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Issue #9 OCT 2021

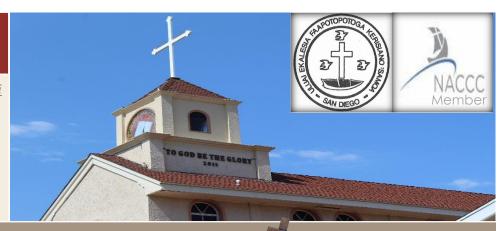
Member Spotlight: Elder Deacon Liva Solomuli

FSCCCSD Little Lambs- big hearts.

Samoan Corner- Rev. George Pratt of LMS

In His Service...come join the action!

The Prompting Of My Heart...



FSCCCSD CONNEC

FIRST SAMOAN CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

SAN DIEGO

"Malamalama o Samoa" (Est: 1955)

1345 S. 45th St, San Diego, Ca. 92113 • 619-262-5068 | fsccsd@gmail.com • www.fscccsd.com

A word from our Minister...

Tatou te na ona maofa i le matagofie ma le suamalie o le alofa ma le agalelei, le fa'atuaoia o lo tatou Atua Paia, i lea aso ma lea aso o lo outou soifua ma lo matou nei ola. Lagi ia Lona Vi'iiga e le aunoa i aso uma, i le maleifua ma le mālolo ane i taeao ma afiafi o Lana Fanau.

Fa'afetai i Le Atua mo Lana Ta'ita'iga malu i la tatou folauga, i lenā masina o Setema ua mou malie atu. Mālō le tauata'i, mālō le fa'amalosi ma le finau, i galuega mae'a, ae maise lava le fa'amoemoe o le Ekalesia, pei ona tatou fa'aataunu'uina i le Masina o Setema, auā se tamaoaiga e fa'amuta ai le totogiina o Solar Panels. Ia fa'afo'i i Le Atua le Vi'iga, le Fa'ane'ene'ega ma le Mana e tatau. Ia fa'amanuia Le Ali'i i aiga o le tatou nu'u lotu, ia outou maua pea le sosia o fa'amanuiaga mai le Alofa Tunoa o Le Atua, le Filemu o Iesu Keriso, ma le Ta'ita'iga Malu o le Agaga Paia, i lo outou ulufafo ma lo outou ulufale.

Fa'afetai mo Talosaga, ma lo outou agalelei!

For our Samoan Congregations, the Month of October is very much focused on the Children of the Church. The Second Sunday of the Month – this year: 10 October 2021 – is the aptly named: Lotu Tamaiti / Aso Sa Pa'epa'e or Children's Sunday / White Sunday. Our Children and Youth attired in their resplendent white outfits with matching accessories, full of excitement and a tinge of

O Le Tapuaiga i Le Atua/ Worshipping God

- 10/3/21 at 10:00am –Communion Sunday/Worship
- 10/10/21 at 9:30am Children's Sunday
- 10/17/21 at 10:00am Worship
- 10/24/21 at 10:00am Worship
- 10/31/21 at 9:45am Pre-Worship/ 10:00am Worship

Live Streamed on our Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/MalamalamaoSa

Nervousness perhaps, as they get ready to Worship their hearts out, sharing Songs and Actions Songs, Sunday School Class Presentations, and Individual Family Recitations and Songs. Sunday School Class Presentations, and Individual Family Recitations and Songs. It's a time of Joy and Wonder, as our Children bring forth the Good News on this most special day for them. We appreciate and love our Children in the Church and Praise God for them!

October also continues the Change of Seasons from Summer to Fall.

The Temperatures begin to get cooler. Days get shorter. The air is crisper in the morning. It begins to rain more. (Lightning and Thunder too apparently) The Leaves on the Trees change colour and Falling Leaves are everywhere.

Fallen leaves are an essential part of a forest's ecosystem. The "leaf litter" shields the soil from hard rains, holding in moisture and preventing erosion. It also protects tree seeds that will germinate next spring, and nutrients that leach from the dead leaves nourish the seedlings. That's our Science Lesson for today.

This is our Faith Lesson for today. Just as God's Creative Power changes the Seasons, and the Autumn Leaves fall to allow new growth and new life, so it is with our Lives. God's Spirit looks to bring New Growth and New Life to us, but that can only happen if we let those "Falling Leaves" fall. There are things that we need to let of go of – "Leaves that Need to Fall"- things that prevent us from experiencing New and Fresh Blessings from God. If we don't let go and Let God, those Leaves that need to fall in our lives will never fall, and we will never change. There will never be a Season of Jesus Christ Change in our Heart, Mind, Spirit and Soul, and all that will remain are dead, withered leaves that will never grow. What are the "Leaves that need to Fall" from our Lives? Lord, let Your Will be done in my life!! May the Lord who controls All Seasons and all Times, Bless you and your Family Abundantly, this Fall Season! We Love You All With The Love of The Lord! Soifua ma ia Manuia!

— Rev. Fa' afouina ** Manuia**

— Rev. Ta' afouina ** Manuia**

"Ua fa'asātauroina fa'atasi i maua ma Keriso; a e 'ou te le toe ola a'u, a o Keriso o lo'o ola i totonu ia te a'u; o le ola fo'i 'ou te ola ai nei i le tino, 'ou te ola ai lava i le fa'atuatua i le Alo o le Atua, o Lē na alofa mai ia te a'u, ma foa'iina mai o la e la e fai mo'u sui – I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave himself for me."

"O outou foi o le fanau a Siona e, ia outou fiafia ma olioli ia leova lo outou Atua; auā ua la foa'iina fa'atatau mai ia te outou le uaga muamua, Na te faatotōina ifo foi le ua mo outou, o le uaga muamua, atoa ma le uaga mulimuli i le masina muamua...Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the Lord your God, for He has given you the autumn rains because He is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before."

(loelu / Joel 2:23)

Pastoral Matters

CONFIRMATION

*Sunday, 5 September 2021 - Irene Falo, Tierra



On Aso Sa Tala Lelei / Gospel Sunday, having completed the necessary requirements through Confirmation Class, Irene Falo and Tierra Falo were Confirmed as Communicant Members of the F.S.C.C.C. San Diego.

This was a most Joyful occasion, as Irene and Tierra were able to express their Faith and gain a greater understanding of the significance of this Sacrament.

Congratulations Irene and Tierra! May the Lord Bless you in your ongoing Journey of Faith and Service to the King!!

SYMPATHIES AND CONDOLENCES:

* 20 September 2021 - Daniel Luaao Maeva



It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of **Daniel Luaao Maeva.** Daniel grew up in the Church, and was a caring and positive young man much loved by his Family, his many, many friends, and his Church Family. Daniel's Viewing and Celebration of Life Service was held in our Sanctuary, on **Friday, 1 October 2021,** after which he was laid to rest at Greenwood Memorial Park. Let us continue to uphold **Deacon Luaao Maeva and the Family** in our Prayers at this time. Daniel, la Manuia Lau Malaga! Rest in The Eternal Love and Peace of Jesus Christ!



The Second Confirmation Class for our Congregation will be offered in <u>November</u> of this year, with a view to Confirmation on

Communion Sunday, 5 December 2021

(1)Youth: Ages 13 – 19 (2)Adults: Ages 20 and Older.

If you are interested in taking part in these Classes, please contact me by email: fvsolo1@cox.net

-Fa'afouina.





WE PRAY FOR:

*The Needs of our Nation and World...

*That this Season of Fall will bring Godly change in our Lives and whatever God intends changed in our lives will be done!

* Continued Prayers for Healing, Hope and Help in this time of Pandemic. Let God's Spirit keep us true in our Faith and diligent in our Actions, as we care - not only for ourselves - but also our neighbors.

*Our Mission Focus for this: The Mission School of Hope in Cameroon under the guidance of Rev. Charles Sagay.

Our Congregation:

*Every Household and our Membership:

*Our Elders, our Families, and especially our Youth and Children as they prepare for Lotu Tamaiti / White Sunday: 10 October 2021...

*Those who are facing Health Challenges:
Lagituaiva, Matavai, Tiana, Liva, Rosemarie,
Matua, Fagalima, Mase, Brenda, Carol,
Vitolio, Julia, Elaine, Tracy, Taotafa, Nora,
Loretta, Jade......Merapi, Manusamoa,
Leiloa, Taotafa, Afoafouvale, Etenauga,
Grace, Karite,

*Those who are Grieving the Passing of Loved Ones....

*Those who are Traveling this Month...

*Those who are struggling in life with Work, Family, Faith, Personal Issues and Relationships....

*The Work of our Church this Month of October...

Our Church Leadership and Branches and all our efforts in 2021

Click <u>here</u> to submit a Prayer Request on our website. Your prayer requests will be received by Rev. Solomona

Around Town at FSCCCSD...



SAMOAN CORNER:

Rev. George Pratt from the London Missionary Society was a Missionary in Samoa for approximately 40 years.

The following Muagagana ma Alagaupu (Samoan Proverbial Sayings) are from Rev. Pratt's vast collection of folk songs, genealogical and traditional tales which are found in

Pratt's Dictionary of the Samoan Language (4th Edition)

LET'S SPEAK SAMOAN: *SAMOAN PROVERBS*

"E toa le loto a e pa le no'o" *The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak / strong in heart, but broken in the back.*

"E tino fa'atasi, a e tulialo ese'ese" *One people, but many differing opinions*

"Ua vilivili fa'amanu o matagi" *Persevere still - like a bird against the wind*

"O le popole e tupu ai le masiasi"

*It is the dread that causes the shame. Put a bold front on/Never venture, never





Member Spotlight Elder Deacon Liva Solomuli

This issue's Member Spotlight is on our very own Elder Deacon Liva Solomuli. Liva was born on September 29, 1946 in the village of Ta'u, Manu'a. Liva grew up and attended school in Ta'u until he completed middle school then he moved to Tutuila to attend the High School of American Samoa. Life would then take Liva to San Francisco where he settled in with family. In 1968, at the age of 22, Liva enlisted in the U.S. Navy.

Early in Liva's Navy career, he was stationed in San Diego and at the time became a member and a deacon of our Church, FSCCCSD, during Rev. Suitonu's ministry. Liva received orders to be stationed at Long Beach Naval Base and left a bookmark in San Diego, as we all know where Liva would end up. Liva fell in love with the woman of his dreams and married Elsie Maloata in 1977. Like most of our parent's generation, Elsie held down the fort at home with their beautiful children while Liva was deployed overseas. Liva served on 8 different US Navy ships which took him on a naval career around the world. His most memorable tour was in Israel during the war as well as a tour in Beruit. One of Liva's finest moments in the Navy was when he advanced from being an enlisted active duty member of the U.S. Navy to becoming a Warrant Officer. As Liva fondly recollects his career, he remembers the best part of being a Warrant Officer was standing watch on the bridge as OOD (Officer Of the Deck) Underway. Liva retired from the U.S. Navy in 1996 after 28 years of service, we thank you for your service sir. Liva's retirement would bring him back to San Diego where he resides with his family and serves as the Elder Deacon of our Church. The highlight of Liva's life is spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. You can hear the love in his voice as he speaks of his grandchildren. Asked if he has any hobbies and Liva laughs and says the casino³. That may be so but being involved with the Church is Liva's passion. He likes to see the young kids step up and do the work of the Church. Liva's golden advice to his Church family is to be strong in the Lord for the Church and do what you're supposed to do to keep the Church strong for generations to come...and that actions speak louder than words.

FSCCCSD Little Lambs

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." 3 John 1:4

What does White Sunday mean to you?

- •What it means to me is showing how much we love God. -Ethan Solaita, 12 years old
- White Sunday to me would be when I get together for a day with my brothers and sisters to celebrate and Worship Christ.
- -Lyric Niumata, 13 years old
- White Sunday is a chance to show what the Sunday School is learning and what we are made of!! -Alofasau Porter, 16 years old



God's Blessings and Happy Birthday to our Church Family Celebrating Birthdays in September:

5th: Charles Solaita

5th: Perelini Koria

5th: Ryan Salave'a

6th: Jaalyn Sotoa-Steubing

7th: Ionatana Eli

7th: Sila'ila'i Gabriel

10th: Kelly Auimatagi

10th: Ofisa Pinones 11th: Jordan Meaole

15th: Shaun Serag

18th: Andrea Brown

30th: Rapi Sotoa

Email your birthday to fscccsd@gmail.com to include in future Connect issues..

In His Service...

Au $ar{a}$ o lana lava galuega i tatou, na faia i tatou ia Keriso Iesu, in ia faia galuega lelei, na saunia anamua e le Atua, ina ia tatou savavali ai. Efeso $2:\!10$

OCTOBER 2021 Sanctuary Cleaning Schedule



10/3: Matavai Maeva 10/10: Sunday School 10/17: Matthew Porter 10/24: Lagituaiva Ugaitafa 10/31: Victor Pinones

Note: Please make arrangements if you need to swap weekends with a fellow church mate and then notify the Secretary. The complete cleaning schedule for 2021 can be found on the bulletin board in the Church foyer.

Looking Ahead At November:

11/7: Sila'ila'i Gabriel 11/14: Luaao Maeva 11/21: Tracy Sagale 11/28: Perelini Koria



Choir Practices Come join us and offer your voice and talents to the Lord Chancel Choir Pese: Sat at 10am Youth Choir Pese: Thurs at 6:30pm

PSALM 149:1

Away For A Moment:

Rev. & Mrs Solomona will be away from the Church on the following dates:

Wednesday, 13 October – Thursday, 28

October 2021.

Church Moderator Ionatana Eli will be responsible for the Pastoral Leadership and Ministry of the Church, with the support of the Church Officers and the Elder Deacon, during Rev. Solomona's absence.

Please contact Moderator Eli or any of the

Please contact Moderator Eli or any of the Officers if you have any Pastoral Needs / Questions during this time.

CHURCH BINGO IS PERMANENTLY CLOSED...

...as passed by the Congregation in the monthly Church meeting on 7/11/21. Click <u>here</u> to read the full memo.

Sunday School Upcoming Events...



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY"

"OUTDOOR EVENING TO CHILL WITH GREAT COMPANY"

Sunday, October 10th 5:00pm Come join the Sunday School in an outdoor **Movie Night** right here on the Fanua, as we celebrate our Children and another Lotu Tamaiti / White Sunday Worship completed!!

"HARVEST FESTIVAL / BAZAAR / FUN & GAMES"

Saturday, October 30th
1:00pm to 5:00pm (Church Grounds)
Heaps of fun booths for the children, even adults.
Dress up the kids in their favorite Bible Character / Super Hero / Character.
Prizes for Best Costume.
We welcome the help of Parents to set up or host a

booth.

OCTOBER SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSIONS:

10/10/21 White Sunday • 10/17/21 No Sunday School • 10/24/21 & 10/31/21 Class at 8:30am

"NIGHT OF CAROLS" Saturday, December18th at 4pm



The Sunday School will be going around the homes of our Church family to sing Carols this year. If you are interested in taking part, please let us know or ask us how you can help.

~Superintendent Tuitogama'atoe Solomona.

CHURCH PROJECTS LIST

Below is our running list of Church projects. Thank you to those who have funded some of the projects, your gift is received with a grateful heart. For more information on the projects please contact Tulia Tafao, Vice Mod and Chairman of the Grounds Committee, at fsccsd@gmail.com

Project	Estimated Cost	Funded?	Date Project Completed	
Fence Repairs	\$400	Funding received, thank you!		
Church Carpet Cleaning	\$400	Funding received, thank you!	6/18/2021	
Security Gate	\$10,000	Funding received, thank you!	7/3/2021	
Hall Kitchen Oven	\$8,000 (estimate)			
16 Security Cameras	\$8,000			
Property Perimeter Fence	\$90,000 (estimate)			
8 Church Stained Glass Window Repair	\$6,000 each	Funding recieved for 1 window, thank you!		
Solar	Balance of \$62,000	Church Fundraiser/ additional \$1500 donation received, thank you!		

Winners Circle - 9/4/2021

Our big Church Annual Fundraiser is complete and we are forever grateful for your support. We pray God's blessings be upon you, always. Congratulations to all the winners!

Place	Prize	Sheet #	Square #	Sheet Owner	WINNER
1 ST	\$5000	N33	N45	Eseta	J. SOTOA (Joe)
2 nd	\$3000	067	B7	Matavai	TESSA PAUGA
3rd	\$2000	G50	G48	Kiki	KAYLA T.
4 th	\$1000	066	B6	J. Perry I	MALIA PERRY
5 th	\$1000	064	В3	Lokeni	MARK LEI SU'ESU'E
б ^{тн}	\$500	063	126	Alice	TOM KINGSLEY
7 TH	\$500	N32	N31	Evelyn	TIMENA
8 th	\$500	B5	B1	M/Tamā	LU BROWN SUGAR
9 th	\$500	N34	B4	Brenda	TUITAMAGA VAEONO
10 th	\$1000	N33	В7	Eseta	EVELINI

Support and Resources

Kingdom Work

At the end of every month, we donate the plate offering from collected from the month to a Mission. God bless your giving for missions local and around the world.

Mission Giving:

August 2021 – Mission School of Hope in Cameroon \$1150.00 gifted.

September 2021 – Seafarer's Friend \$877.00 gifted.

October 2021 – Happy Life Children's Home (will announce in November's issue)

Click <u>here</u> to visit the Missions page on our website.







Our Church Membership and their Businesses.

Some of our Church Family have their own Businesses/Services that are available to help our Congregation if the need arises...

(email <u>fscccsd@gmail.com</u> to include your Business/Service information in future Connect issues)



NF MOBILE NOTARY

Nichoelle Fiamalua.
California Notary Public.
NotaryFanatic@gmail.com
Cell (404) 319-5599
By appointment only
please





THE PROMPTING OF MY HEART

I am a saved sinner and I live in a protected bubble. In the comfort of my bubble I learn that I'm equipped with an arsenal of tools from God to do His work. But I can't help but feel it may be much more effective when used outside the safety of my bubble. I was getting restless. I yearned to do something but not quite sure what. Then it hit me, all the signs were there ...the prompting in my heart, the deep dive in Bible studies, the messages received on Sundays, the devotions...I wanted to give back to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ because He saved me. I yearned to tell people about my Savior.

I praise God for the opprotunity to be exposed to His Word, Will, and instructions. There are so many encouraging lessons and to name a few: Be great for the Lord, today; Be open to the Will of God; We are created for Good works; The outcome belongs to God but we are responsible for the service; Sow the Gospel of Jesus Christ in others; What you seek you will find.

I often think about the LMS missionaries who brought the Good News to our islands and wonder how life would be for our people today had they not. I think about our ancestors who took on the calling to spread the Good News. How brave they all were! I am so inspired by them! The prompting in my heart is to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And so I prayed, brainstormed, planned and prepared. I ordered 50 Daily Bread little devotional books to hand out as a resource and waited for the books to arrive. As I waited, I prayed that the fire and longing in my heart wouldn't fade. I have a bad habit of starting something and not finishing it. If it weren't for the studies, messages and devotions that fed my soul, I might've abondoned the "plan".

The books arrived and it was a crazy battle within to not stay in my safe bubble and watch Netflix. The week before, I learned in study that "grieving the Holy Spirit", which means to neglect the prompting of the Holy Spirit, is unforgivable. That was all I needed to stop procrastinating and start working.

After church on the appointed day, I got my lunch, put it in the fridge for after work, armed myself with my booklets and a prayer and headed to 45 park next door. I was a bit unsure on how to approach the people or what to say, but God in His all-knowing way gave me exactly what I needed. I walked the park and was able to talk to 9 different groups and individuals. I asked them if they knew Jesus. Most of them did and I reminded them that Hope can only be found in Jesus Christ. Some of the folks couldn't speak English so I had their kids translate for us. I learned the Spanish word for Hope is Esperanza, how beautiful is that? The more I talked with people, the more courageous I became. One guy was gracious enough to listen to me for over 2 minutes as I fought back tears talking about my Savior. Some were receptive, some looked at me with kind eyes and some looked at me like I was crazy. As I walked back to the church I felt humbled, grateful and rejuvinated. My prayer is that this is only the beginning. My brothers and sisters in Christ, let's be a part of the Great Commission. Sincerely,

A Saved Sinner

F.S.C.C.S.D. - "MALAMALAMA O SAMOA"

www.fscccsd.com • fscccsd@gmail.com

OKETOPA / OCTOBER 2021

3 4 8.30am: *Sunday School* 10.00am: Fa'amanatuga / Communion. 3.00pm: Lotu Tamaiti / White Sunday Practice. 10 9.30am: LOTU TAMAITI TAMAITI CHILDREN'S SUNDAY.	GAFUA / ASO LU day Tuesday		ASO TOFI / Thursday	ASO FARAILE Friday	ASO TO'ANA'I
3 4 8.30am: *Sunday School* 10.00am: Fa'amanatuga / Communion. 3.00pm: Lotu Tamaiti / White Sunday Practice. 10 9.30am: LOTU TAMAITI TAMAITI CHILDREN'S SUNDAY.	iday Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Eridov	
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8.30am: *Sunday School* 10.00am: Fa'amanatuga / Communion. 3.00pm: Lotu Tamaiti / White Sunday Practice. 10 9.30am: LOTU TAMAITI CHILDREN'S SUNDAY.				I 9.00am: Viewing for Daniel Maeva. 6.30pm: Lotu Tamaiti / White Sunday Practice.	2 *8.00am: Prayer Mtg 10.00am: 'Au Fai Pese Tele.
LOTU TAMAITI CHILDREN'S SUNDAY.	6.30p Lotu Tan White St Practi	naiti / Lotu Tamaiti / White Sunday ce. Practice.	6.30pm: Lotu Tamaiti / White Sunday Practice.	8	9 *8.00am: Prayer Mtg 9.30am: Lotu Tamaiti / White Sunday Practice.
1	7.00pm: * Bible Stu (Senio	dies* Bible Studies*	6.30pm: 'Au Talavou / Youth Choir.	15	16 *8.00am Prayer Mtg 10.00am: 'Au Fai Pese Tele.
17 *No Sunday School* 10.00am: Tapua'iga / Worship. (Lay Preachers) *Lafoga / Maintenance Offering*	19	7.00pm: *Zoom Bible Studies* (Youth)	6.30pm: 'Au Talavou/ Youth Choir.	22	23 *8.00am; Prayer Mtg 10.00am: 'Au Fai Pese Tele.
24 8.30am: Sunday School 10.00am: Tapua'iga / Worship. (Lay Preachers) 31 8.30am:	26	7.00pm: *Zoom Bible Studies* (Youth)	6.30pm: 'Au Talavou / Youth Choir. 7.30pm: Praise Team	29	30 *8.00am Prayer Mtg 10.00am: 'Au Fai Pese Tele. 1.pm – 5.pm: Sunday School Harvest Festival & Bazaar

Sunday School

10.00am: Tapua'iga / Worship (Lay Preachers) Our Mission Giving at the end of October will be donated to:

Happy Life Children's Home

Kenya

Rev. Jim Powell, Rev. Peter Ndungu www.happylifechildrenshome.com