



Faith Christian Assembly

October Newsletter

October 1, 2022

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The Shema *by Pastor Sheri Leming*

"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." Deuteronomy 6:4-5

I have been reading a book that has captured my attention titled *Why We Can't Pay Attention*. LOL. The author of the book talked about going to see the Mona Lisa in Paris, where to his horror people were jostling their way to the front only to immediately turn their backs on her and snap a selfie. Nobody looked at the Mona Lisa for

more than a few seconds.

You may not see it on the nightly news, but the inability to focus is a real crisis and an urgent one. The University of California, Irvine observed how long on average an adult working in an office stays on one task. It was three minutes! Our collective ability to pay attention is rapidly shrinking.

Be still, and know that I am God... Psalm 46:10, NKJV

Why am I talking about this? I believe we have an epidemic of too many stressed out people



unable to focus because they are pulled in so many directions...

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Lack of Living Water Hazard *by Gary Leming*

"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over." Psalm 23:5 NKJV

One of the devotionals I enjoy reading is called, *Go for the*

Green by Jeff Hopper. I'm sure it won't surprise anyone that it's about golf. I recently read a quote by Sam Torrance, victorious European Ryder Cup captain of 2002: "All I did was lead them to the water, and they drank copious amounts." This

begs the question from us as believers, "When was the last time you drank copious amounts of the Father's love?"

Jesus has given us living water.

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Seasons *by Earlene Leming*

"To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heavens," Ecclesiastes 3:1

When we apply this scripture personally, God will bring new meaning to our lives! He created us with abilities to develop and enjoy, and puts dreams in our hearts. We must always remember they are accomplished in God's time, NOT ours. He can rapidly mature events. We cannot quit believing for His dreams to be fulfilled. Trials, difficulties, sorrows are only for a time. They have their seasons, and then they pass. It is NOT

always winter. God puts bright and beautiful things into our lives and we do not need to be afraid of enjoying them. We often strain our eyes on a distant spot beyond us, and we miss flowers by the path. Every good gift is from the "Father of Lights". God is there. We find that Jesus is walking beside us. Disappointments often turn out to be "God's Appointments." He never forgets a Promise, but allows life to have its seasons. During LONG seasons, let us ask God: "What am I supposed to learn here? What do YOU have for me here?"

Isaiah 30:18b "blessed are all those that wait for Him."

Habakkuk 2:3 For the vision is yet for the appointed time; It hurries toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it delays, wait for it; For it will certainly come, it will not delay long.

PRAYER: "Lord, give me a childlike trust as I wait for Your plan to unfold in my life. I will trust You and obey what You show me to do. You know what is best. May I learn to rest in Your love and walk in Your peace. In Jesus name, AMEN

"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

The Shema *Continued from page 1*

...work, issues at home, emails, sickness, pressures and many other things in our world can leave us feeling unable to focus.

I don't know about you, but the moment even before my eyes open I'm thinking about my "to do" list. I think we all can take a clue from the ancient wisdom from Old Testament times. For

thousands of years, Jewish believers have spoken a prayer the moment they wake up that focuses their attention on God rather than on the things of the world.

The prayer is called the Shema, which is a Hebrew word that means "hear or listen." It comes from

Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

How do you think our attitude would change if the first thing we did when we woke up every morning (yes, even before coffee) was to commit ourselves to loving God and listening to His Word? I am confident we would experience the Shalom of God!

~ Pastor Sheri

Lack of Living Water Hazard *Continued from page 1*

If we choose not to enjoy this living water, we will continue on in spiritual thirst.

I heard today that for some people brain fog is one of the lingering effects of Covid. But we are also hearing about something far more devastating

- Spiritual Apathy. Many have yet to return to the House of God. Jesus invites each of us:

"And the Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water

of life freely." Revelation 22:17 NKJV

In golf, we think of water as a hazard. But this is the water that will save your soul!

~ Gary Leming



October Calendar

SUNDAYS

Service Times: 10:30am and 5:30pm

Pre-service prayer 5:00 pm

October 2 -10:30 am Com-munion service

October 23—5:30 pm Prison Ministry Spotlight Service

MONDAYS - Office Closed

TUESDAYS

Church Office/Library Hours
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Call for appointment



WEDNESDAYS

Bible Study 11:00 am

October 5 11:00 am Health Class

October 19 11:00 am Special
Guests Grace Intl S.E. Asia Min-
isters

THURSDAYS

October 20 -1:00 pm Men's
Ministry meeting and Touch of
Love Women's Ministry meeting

FRIDAYS

Church Office Hours 10:00 am
to 4:00 pm. Call for appoint-
ment

SATURDAYS

October 29 - 8:00 am Annual
FCA Men's Golf Tournament

OCTOBER 3-4

Grace International Regional
Leadership Conference,
Oceanside, CA

October Calendar Highlights

Welcome October! In California we don't necessarily experience the distinct season changes, but those of us who've been here for any length of time do recognize the difference! And this year especially, with fall upon us, are you too looking so forward to a break from the heat? Relax into the cooler weather with us, as this month is a great time to visit Faith Christian Assembly. Whether you're a regular, a visitor, or maybe just want to give us a try, check out these exciting October happen-

ings here at FCA (also noted in our calendar above.)

During our usual 11:00 am Wednesday morning Bible Study service time, there will be two separate special events taking place. First, on the 5th will be our next Health Class! FCA is always looking for ways to provide us with information as to how to live healthier and safer lives, and along those lines we look forward to this class taught by our own Susan Kelleghan, RN. Then two weeks later

on the 19th, also at 11:00 am, we will be hosting Kevin and Jennifer Stebbings, who serve Southeast Asia for Grace International. Can't wait to hear from them as well!

Coming on October 23 during our 5:30 pm evening service, we will once again have our Prison Ministry Spotlight Ser-

vice. This was a congregation favorite last year, and this year we are excited and expectant for more. Come join us on the 23rd to hear inspiring and miraculous testimonies from former inmates!

See our October calendar above for more!





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Faith Christian Assembly is a member of the Grace International Churches and Ministries, Inc., which was originally organized as the California Evangelistic Association in 1934. Beginning with one church, Colonial Tabernacle, located in Long Beach, CA the organization has since grown to include more than 4400 churches in the United States as well as in many nations of the world. It is now headquartered in Houston, TX, and overseen by an Executive Team and a Board of Directors, including as President Pastor Steve Riggle. Pastor Sheri Leming serves on the Grace International Missions Board and on the Grace SoCal District Committee.

From the Desk of Pastor Sheri Leming ~ October 1, 2022

I always get so excited when the fall season arrives! There's just something so cozy about October. And at Faith Christian Assembly we have many wonderful things going on that you won't want to miss. We are so grateful for God's grace that continues to be richly felt at our precious church and in our lives.

You will want to take special note of our calendar section, as we have several added events this month. Susan Kelleghan, who is a gifted RN will be teaching a health class Wednesday, October 5 at 11am, while Gary and I are attending the Grace International Regional Conference in Oceanside, October 3-4. We are also looking forward to having Kevin and Jennifer Stebbings with us on Wednesday, October 19 at 11am. They will be sharing their experiences of God's faithfulness through the Covid

challenges as they minister to Southeast Asia. This will be a blessed time to hear from them. We also are looking forward to a Prison Ministry Night lead by Earlene Leming on Sunday, October 23 in our 5:30pm service. Thank you for supporting these events with your prayers and your attendance.

Each Wednesday we have Bible Study at 11am in the Main Sanctuary. This year we have committed to journey through 12 Historic Doctrines of Scripture. In our current culture, it seems too often that we don't realize that Doctrine - what Christians believe, directly influences how we live. But what happens if we fail to connect the dots between what we say we believe and how we actually live? This is why it is vital to know what Scripture has to say about how we are to live, and then we put these truths of God's Word on display for

all the world to see. We invite you to join us for this important time together.

We look forward to gathering for Holy Communion this Sunday morning at 10:30am, and for Sunday pre-service Prayer at 5pm before our 5:30pm service. We ask each of you to join us as we pray for our nation, as well as the nations of the world.

Prayer at its holiest moment is the entering into God [where] miracles seem tame ... by comparison. A. W. Tozer

1 Peter 4:7, NKJV "But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers."

Can't Wait To See You Sunday,

Pastor Sheri (and Gary) Leming