celebrate her 65th birthday. He began the day playing tennis with an old high school buddy. Between points they would chat about what was happening in each other's lives. His friend shared the good news of their new child, who was keeping them up late at night.

About that time, a car came screaming up the road, its horn blaring. It was his friend's father bringing horrible news that their baby had stopped breathing and was being rushed to the hospital. In a cloud of dust, his friend jumped into the car with his father and sped off to the hospital. As many of us would react, Kennedy stood there not knowing what to do. He was pretty sure that if he went to the hospital, he'd only get in the way. Besides, he had a full day planned with his own family celebrating his mother's birthday.

As Kennedy got in his car to head back to be with his own mother, he realized that his friend had left his car and his keys behind. Again, he was unsure what to do. Reluctantly, he decided that the best course of action was for him to swing by the hospital and give him the keys.

No sooner had he found his friend's family when the doctor appeared bringing the tragic news that their son had died, the victim of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. As the family made their way into the next room, his friend saw him standing in

the corner. He came over to him, hugged him, and said, "Thanks for being here."

The rest of the morning he sat in the emergency room and watched his friend hold the body of their infant son, and say goodbye. As he reflects upon it now, he realizes it was the most important thing he has ever done.

In times of crises we often struggle for the right thing to do. In fear of saying the wrong thing, we often struggle to find the right words. As if words could make thing better.

Madeline L'Engle, following the death of her husband, was asked what was the most help during that time of loss. She said that it was "the people who said little, but came to hold me, to sit with me as we cried together. They were the ones that were the most help to me."

Few of us ever realize that strength comes to us when we are completely helpless. Such is the grace of God, spoken through the touch and compassion of those who dare to say the wrong thing, or even to say nothing at all. They are the ones who make the love of God come alive in times of crises and grief.

This story belongs to me. It is real to me in that in my darkest night someone came to me and dared to say nothing, but was there offering only the ministry of his presence. That meant more to me than any words dared to be spoken. Just being there taught me of the love of God that is always present and always real.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Peterman".

Greeter Schedule



April 13	Donna Darden and Patti Halter
April 20	Judi, Diana and Clay Carlisle
April 27	The Graves Family

English Language Classes

HELP! Refreshments needed...

We are in need of volunteers who are willing to donate refreshments for our ESL classes which began this week. We believe that there will be between 20 and 25 people at each class.

~ Don't know what you would bring?
Some suggestions are cookies, cake, desserts, vegetables & dip, fruit, pretzels, cheese & cracker tray, etc.

~Don't think you can do it all by yourself?
Then find somebody to give you a hand.

If you're interested in helping out, please contact Lisa Morgan at Morlisa@aol.com and she will find a date that will work for you.

Many thanks in advance... the ESL committee

Thank you

Once again, as has always been the case and no doubt always will be, our church family has been there for my family and me in a time of need. Thanks to all of you for your cards, letters, kind thoughts, calls, visits, flowers, gift baskets, meals, and, most of all, for your prayers for a successful surgery and a speedy recovery. The prayers are indeed working, for things are looking well, and all of the support you have given us has been such a joy to receive and accept.

Blessings and love,

Greg Hile

Serving in Worship...

April 13, 2008

"See How They Love"

Acts 2: 42-47

9:00 AM

Elder: Rick Marr

Deacon: Mike Cluster

11:00 AM

Greeters: Donna Darden & Patti Halter

Scripture Reader: Hugh McNamar

Table Elder: Ellie McDougal

Offertory Elder: Denise Schneider

Time for Children: Carolyn Partney

Diaconate: Gloria Mattson [captain] Judi Carlisle, Dean Henry, Debbie Henry, Bill Plambeck, Luz Porto, Elaine Sherman

Ushers Patti Halter [captain] Pat Watson, Kay Waggoner

April 20, 2008

"If You Want to See God"

John 14: 1-14

9:00 AM

Elder: Kelsey Gross

Deacons: Todd & Lisa Morgan

11:00 AM

Greeters:

Scripture Reader: Lori Landberg

Table Elder: Kathleen DeGiobbi

Offertory Elder: Lynne Hile

Time for Children: Diana Carlisle

Diaconate: Don DeGiobbi [captain] Tom Kilpatrick, Al Lockwood, Bev Lockwood, Meg Sumner-Moore, Sue Sumner-Moore

Ushers: Elaine Ortiz [captain] Hugh McNamar, Luz Porto

With Thanks

Dear FCC,

This is a note of thanks for all the cards, calls, hugs, and support during the time since my father's death. We are all feeling grateful for this loving community. FCC truly embodies the truth that Christ taught! Thank you all for your kindness and love.

Ann, Ed, Ian, Ashley, Athena, and Lily (Ulibarri)

Outreach Ministry Team

Fundraiser Luau

Saturday, May 10th

Tickets go on sale Sunday, April 13

SAVE THE DATE

Mexico Mission Trip 2008

Mexico Mission 2008 is right around the corner!

This year's trip will be June 21 -28 and with this being the 30th anniversary of FCC Concord's Mexico Missions it is just that much more exciting.

Adult Application and Youth Registration Forms are available in the church office. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Peace,

Janet Hecker

925-708-9082

Counting Our Blessings

We have just celebrated Easter and all that this season of reflection and renewal brings. Let us also take time out to reflect on the many, many blessings we have received from God and on all the ways we, as a congregation, choose to give in return through the ministries of First Christian Church. Through the thoughtful and consistent giving by this congregation, we have completed the first quarter of 2008 with expenses exceeding income by only \$1,415. We had projected our deficit at this point in the year to be almost \$5,900. The fact that we have a lower deficit than anticipated is primarily due to our Ministry Teams being about \$3,800 under budget after the first three months of 2008. This was offset somewhat by pledge, givers of record, and loose offering income being about \$1,500 below expectations. Let us celebrate all of the wonderful work being done by our Ministry Teams and continue to give regularly and generously. It is your contributions that make any of this possible. Thanks be to God.
Finance Ministry Team

Congratulations to the New Regional Youth Council (RYC)

Recently the new RYC was announced and two members are from our church! Congratulations to **Matthew Landberg** and **Meg Sumner-Moore!** This is a great honor and responsibility.

We are also deeply proud of two FCC Concord members who have been serving on this council and are now graduating off: **Kate Landberg** and **Kelsey Gross.** We thank you for their leadership and service.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS!!!

Inner-Change at the Crossroads

Calendar of Upcoming Events

April 12- Environmental
Stewardship opportunity
(see below)

April 13- Inner-Change
Youth Group

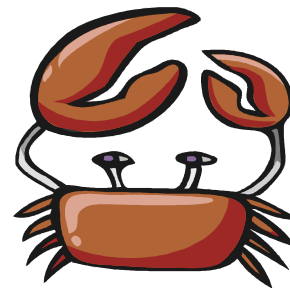
April 20- Inner-Change
Youth
Group



CRAB FEED UPDATE:

*The Crab Feed was a
HUGE SUCCESS!!!*

Thank you so much to all who fully
participated in this fundraiser for our
30th annual Mexico Mission Trip!!!



Dates To Remember:

Sat., April 12 - Environmental Stewardship with parksconservancy.org, 1PM at either Lands End Stewardship or Presidio Native Plant Nursery—For more information, contact

Kat Townes at alpineluz@gmail.com

Sat - Sun., May 10-11 - End-of-the-year Youth RETREAT and CAMPING TRIP on Mt. Diablo!!!



Summer Camp Dates!!!

Chi-Rho Camp-June 29-July 5

CYF Camp-July 6-12

Junior Camp-July 13-19



CROSSROADS

**AN INCLUSIVE, LOVING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND JUSTICE,
SEEKING, CELEBRATING AND SERVING CHRIST THROUGH OPEN
MINDS, COMMITTED HEARTS AND WILLING HANDS.**



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN CONCORD**

Staff:

Senior Minister:	Rev. Dr. Russell Peterman:	russ@concordfcc.net
Director of Youth Ministry:	Claire Richardson	claire@concordfcc.net
Office Manager:	Emrys Lloyd-Roberts:	emrys@concordfcc.net
Organist:	Robert Coslett	
Childcare Co-ordinator:	Antoinette Bulatao	
Custodian:	Daniel Blanton	
Website:	www.concordfcc.net	

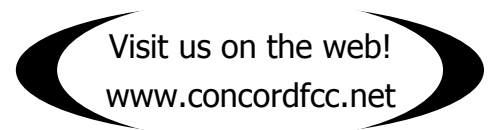
Contact Information:

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 8 am—4 pm.
 Phone: 925-685-7503 Fax: 925-685-0963
 Address: 3039 Willow Pass Rd., Concord CA 94519

CROSSROADS

Email submissions and subscriptions to: info@concordfcc.net

**Submission deadline for next issue: Monday, April 21, 2008
11:00 a.m.**



Weekly Calendar

Sunday, April 13, 2008

9:00 am — Worship / Sanctuary
 10:00 am—Sunday School for all ages
 11:00 am—Worship / Sanctuary
 6:00 pm—Memorial Service / Sanctuary
 6:00 pm—Youth Group / Youth Building
 6:00 pm—Church Bowling Group / Paddock Bowl

Monday, April 14

11:00 am—Diving Deeper Group / Church office
 2:00 pm—Staff Meeting / Senior Minister’s Office
 7:00 pm—Rachel Ruth Circle / Library

Wednesday, April 16

Mexico Mission Planning Meeting

Thursday, April 17

8:00 am—Spiritual Moment / Church Office
 7:00 pm—English classes / Discovery Room
 7:00 pm—Administrative Council and Finance Team
 Meeting / Library

Saturday, April 19

8:30 am—House and Grounds Team / Library

Sunday, April 20, 2008

9:00 am — Worship / Sanctuary
 10:00 am—Sunday School for all ages
 11:00 am—Worship / Sanctuary
 6:00 pm—Youth Group / Youth Building
 6:00 pm—Church Bowling League/ Paddock Bowl

Monday, April 21

12:00 noon—Diving Deeper Group

Tuesday, April 22

11:00 am—CCIC Luncheon / Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 23

6:30 pm—Cub Pack / Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 24

8:00 am—Spiritual Moment / Church Office
 7:00 pm—English Classes / Discovery Room

April 25—27

Regional Annual Meeting / Asilomar