

NOVEMBER 2008

fremonitor

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**CITYSERVE'S
THANKSGIVING
FAMILY SERVICE**



NOVEMBER 27

10:00AM

FCC PAVILION



This will be a warm and casual opportunity for you to share a one-hour Thanksgiving service with your FCC family as well as with brothers and sisters from City-Serve - Faith Communities United in Jesus. We extend an invitation to your entire family.



Rich and Joanne Hong

BE FULL OF GRATITUDE THIS THANKSGIVING

By Rich hong, Adults Pastor

Thanks•giv•ing n. a) the act of giving thanks b) an expression of this; esp. a formal, often public, expression of thanks to God in the form of a prayer, etc.

What do you think of when you hear the word “Thanksgiving?” For some, thoughts are of a great feast of turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie, cranberries, and all the other trimmings. For others, it’s a weekend feast of football, both NCAA and NFL. Others are filled with thoughts of time with family, either nearby or across the country. And for many, it’s the thought that Christmas is only a few weeks away.

Our Thanksgiving holiday has its roots in the very foundations of our nation. The Pilgrims gave thanksgiving for having survived their first year in the new world. President George Washington declared the first National Day of Thanksgiving in 1798. In 1863, in the midst of our nation’s greatest crisis, the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln established the first annually celebrated Day of Thanksgiving.

I thought I knew what Thanksgiving is all about. Hey, I was raised here in America. I’ve heard the stories about the Pilgrims and how they celebrated the fruits of that first harvest in 1621, supplanted with what the Native Americans brought to them. I know that as Christians, we have much to be thankful for and that it’s good to take the time to stop and reflect on what God has done. I know what this holiday is all about. And, yes, I do love the turkey and all the trimmings, and I love all the football, and I love being with family. And, yes, Christmas is only a few weeks away.

But I was at a Thanksgiving celebration recently that just took my breath away. I walked into a time of worship in a small church building in the village of Roşia, Romania. It was an afternoon session and many believers had come from other village churches to help in the celebration. As I entered the worship center, I saw many, many bushels full of apples, grapes, and loaves and loaves of bread.

This is not a national holiday celebration. It is not even an observance in all of the churches. One church decided that it was going to have a special celebration of thanksgiving and invited others to come and join it as they thanked God for all His goodness to them.

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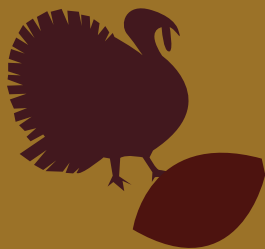
Fremont Community Church

Home of Christian Community Schools
39700 Mission Boulevard, Fremont, CA 94539
510.657.0123 www.gofcc.org

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

STUDENT MINISTRIES

ANNUAL TURKEY BOWL



**NOV. 28 // FRIDAY
10AM-1PM**

MEET ON THE SOCCER FIELD

Get in shape NOW for our annual Turkey Bowl. It's a friendly game of contact flag football for Jr. High, High School and College-age students, but everyone in FCC is invited to join in! Meet on the soccer field at 10am to play and enjoy some pie with us! For more info, contact Emilie at 657.0123 ext. 146

WATER BAPTISM // NOV. 30

interested?

**contact Jan at 657.0123, ext. 143
or [jhiller@gofcc.org](mailto:jhillier@gofcc.org)**

To Help You Plan Ahead

NOV 02	Daylight Saving Time
NOV 08	Guys' Day Out
NOV 10	CCS K-8 Veterans Chapel
NOV 11	Veterans Day Holiday
NOV 22-29	Romania Mission Trip
NOV 27	Thanksgiving Family Service
NOV 28	Student Ministries Turkey Bowl
NOV 30	Water Baptism

FAMILY NIGHT AT FCC // EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT!



MEN'S FRIDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

7PM // ROOM 21

Ed Santos is leading a fun, lively, and edifying discussion/presentation about Christianity and Apologetics. For more info, contact Jan Hillier at 657.0123, ext. 143 or [jhiller@gofcc.org](mailto:jhillier@gofcc.org).



LAUGH YOUR WAY TO A BETTER MARRIAGE

7PM // ROOM 5

Pastor Henry & his wife, Arleen, lead this delightful marriage class using a DVD series by Mark Gungor. For more info, contact Jan Hillier at 657.0123, ext. 143 or [jhiller@gofcc.org](mailto:jhillier@gofcc.org).



KIDS 4 CHRIST

7-8:30PM // ROOMS 11/12

All kids from 1st-6th grades are welcome! For more info, please contact Jeff Urso at 657.0123 ext. 113 or jurso@gofcc.org.



MEN'S BASKETBALL

7PM // PAVILION

Join us for a game of basketball and competition!



DEVOTED BODIES

7PM // ROOM 18

Learn how to look better, feel better, have more energy, practice better stewardship as well as overcome disease and/or weight loss. For more info, contact Jan Hillier at 657.0123, ext. 143 or [jhiller@gofcc.org](mailto:jhillier@gofcc.org).

GUYS' DAY OUT

Sonship: live the theology
you believe

**NOVEMBER 8
9AM-6PM**

Many of us understand the faith intellectually, but our hearts have not quite kept up with our heads. Learn how to have overcoming faith- the glorious thrological truths of the gospel- truths that you may know in your head- and apply them to the nitty gritty reality of daily life. For more info or to apply, contact Jan Hillier at 657.0123, ext. 143 or [jhiller@gofcc.org](mailto:jhillier@gofcc.org).

NOVEMBER 2008 CALENDAR

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

01

Daylight Saving Time Ends

02

03

04

05

06

07

Guys' Day Out 9am

08

09

CCS Veterans Day Chapel 10:30am

10

Veterans Day School & offices closed

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Elders Meeting 1pm Elders Prayer Support 2:30pm

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26

CityServe's Thanksgiving Service 10am

27

Student Ministries Turkey Bowl 10am

28

29

Romania Mission Trip (11/22-29)

Church & School offices closed

Water Baptism 10:45am

30

1st Sunday of Advent

sunday schedule

- 09.00 am Celebration Worship (contemporary)
- 10.45 am Sunday School/Adult Small Groups
- 11.00 am Analog Worship (informal)

monday schedule

- 06.00 pm Focus Men's Dicipleship

tuesday schedule

- 07.00 pm Celebration Choir Rehearsal
- 07.00 pm College Group
- 07.30 pm Celebration Band Rehearsal

wednesday schedule

- 05.00 pm Jr. High (7-8 grade) Leadership
- 06.30 pm Jr. High (7-8 grade)
- 07.30 pm Family Bible Study
- 07.00 pm Alive! (Young Marrieds & Singles)

thursday schedule

- 07.00 pm Women's Bible Study (1 & 3rd week)
- 07.00 pm Tech Training (2nd, 3rd & 4th week)
- 07.00 pm High School (9-12 grade)

friday schedule

- 07.00 pm Alive! (Young Marrieds & Singles)

Family Night:

- 07.00 pm Men's Basketball
- 07.00 pm Men's Bible Study
- 07.00 pm Laugh Your Way To a Better Marriage
- 07.00 pm Kids 4 Christ
- 07.00 pm Devoted Bodies

saturday schedule

- 09.00 am Saturday Morning Prayer (1,3,4 Sat. at FCC & 2nd Sat. at Family Resource Center)
- 06.00 pm Family Night at Home/Prep for Sunday

throughout the week:

CITY REACHING CELLS

City-Reaching Cells meet throughout the week. Pick up a Women's Network, Men's Network or Adult Small Groups flyer in the Atrium Literature Rack for the contact person of a CRC that fits your schedule!



Veterans Day Chapel Nov. 10 at 10:30am

Christian Community Schools will have a special chapel on Monday, Nov. 10 at 10:30am to honor our veteran friends and families. We invite you to attend! For details, contact Tina Sevilla at 651.KIDS, ext. 151 or tsevilla@gofcc.org.

Employment Opportunities

We have several job openings at FCC, including some at Christian Community Schools. Among those positions is an immediate need for a **full-time Graphics/Publications Artist, part-time substitute Receptionist** and **part-time substitute Preschool-8th Teacher**. If you're interested in applying or if you have any questions, please contact Helen Wong at 657.0123 ext. 112 or hwong@gofcc.org.

Arise

Are you up early on Sundays? Join Arise! We're a new FCC adult small group that meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 8am in the Family Room with A View! Arise prays for our worship services and ministry programs happening on Sunday mornings while also fellowshiping with each other over coffee and breakfast. There's a special joy in arriving early to our Father's House for fellowship with purpose! Call Jerry Borden for details at 510.794.4434 (or just Arise and attend!).

FCC Exchange

This bulletin board service is for the FCC family. Located in the hallways near the office reception desk, it's available to list various things including job opportunities, housing needs, and local events. Items posted must be approved by the church receptionist. To post an item, complete an item submission form, available at the board.

Daylight Saving Time Ends on Nov. 2

Daylight saving time ends **Sunday, November 2**. Don't forget to set your clock back one hour before going to bed on Saturday, Nov. 1.

Lost & Found

Check the Lost & Found cabinets located at the end of Pavilion Place for any items you may be missing from church service or Sunday School. Items are collected the first week of every month for resale through the school uniform swap. Items with name identification are returned when identified at the swap.

Upper Room Prayer

If you have passion for prayer, then perhaps you will consider participating in Upper Room Prayer (URP). URP is an opportunity to pray for our church during one of our worship services once every five or six weeks. It is a volunteer ministry designed to help FCC as a "House of Prayer for All Nations." If you love to pray and have a passion to experience God's presence, please contact Jan Hiller at 657.0123 ext. 143 or jhiller@gofcc.org.

Cityserve Compassion Network: Volunteer Opportunities

Cityserve Compassion Network needs your help. We need volunteers for: Helpers for disabled seniors; Extreme home make-over project volunteers, Donations of household utilities, data entry volunteers, kitchen items donation. If you are interested in volunteering or helping with one of these requests, please contact Elisabeth Huffmaster at huffmaster@gmail.com or 510.565.0057.



Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child can help make this holiday special for your family. Fill a shoe box with gifts and toys for a child whose life has been torn apart by war, poverty or disease. For more details contact Tina at 651.KIDS ext. 151 or tsevilla@gofcc.org.

Alive!

Alive is a place where single professionals and young married couples can find an environment to grow in faith in Jesus Christ. We're just starting on a new series on the Apostle Peter & Paul. For more info, visit www.fccalive.org or contact Steve Lopez at slopez@gofcc.org or 657.0123, ext. 152.

FAMILY NEWS

Welcome Our New Members:

- + Bette Caulkins
- + Fily Yu-Wong
- + Joy Medina
- + Natalie Kao

Women's Christmas Bake Exchange

Join along in the fun! Come sample some goodies and get some great holiday recipes. The party starts Dec. 6 at 11am. Tickets will be on sale beginning Nov. 23. For more info, contact Cezanne Ma at 510.742.1418 or teachercez@comcast.net.

Help Us Decorate!

Do you like to decorate? Do you love the Christmas Season? We need a team of people to help us decorate our building with Christmas decorations. If you're willing to help transform our Pavilion & Atrium into a winter wonderland, please contact Janell Watts at 657.0123 ext. 502 or jwtatts@gofcc.org.

Homeless Donations

We are currently collecting donations for the homeless living in the Fremont TriCities Area and San Francisco. If you would like to donate, the blue donation box is located near the Atrium Welcome Center. There is a list located at the box regarding what is needed. For more information, contact Kim Hensley at 657.0123, ext. 115 or khensley@gofcc.org.

COFFEEHOUSE GOSPEL

By Thomas Stevenson, Director of jr. high and high school student minist-

This summer student ministries took its annual trip to a little place called Hume Lake. Now just the mention of the name would cause cheer and shrieks from large groups of jr. high and high school students (us leaders too). This year Hume Lake seemed to have a different kind of vibe. The theme was rise of the kinematics. We were talking about just going through our "Christian" motions. Going to church, reading the bible, being a corporate pray-er, without regarding why we are called to do these things. We were also challenged with sharing our faith. I remember when I was in high school and that idea of sharing your faith meant you take your friends to some camp and the person in the front has everyone close there eyes and "with eyes closed and no judgment around you, please raise your hand if you want to pray the prayer of salvation." And after about 10 minutes of waiting for hands to go up, friends would cry and pray, and most relationships with Jesus would be left on that mountaintop. Today's youth are connected to one another now more than ever before. Texting, instant messaging, MySpace and facebook have made (for some students) sleep the only time students are not with their friends. To parents this seems like a very scary concept. The Student ministries leadership and high school group have been going through a book called "The Coffeehouse Gospel" by Matthew Turner. The book is about sharing your faith in day-to-day situations, and in random conversations. It has re-defined the idea of what it means to share your faith and not live in the "Christianity" motions. It has helped us show the high school group how to use the ways they stay connected to share their faith and use it to honor God. How to bring God into all that they do; Facebook, texting, church, and yes even the coffeehouse.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:

"IT'S A WONDER-FULL LIFE"

**THURSDAY, DEC. 11 &
FRIDAY, DEC. 12
7:15PM // FCC PAVILION**



This enlightening children's musical reaches directly to the heart of this matter, and from the voices of children comes the ultimate truth - a Christmas without Jesus is like giving a present with no gift inside. Join the students of CCS as they share the real story of Christmas! For details, please contact

Janell at 657.0123, ext. 502 or jwatts@gofcc.org.

BE FULL OF GRATITUDE THIS THANKSGIVING (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

All who came, came with specific sacrifices to give to God for all that they have. Some churches came with special music and songs to offer up in worship to God. Others came with their gifts of food to share with each other as an expression of what God had given them. We laughed, sang, worshipped, prayed, and then, when it was all over, everyone shared in the bounty that had been brought to share with each other. I was awestruck with the genuineness of the outpouring of gratitude because I know that for many, there is never enough. Yet, they were joyous of what they saw as God's goodness and they generously shared what little they had with their fellow brothers and sisters.

As Pastor Kevin and I traveled through Romania and Spain these past few weeks, I saw that there is a rich gratefulness among God's people for what they have. Their lives are not easy. For many, it is very, very hard. Some have had very hard lives, especially the seniors at the home in Slimnic. Yet all continually expressed gratitude and thanks to God. There is hardly ever a complaint as they know that God has been faithful in the past, is faithful today, and will be faithful tomorrow.

As I look at how I've celebrated Thanksgiving, I have to admit that sometimes I'm not as grateful as I should be. Everything that I am, everything that I have, has come from God. I know that this Thanksgiving I will have a tremendous new understanding of Paul's words to the Thessalonians: "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16).

STARLIGHT CAROLS

a seasonal Christmas celebration

FRIDAY, DEC. 19 & SATURDAY, DEC. 20 // 7PM

SUNDAY, DEC. 21 // 9 & 11AM



Celebrate Christmas at FCC with a musical narrative telling of the Christmas story. The story of Christmas will be told with both spoken word and song. Although we present a story many have heard before, we seek to tell it in a way that engages people on a new level.

Plan to bring your family and friends for a program that will enhance their Christmas season. For more details about Starlight Carols, please contact Janell at jwatts@gofcc.org or 657.0123 ext. 502.