

Communities of Joy!

Southern California Mission Center

September 2003

“SPECTACULAR” Just That and More!

Sixteen youth and three adults from the Los Angeles area joined the **Calizonia Delegation** of 73 at Graceland University for a SPECTACULAR week with 1200 people on campus to “Reach 4 Peace!” We had

attended “Reaching 4 Peace” classes every day, and enjoyed the morning celebration and evening devotions. There was a concert with Lighthouse, dancing, fireworks, Communion Service, a delegation “Chat with Grant”, pizza, Krispy Kreme donuts, daily time out with a prayer for peace, many new friends and testimonies, and MORE and MORE and MORE!

We are very grateful to all the “Generous Givers” that helped make this event possible for the youth.



four additional SCMC adults on SPEC staff this year and we all had a GREAT time!

There were 168 competitive teams fielded for softball, basketball, volleyball, and soccer. **Calizonia** had 13 teams and every team placed in 1st-3rd positions. Our soccer teams actually played against each other for 1st & 2nd place. In volleyball, **Calizonia** received the overall “Sportsmanship Award.” There were also many individual sports and winners—we had a gold medallist in wrestling who was just one example of our awesome campers.

Please plan to join us next year July 24-31 if you will have completed the 10th-12th grade. It is a life changing event!

Look for us in your congregation sometime soon for a “Youth Celebration” service that will include pictures and testimonies of this great week.

Submitted by Denise Leichter



Many of our youth participated in Quiz Bowl, drawing, and painting classes, the musical extravaganza “Footloose”, meditation, line dancing, and an assortment of leadership classes. The entire delegation



Three Joyful Baptisms at Anaheim

July 27, 2003, was a special day for three young women. Samantha Brents, Victoria Brents, and Claudia Prado of the Anaheim Congregation were baptized and confirmed during our Sunday morning service.

Victoria, 8, and her sister, Samantha, 11, have been attending our congregation since they were small children. Seeing them grow and develop as loving Christians has been a joy to everyone in the congregation. Tori and Sami's grandparents, Carlyn and Tracy Brogan, have attended the Anaheim Congregation for many years and have been the generation connectors for the girls to the Community of Christ.

Claudia has been part of Diane and Paul Shirota's lives since she was 15 years old. Her mother, Maria Prado Roberts, began attending the Anaheim Congregation in 1992 and brought Claudia with her. Maria was baptized two years later and in 1999 moved to Hawaii, where she and Claudia's stepfather, Tom Roberts, are active members of the Kona mission. Maria worried about living so far from Claudia but knew that her church family here would love her and help her in her college life. She attended Graceland University as a freshman and then another university through her junior year. After that Claudia returned to California and worked for three years.

In January 2003 she returned to Graceland to finish her senior year. She made the decision to be baptized after returning from Graceland in June. "Auntie Diane" Shirota and Claudia spent much of the summer studying the new church material on the ordinances of baptism and confirmation. After finishing the study Claudia traveled to Hawaii where she was baptized by Elder Kapua Roberts, with her parents and Hawaii church family in attendance. Returning to California she was confirmed by Elders Diane and Paul Shirota, with her Aunt Lorenza and Uncle Mike and cousin Iran and her little cousin Anisa present, as well as her Anaheim church family. Claudia has traveled many years from the first time she met our family. She has now returned to Graceland for her senior year where she will be the Sariah House President in Tess Morgan Hall. She takes with her a new understanding of Jesus Christ in her life.

Samantha, Victoria, and Claudia found Christ in different ways but they have each chosen to become followers of Christ in our Community of Christ.



Victoria Brents



Samantha Brents



Claudia Prado

Submitted by Diane Shirota

All Who Work with Children and Youth Must Register by Oct 1

Please remember that all Pastors, Assistant Pastors, and Nursery Helpers, Christian Education Teachers, and Youth Leaders MUST be registered with the Mission Center and World Church. Please contact Henrietta Kaleikau immediately to complete the process. We must show 100% compliance before 10-1-03. Thank you!

CALLING ALL KIDS!

If you are not getting direct mailings to your homes about upcoming youth events, camps, and retreats, please send your name, address, phone number, and birth date to Tonia Cooper, 6441 Meadow Crest Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647-5575. We don't want to miss seeing you at a special event!

Help Raise Youth Funds While Shopping

You can shop on-line for an assortment of "needs and wants" and have the youth benefit year round from your shopping. Plan ahead to shop through **WWW.SCRIPCENTER.ORG** and use our Password **CofCLA2003**. Our account is waiting to grow and help fund camps, retreats, and SPEC.

World Service Corps: Ministry without Boundaries!

Seeking volunteers from all cultures, ages 20 and over, who seek to grow and learn in cross-cultural settings. There are an assortment of short term, long term, and international programs. For more information contact:

www.CofChrist.org/worldservice
Email worldservice@CofChrist.org
Call 1-800-825-2806, ext. 2241

Upcoming Events

Sept 13 Temple School: Intro to Caring Ministries

Sept 20 Temple School: Intro to Understanding Scripture

Oct 4 Temple School: Aaronic Ministry of Presence

Oct 19 Pastor's Meeting at Temple City

Oct 20-22 Older Adult Fall Fiesta at Long Beach

Oct 25 Women's Retreat for a Day at Hemet

Oct 27-31 MEADS West at Orange

Nov 16 SoCal MC Conference at Temple City

Junior/Senior High Camp Enjoys Catalina Island, Anaheim Angels, Making New Friends



Fifty-two junior and senior high campers and staff enjoyed four days together, August 14-17, at the Center for Christian Ministries in Temple City. Catalina Island was beautiful and sunny for our trip on the catamaran, swimming, chatting, and worship. The Anaheim Angels came from behind for a win over the Detroit Tigers on our Saturday evening trip to Edison Field. We played games together, learned new skills, made new friends, and when it came to Sunday morning we found ourselves hushed and moved by the presence of the Holy Spirit. We can't wait to see each other again.

Submitted by Paul Davis

The Miracle of Baptism

By Trent Norwood

I was attending Sr. High camp at Blue Water Campgrounds in Port Huron, Michigan. I made some new friends and one of them was named Jeremy. Jeremy was talking about getting baptized and was asking a lot of questions about it. In the end he decided that he was going to get baptized during the week. The day was chosen and the service was planned, but a storm was heading for the campgrounds. The camp decided to rush down to the lake before the storm and start the service. Right when we got to the lake it started pouring rain. The wind was ripping across the lake and it was very cold. We watched Jeremy go out into the water. He was baptized, and just as he emerged from under the water the rain and the wind stopped. A rainbow appeared and Jeremy was in the middle of it. Three birds flew overhead and after that a second rainbow appeared. It was like something out of a book. Everyone was so amazed. Earlier that day we were talking about how Jesus had performed miracles. One of them was the calming of the storm. That's what happened there. And we all know that Jeremy made the right choice that day.

Be "Blessed by the Fisherman" at Fall Fiesta Oct 20-22

By Charlotte Jones, Co-chair Bridge Builders (Older Adult Ministries)

The Great Fisherman long ago sent out the call for everyone to become Fishers of Souls. This October 20-22 all Bridge Builders are invited to respond to that call at our 7th Annual Fall Fiesta, which will be held in the Long Beach Congregation, centrally located for all our activities.

Our theme will be "Blessed by the Fisherman," with Chaplain Judy Bever, of the California Christian Home in Rosemead, and our Mission Center President, Paul Davis, as our Guest Ministers. Along with our spiritual enrichment we will experience God's creations at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach.

Registration for Fall Fiesta is \$30.00. This includes a Monday night supper, a Tuesday lunch, the Aquarium of the Pacific tickets, and a Tuesday evening Luau.

Housing is not provided but we have negotiated special rates at the Vagabond Inn in Long Beach. Rates are \$69.44 per night including tax and a continental breakfast. To make your reservation phone the Vaga-

bond Inn and ask for Bridge Builder reservation rates. The number is 562-435-7621.

A Fall Fiesta Flyer is in the mail and should reach you sometime in September. If you do not receive one and want to attend, please email Gary Haas at glasbb@hotmail.com. On the subject line please put Bridge Builders or Fall Fiesta. You may reach him by mail at: Gary Haas, 435 East Palm #208, Burbank, CA 91501-2076. Checks for the Fiesta should be made to Community of Christ Fall Fiesta and sent to Gary Haas. See you in October!

September 13 CPR Class Canceled

The CPR class scheduled for September 13 at CCM in Temple City has been canceled. Contact Henrietta Kaleikau for information or to set up classes at your convenience. E-mail hdkaleikau@aol.com or 714-633-6595.

Women ...RETREAT for a Day!

Saturday, October 25
8:30 am to 5 pm
Hemet Congregation
\$25



Praise Worship
Classes & Sharing
Luncheon
Craft Boutique...Holiday Shopping
Fellowship with Friends



For more details, or to assist with the program, please contact Denise Leichter
at 818-996-4961 or deniseleichter@earthlink.net.
Each One, Reach One...Bring a Friend!

Registration for Women's Retreat for a Day Due Oct 13

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I want space to "show 'n' sell" for the Craft Boutique _____

Please mail your registration by Oct 13 to
Betty Ryan, 2013 Daffodil Way, Hemet, CA 92545-1668